



GOLDEN JUBILEE

Times OF OMAN



51

YEARS OF LEGACY

Founded 1975 · Volume 51 No. 154 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group



Instant Credit Card.
Instant Use!

Apply directly on the
Bank Muscat App



Know how



Bank Muscat. Better Everyday.
Terms and conditions apply.

‘KAZAKHSTAN RESPECTS THE WISDOM & VISIONARY LEADERSHIP OF HIS MAJESTY’

HM said that Oman, Kazakhstan share a commitment to dialogue and respect for international law

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, yesterday held a bilateral session of talks at the Palace of Independence in the capital, Astana yesterday.

The two leaders also discussed the full spectrum of Omani-Kazakh relations and the understanding and shared desire that bind the two countries to entrench cooperation and propel it towards broader domains.

The Kazakhstan President delivered a welcoming address in honour of His Majesty the Sultan in which he said that this visit is historic by all measures and will be most fruitful, culminating in the signing of numerous important agreements.

He noted that the presence of His Majesty in the capital of his country, on his first visit to Central Asia in his capacity as Sultan, holds profound significance for him personally as Kazakhstan President, as well as for the Kazakh people.

He added that Kazakhstan holds a deep respect for the wisdom and visionary leadership of His Majesty the Sultan, for the rich heritage and friendly people of the Sultanate of Oman, affirming that his country regards the Sultanate of Oman as a reliable and steadfast partner in the Arab world and indeed beyond.

The President of Kazakhstan noted that the coming year will witness the celebration of an important milestone — the thirty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. **>A4**



HM the Sultan concludes visit to Kazakhstan

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik left Astana yesterday evening, concluding his two-day state visit to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan led the farewell party for His Majesty at Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport in Astana. His Majesty was also seen off by a number of senior Kazakh officials and members of the Omani Em-

bassy in Astana.

Prior to departure, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik sent a cable of thanks to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Sincere appreciation

In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere appreciation to President Tokayev for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to him and the accompanying

delegation.

His Majesty commended the positive results yielded by the visit, which will contribute to deepening ties and relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Kazakhstan and open new horizons for cooperation and investment between the two countries across various sectors. **-OMA**

• See Also **>A3, A4-A5, A6**



OMAN Shura panel reviews Logistics Strategy 2040

1 The Economic and Financial Committee of the Shura Council met on Tuesday with Dr. Raid Al Rubaiey, CEO of SOHAR Port and Freezone; Anacin Kum, CEO of Hutchison Ports Sohar, the operator of the container terminals at Sohar Port; and a number of specialists. The meeting discussed the proposal put forward on measuring the economic progress achieved against the targets of Logistics Strategy 2040. **>A2**

SPORTS Novak Djokovic bags China Open title

2 Serbian player Novak Djokovic was crowned on Tuesday the winner of the China Open tennis tournament after his Australian opponent Alex de Minaur withdrew from the final. **>A8**

OMAN Oman's total oil exports grow

3 The total oil exports of Oman reached 209 million barrels by the end of August 2026, recording growth of 1.9 percent compared with 205 million barrels during the corresponding period. **>A7**

SOCIAL NETWORKING PLATFORMS

Social media use linked to mental, physical health concerns among Oman's Gen Z

MUSCAT: Excessive social media use among young adults in Oman is associated with a range of mental, social and physical health concerns, including stress, anxiety, loneliness, sleep problems, eye strain and reduced physical activity, according to a research study.

The study, titled "Effects of Social Media on Gen Z Health in the Sultanate of Oman", was led by Dr. Subrahmanian Muthuraman, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Business Studies, Arab Open University, and funded through the Block Funding Programme of the Research and Innovation Authority. The research examined social



media use among young adults aged 18 to 25, focusing on their usage habits, engagement, enjoyment and the positive, negative and behavioural effects associated with social networking platforms.

Six key factors

The research team surveyed 138 active social media users and analysed six key factors — usage habits, engagement, enjoyment, positive effects, negative effects and behavioural impact.

Regression analysis showed that all six factors significantly predicted the overall influence of social media on the participants, with a statistical significance level of $p < .05$.

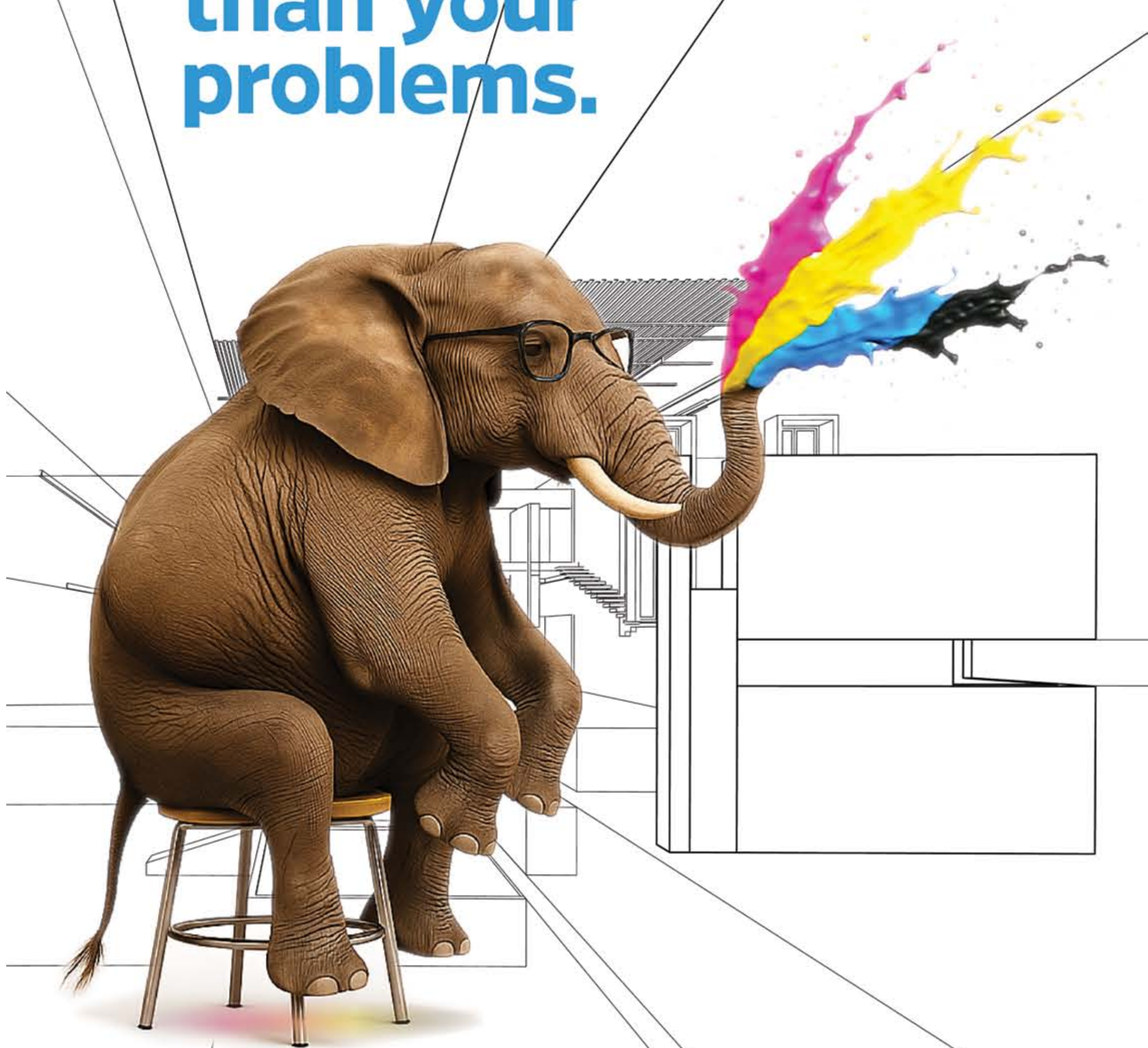
The findings indicated that social media has become an important part of the daily lives of many young people, with most respondents reporting daily use and many spending several hours on different

platforms. While social media was found to improve connectivity and communication, frequent use was also associated with social comparison, peer pressure and changes in face-to-face interaction.

The study also found that higher levels of engagement and enjoyment were associated with changes in social interaction patterns.

According to Dr. Subrahmanian, intensive social media use was associated with several mental health concerns among the respondents, including increased stress and anxiety, feelings of loneliness, mood fluctuations and reduced concentration. **>A6**

We make your Business bigger than your problems.



We get you ahead on

- Booth production
- Event conceptualisation
- Event management



Wait, there's more

- Large format digital printing
- Flex banners
- Vinyl stickers
- Back drops with metal frames
- Wooden standalones
- Backlit flex banners

MEETING

Oman, Pakistan hold talks on enhancing food security

MUSCAT: Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, held talks with Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab Province in Pakistan, on avenues of joint cooperation in food security, agriculture, water resources and livestock, as well as ways to develop partnerships and exchange expertise and experience.

The meeting reviewed opportunities for cooperation in the deployment of modern agricultural technologies, the development of water resource management, and the enhancement of investment and innovation. These efforts support food security and sustainability and open new horizons for cooperation between the two friendly countries. -ONA



Shura Committee reviews targets of Logistics Strategy

The presentation also outlined the main challenges facing the logistics system amid shifts in global trade flows and supply chains



OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE: The meeting also featured a presentation by a specialist from Hutchison Ports Sohar, the operator of the container terminals at Sohar Port.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Economic and Financial Committee of the Shura Council met on Tuesday with Dr. Raid Al Rubaiey, Chief Executive Officer of SOHAR Port and Freezone; Anacin Kum, Chief Executive Officer of Hutchison Ports Sohar, the operator of the container terminals at Sohar Port; and a number of specialists.

The meeting discussed the proposal put forward on measuring the economic progress achieved against the targets of Logistics Strategy 2040, and reviewed the port's and the Freezone's operational performance, key developments and future plans, alongside the role of the logistics ecosystem in supporting economic growth and strengthening Oman's competitiveness in this vital sector.

The meeting opened with a presentation by the CEO of SOHAR Port and Freezone, covering several areas related to developing the port and the Freezone's operational and logistics systems.

These included the governance of operations, the frameworks for partnership and integration among the companies operating in the port, and the role of the private sector in driving economic growth and enabling small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to benefit from opportunities across logistics and industrial activities.

The presentation also outlined the main challenges facing the logistics system amid shifts in global trade flows and supply chains, together with solutions and proposals to strengthen its resilience and the sustainability of its operations, as well as the role of the port and its operators in maximising the targets of Logistics Strategy 2040 by developing value-added supply chains and improving the

efficiency of logistics services and the integration of industrial, commercial and port activities.

Following the presentation, Committee members raised a range of topics and queries related to the themes of the proposal.

They also inquired about safety and security at the companies and factories operating within the Industrial Port, and the measures in place to ensure business continuity and raise safety standards across activities.

The queries also covered directions for developing re-export activity and the potential to strengthen the port's role as a transit hub, as well as the main future plans and strategies for developing the port and the Freezone and enhancing their operational and logistics efficiency.

The meeting also featured a presentation by a specialist from Hutchison Ports Sohar, the operator of the container terminals at Sohar Port, providing an overview of the company, the nature of its business and its role in operating the port's container terminals.

It also set out the company's future expansion and development plans, container throughput indicators and figures, and related efforts to improve operational efficiency, expand terminal capacity and keep pace with the anticipated growth in trade flows and supply chains.

Strategic expansion and development plans

During the discussion, Committee members put forward several queries concerning the company's operations and its strategic expansion and development plans, the extent to which its operations contribute to strengthening So-

har Port's competitiveness and supporting the logistics sector's targets, and opportunities to improve the services provided in line with developments in the maritime transport and logistics sector, regionally and internationally.

National economy

The meeting forms part of the Economic and Financial Committee's follow-up on matters related to the national economy and its associated productive sectors, and its commitment to examining performance indicators and the challenges facing the economic and logistics sectors, and to discussing ways of enhancing their contribution to economic diversification, raising value added and making the best use of Oman's strategic location, in line with the targets of Oman Vision 2040 and Logistics Strategy 2040.

Separately, the Committee discussed, during its meeting, a number of items on its agenda.

It reviewed and approved the Committee's opinion on the Ministry of Energy and Minerals; 2025 Annual Report, and discussed the proposal on establishing a National Centre for Laboratories, Standards and Metrology and Food Safety, in light of the importance of strengthening the inspection, testing and monitoring system and raising the efficiency of the national infrastructure for standards, metrology and food safety, thereby supporting product quality, safeguarding consumers and helping unify and integrate related efforts.

The meeting was chaired by Ahmed Al Sharqi, Chairman of the Economic and Financial Committee of the Shura Council, and attended by the Committee members.

COMMENTARY

Connecting you to the world: Oman's premier network of high-performance Free Zones and Industrial Cities

Oman's industrial zones have become major magnets for local and foreign capital, with the total committed investment overseen by the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) reaching OMR 22.4 billion. Driven by Oman Vision 2040, these hubs offer lucrative incentives, including 100% foreign ownership, 30-year renewable lease periods, and long-term tax exemptions.

As part of the active 11th Five-Year Development Plan (2026-2030), Madayn is currently establishing four brand-new integrated industrial cities to decentralize investment and support SMEs. Al Suwaiq (North Al Batinah) Al Mudhaibi (North Al Sharqiyah) Thumrait (Dhofar) and Madha / Mudhaffar (Musandam)

The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn) operates specialized mainland hubs focused primarily on domestic and regional manufacturing.

Al Rusayl Industrial City : Oman's oldest and flagship industrial city located in Muscat. It accommodates hundreds of operating factories producing electronics, fiber-optic cables, chemicals, and textile.

Sur Industrial City : A major energy, gas, and maritime hub that has accumulated OMR 2.3 billion in investments. It is expanding further with a dedi-



cated shipbuilding and ship maintenance zone

Nizwa Industrial City : A booming center for local manufacturing and services in the interior region, holding over OMR 470 million in localized project investments.

Special Economic & Economic Cities : These massive, master-planned cities blend heavy industrial manufacturing, shipping, and urban living.

Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD): Positioned strategically along the Arabian Sea, Duqm is Oman's crown jewel for heavy industry. It has secured OMR 6.3 billion in cumulative investments, anchoring massive projects in green hydrogen, oil refining, and electric vehicle (EV) materials.

Khazaen Economic City: Located near Muscat, this city specializes in logistics, food technology, and light-to-medium industries. Driven by its integrated Dry Port, its

cumulative investments have soared past OMR 460 million

Major Free Zones (Export & Logistics Hubs) : Free zones are heavily integrated with Oman's world-class maritime ports, tailored mostly for export-oriented manufacturing.

Salalah Free Zone : Located in Dhofar, this zone has drawn OMR 5.3 billion by focusing on chemical processing, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing, utilizing its proximity to the deep-water Port of Salalah

Sohar Free Zone : Operating adjacent to the Port of Sohar, it acts as a primary hub for steel, plastics, and automotive logistics, capturing OMR 1.8 billion in investments

Al Mazunah Free Zone : Serving as the direct overland land-port gateway to Yemen, this hub attracts logistics, export offices, and trading firms. Its cumulative investments passed OMR 141 million after securing a wave of new industrial contracts.

INDIAN MERCHANT (BANYAN) COMMUNITY

Congratulations

SHRI NARENDRA MODI

FOR

25 YEARS OF GOVERNANCE

Vision • Leadership • Progress for a Viksit Bharat

PO Box 1714, Postal Code 114, Jibroo, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968 24792170

Email: hma1941@hotmail.com

JOINT COOPERATION

Oman and India sign MoU in maritime security fields

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Maritime Security Centre, signed yesterday the renewal of a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Navy in the fields of maritime security, at Al Murtafa'a Camp.

The memorandum was signed on the Omani side by Rear Admiral Saif Nasser Al Rahbi,



Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman and Chairman of the

Maritime Security Committee, and on the Indian side by Prashant Pise, Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Sultanate of Oman. The memorandum aims to sustain joint cooperation between the two friendly countries and to exchange expertise in the fields of maritime security in order to maintain the safety of maritime navigation. -ONA

SUSTAINABILITY

Joint cooperation in farm, fisheries sectors discussed

MUSCAT: Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, held talks with Saeed Mohamed Mahmoud, Minister of State at the Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction and Housing of the Federal Republic of Somalia, on avenues of joint cooperation in food security, agriculture, fisheries and livestock, as well as ways to develop partnerships and exchange expertise and experience.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed opportunities for cooperation, investment and in-



novation in sectors of mutual interest. These efforts support food security and sustainability

and open new horizons for cooperation between the two friendly countries. -ONA

For you

Wealth Management, made for you.

بنك ظفار
BankDhofar

Open your account today

www.bankdhofar.com

2479.111

Oman, Kazakhstan to boost trade

His Majesty expressed gratitude to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Kazakhstan emphasised the immense potential to expand bilateral trade volume and diversify its structure. The two countries agreed to take coordinated measures aimed at broadening the range of goods and products exchanged between the two countries. This was outlined in a joint statement issued on the occasion of the state visit paid by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The joint statement reads as follows: "At the invitation of President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, paid a State Visit to Kazakhstan on 5 and 6 October 2026. The visit marks a historic milestone as the first State Visit by the Sultan of Oman to Kazakhstan and a significant step forward in the longstanding and growing relations between the two countries.

During the visit, productive high-level talks were held, providing an opportunity for a comprehensive exchange of views on the status and prospects of bilateral relations.

The leaders discussed ongoing joint projects and ways to further intensify cooperation. They also



reviewed the pressing issues on the regional and international agenda. His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Kazakhstan expressed their satisfaction with the friendly and constructive nature of bilateral relations founded on mutual respect and trust, as well as a shared commitment to further developing and strengthening cooperation across all areas of mutual interest.

In the presence of the two leaders, an intergovernmental agreement on reciprocal encouragement and protection of investment, Air Transport Agreement and an Agreement on the establishment of a joint investment fund were signed. The signed agreements also included the agreement on the establishment of a presence for the Eurasian Development Bank in the Sultanate of Oman and the Agreement of establishment of Oman-Kazakhstan Business Council, along with a number of interagency Memoranda of Understanding covering cooperation in various fields.

Following a comprehensive review of the development of relations between the two countries

and the exchange of views on a range of important international and regional issues, His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Kazakhstan stated the following:

■ The two leaders note that relations between Oman and Kazakhstan are rooted in friendship, mutual respect and constructive cooperation, reaffirming their shared commitment to further strengthening the Oman-Kazakhstan partnership. The two sides underscored their commitment to multilateral cooperation and to the fundamental principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, including respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all states, underlining the importance of resolving disputes and conflicts through peaceful, political and diplomatic means.

■ The two leaders underscored the considerable potential for further expanding bilateral trade and diversifying its structure. They agreed to pursue concerted measures aimed at broadening the range of goods and products exchanged between the two countries, addressing existing trade barriers

and facilitating greater access for products of both countries to each other's markets.

■ The two leaders stressed the importance of expanding investment cooperation in areas of mutual interest, such as energy, natural resources, manufacturing industries, food, healthcare, logistics, tourism, renewable energy and mining. The two leaders also welcomed the signing of several agreements and memorandum of cooperation in the fields of energy, renewable energy, mining and tourism.

■ The two leaders emphasized the growing importance of further deepening investment cooperation in priority areas of the economy. They underlined the considerable opportunities for enhancing mutual investment and promoting joint economic initiatives that contribute to the establishment of new production capacities, the generation of employment opportunities and the expansion of industrial cooperation. The two leaders underscored the importance of fostering business ties and mutually beneficial partnerships between the Astana International Financial

Centre and Oman International Financial Centre.

■ The two leaders highlighted the important role of the Kazakhstan-Oman Intergovernmental Commission and underscored its important role for further deepening and broadening bilateral cooperation across all areas of mutual interest.

■ The two leaders affirmed the strategic importance of strengthening transport and logistics connectivity between Central Asia and the Gulf region. They highlighted the significant potential of Kazakhstan and Oman to contribute to the development of efficient and sustainable transport and logistics corridors connecting the markets of Central Asia, the Middle East, Africa and other key regions.

■ The two leaders underscored the importance of establishing direct and regular air connection between Oman and Kazakhstan at the upcoming period, recognizing it as an important factor in facilitating and expanding business, tourism and cultural and people-to-people contacts between the two countries.

■ The two leaders noted the considerable potential for expanding cooperation in the agricultural sector and in the area of food security.

■ The two leaders reaffirmed their mutual interest in further expanding and deepening cooperation in the energy sector. The two sides expressed their readiness to explore opportunities for developing and implementing mutually beneficial joint projects in the fields of energy, petrochemicals, industrial production and processing.

■ The two leaders reiterated the significant potential for further developing cooperation in the fields of digital technologies, artificial intelligence, innovation and human capital development. The two sides expressed their readiness to facilitate closer engagement and the establishment of partnerships among technology companies, innovation hubs, academic and

educational institutions of the two countries with a view to promoting knowledge exchange, innovation and the development of mutually beneficial initiatives.

■ The two leaders expressed their interest in further expanding and deepening cooperation in the field of education, including through exchanges of students and academic staff, the development of joint educational programmes and the promotion of collaborative research initiatives. The two sides welcomed and expressed support for further development of institutional links and exchanges among higher education institutions, research and academic establishments and cultural organizations of the two countries.

12. The two leaders reaffirmed their readiness to maintain a regular political dialogue and communication at the highest levels. They expressed the intention to continue engagement between the governments of the two countries, as well as to further develop inter-parliamentary ties and contacts between government institutions and organizations.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan expressed his sincere appreciation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik for his State Visit to the Republic of Kazakhstan and for the attention and support extended to the further development of multifaceted Oman-Kazakhstan relations.

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik expressed gratitude to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation.

His Majesty reaffirmed the commitment of the Sultanate of Oman to further strengthening the friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation with the Republic of Kazakhstan. His Majesty extended a gracious invitation to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan to visit the Sultanate of Oman.

-ONA

FINANCIAL MARKETS

HM the Sultan visits Astana International Financial Centre

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, accompanied by President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on Tuesday visited Astana International Financial Centre in the Kazakh capital, Astana, as part of His Majesty's state visit to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

During the visit, His Majesty was briefed on the Centre's operating framework and its role in enhancing the investment environment and developing financial markets, as well as its contributions to attracting international investment and providing a financial platform that connects Kazakhstan with global markets.

His Majesty also took note of the Centre's mandates and its initiatives in the fields of finance, investment, financial markets, financial technology and Islamic finance, and the opportunities it offers to advance economic and investment cooperation at both the regional and international levels.

His Majesty the Sultan's visit to the Centre reflects the Sultanate of Oman's interest in strengthening economic and investment cooperation with the Republic of Kazakhstan and benefiting from expertise in developing the financial and investment sectors, thereby opening broader horizons for partnership between the two countries. -ONA



Buy UNI Series models & get 6 years unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty

Choose your favourite UNI series model and avail low monthly installments.

EMI

144*

for 6 years

UNI-S 4WD Royal

1.5L Turbo Engine, 185 hp, 7-Speed DCT, 4WD

EMI

150*

for 6 years

UNI-K 4WD Trend

2.0L Turbo Engine, 233 hp, 8-Speed AT, 4WD

EMI

148*

for 6 years

UNI-V 2.0T Luxury

2.0L Turbo Engine, 232 hp, 8-Speed AT

EMI

150*

for 6 years

UNI-T 2WD

2.0L Turbo Engine, 232 hp, 8-Speed AT, 2WD

Terms and conditions apply. *Easy Monthly Installment is calculated based on 20% down payment for 6 years loan tenure. Subject to credit approvals from Banks only. Applicable on vehicles purchased for personal use. Images shown are for illustrative purpose only. Specification may vary as per the model variant. To generate an inquiry, customers are required to visit the CHANGAN showroom to test drive their preferred model and to obtain full details regarding vehicle pricing and applicable offers.

Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC

800 50800

9662 8909

changanoman

www.changanoman.com

Showrooms:

Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940

Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibbi 96628930,

Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920

HM THE SULTAN ACCORDED OFFICIAL RECEPTION

Kazakhstan President welcomed His Majesty as a dear guest to his country, wishing His Majesty and the accompanying official delegation a pleasant visit crowned with success

ASTANA: An official reception ceremony was held on Tuesday for His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq on the occasion of the state visit His Majesty is paying to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Upon the arrival of His Majesty's motorcade at the Palace of Independence in the Kazakh capital, Astana, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, headed those receiving His Majesty the Sultan.

The President of Kazakhstan welcomed His Majesty as a dear guest to his country, wishing His Majesty and the accompanying official delegation a pleasant visit crowned with success.

Thereafter, His Majesty the

Sultan shook hands with senior officials and those receiving him on the Kazakh side, while the President of Kazakhstan shook hands with the members of the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan.

His Majesty and the President of Kazakhstan then ascended the dais of honour, where the Royal Anthem of Oman and the National Anthem of Kazakhstan were played, after which His Majesty the Sultan graciously inspected the Guard of Honour.

Subsequently, commemorative photographs were taken of His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Kazakhstan on this occasion at the Palace of Independence. -OHA



BILATERAL MEETING

HM the Sultan and Kazakhstan President hold talks

FROM A1 He affirmed that, throughout this period, the two countries have succeeded in building a solid foundation for launching a new and dynamic phase of growing partnership, grounded in long years of friendship, mutual support and steadfast solidarity.

He expressed his profound appreciation for the pivotal role undertaken by His Majesty the Sultan in strengthening the multifaceted partnership between the two countries. He noted that he has decided to bestow upon His Majesty the Order of Alтын Qyran, the highest state decoration, in recognition of the relations founded upon friendship and mutual support between the two countries under His Majesty's wise leadership.

He made clear that the Sultanate of Oman has achieved a remarkable economic transformation and has become a pillar of stability in the Middle East region, while its influence and influential voice continue to resonate on the international stage. He affirmed that this stands as powerful testimony to the wisdom and far-sighted vision of His Majesty the Sultan.

He expressed his firm conviction that the agreements signed by the two countries will yield profound benefits for the two nations and will elevate the strategic partnership between them to a new level.

He noted that during the talks, a significant package of bilateral agreements will be signed, encompassing multiple spheres of economic cooperation, including energy, transport and logistics services, agriculture, information technology and digital transformation, healthcare and pharmaceutical industries, among other fields.

He expressed his hope that the Kazakhstan - Oman Business Forum, to be held today, will contribute to imparting a strong new impetus to trade and investment partnership between the two countries, affirming his aspiration for joint participation in this important event and the steps that will follow.

He made clear that, beyond political and economic cooperation, the two countries are also bound by a profound cultural heritage and ever-growing human ties.

He said: "I would like to reiterate that, as President of Kazakhstan, I shall spare no effort to develop comprehensive cooperation between Kazakhstan and Oman, as I have said, all of this will be under my personal follow-up."

He expressed his optimism that the two countries will, in the very near future, achieve new milestones in their bilateral cooperation, affirming their steadfast commitment to establishing closer relations and strengthening cooperation with the Sultanate of Oman.

In conclusion of his address, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of Kazakhstan reaffirmed Kazakhstan's immense honour in



hosting the visit of His Majesty the Sultan, expressing his delight at the presence of His Majesty personally among the people of Kazakhstan and in the capital, Astana.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan delivered an address, reading as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very pleased to be here in Kazakhstan.

Oman and Kazakhstan share a longstanding friendship, built over more than three decades on mutual respect, trust and a common desire for constructive cooperation.

Our meeting today to reaffirm the strength of this relationship and, more importantly, our shared vision to take it forward into a new and more dynamic phase.

We see the opportunity to expand our partnership particularly in trade and investment, energy and mining, transport and logistics, food security, financial services, tourism, and digital technologies and artificial intelligence.

Kazakhstan's strategic position in Central Asia and Oman's locations at the crossroads of major maritime trade routes provide a natural basis for greater connectivity between our two countries and our wider regions.

We believe there is significant potential to further develop and expand new trade and transport links and to make greater use of Oman's ports as gateways to key markets in the Gulf, Asia and Africa.

I am also pleased that this visit will witness the conclusion of a number of agreements and memorandum of understandings that will provide further substance to our cooperation and create new opportunities for our institutions and private sectors.

Beyond our bilateral relationship, Oman and Kazakhstan share a commitment to dialogue, peaceful engagement and respect for international law.

At a time of considerable regional and international uncertainty, these principles remain essential

to promoting stability, security and prosperity.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to President Tokayev and the Government and people of Kazakhstan for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

"Thank you".

Thereafter, His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Kazakhstan chaired an expanded official session of talks, attended by the two official delegations from both sides.

The session commenced with an address delivered by the President of Kazakhstan, in which he affirmed the importance of the relations between the two friendly countries and the progress witnessed in the spheres of cooperation and partnership between them.

He expressed his immense pleasure and profound honour at hosting His Majesty the Sultan, affirming that this visit is of historic significance, as it opens the door to multifaceted cooperation between the two countries - a cooperation that requires consolidation and strengthening.

He added that his country places great hopes upon this visit, noting that there are numerous matters that can be discussed, in accordance with what has been agreed upon, alongside the vast potential for joint cooperation between the two countries, which ought to be harnessed and developed.

He made clear that the two countries share many commonalities, foremost among them the shared desire and will to press ahead with strengthening cooperation across various fields. He affirmed that, as President of Kazakhstan, he shall exert his utmost endeavour to ensure that his country becomes a reliable partner for the Sultanate of Oman.

He noted that the Sultanate of Oman enjoys great respect in Kazakhstan, pointing to the growing numbers of people currently travelling to the Sultanate of Oman, at a time when many have yet to have the opportunity to visit Muscat

and other Omani cities.

The President of Kazakhstan affirmed that, with the commencement of direct commercial flights between the two countries, the movement of visits and travel between them will become more vibrant, anticipating that the number of visitors to the Sultanate of Oman will increase significantly.

This was followed by the address of His Majesty the Sultan, the text of which follows:

"Your Excellency President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Allow me to thank you for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to me and my delegation.

Oman attaches great importance to this relation with Kazakhstan. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1992, our two countries have developed a strong relationship founded on friendship, mutual respect and a shared commitment to constructive engagement.

Today, we have an opportunity to build upon these strong foundations and move towards a more strategic and results-oriented partnership.

We welcome the momentum that our bilateral relations have gained in recent years. The exchange of high-level visits, the work of the Oman-Kazakhstan Joint Committee, and the implementation of the 2025-2026 Roadmap have established a solid framework from which we can pursue more ambitious areas of cooperation.

As we move forward, economic and investment cooperation must remain a defining feature of this next chapter. By strengthening these ties, we can unlock new opportunities for mutual benefit and long-term partnership.

Oman sees significant opportunities for growth, investment and cooperation with Kazakhstan across a wide range of sectors, including energy and mining, agriculture and food security,



transport and logistics, financial services, tourism, technology and artificial intelligence.

We welcome the development of projects that bring together our sovereign investment institutions, private sectors and specialised government entities.

Connectivity is another area of considerable strategic importance. Kazakhstan occupies a strategic position along major global trade corridors connecting Asia and Europe, while Oman provides direct maritime access to key markets across the Gulf, the Indian Ocean, Asia and Africa. Building on these complementary strengths could unlock significant opportunities for growth and create greater value for both countries.

We therefore look forward to advancing cooperation in transport and logistics, including the development of trade corridors through Omani ports, as well as strengthening air connectivity between our two sides.

Looking ahead, the financial sector presents promising opportunities for further cooperation. As Oman develops the Oman International Financial Centre, we see valuable opportunities for exchanging expertise and developing institutional partnerships.

Similarly, Kazakhstan's progress in digital transformation and artificial intelligence offers an important area for future cooperation. We would greatly welcome the opportunity to deepen engagement and strengthen cooperation between our technology institutions, innovation hubs and private-sector companies.

Your Excellency, The agreements and memorandum of understandings being advanced during this visit reflect our determination to translate the strong political relationship between our countries into tangible economic and institutional outcomes.

As we move forward with this shared vision, allow me to conclude by reaffirming my deep appreciation for the enduring friendship between the Sultanate of Oman and Kazakhstan. I look forward to the privilege of welcoming Your Excellency to Muscat soon and to continuing our collaborative efforts in the months and

years ahead.

"Thank you, Mr. President".

The session of talks addressed the prospects of partnership between the two countries and the means of harnessing the available potential to expand cooperation in the fields of energy, mining, transport, logistics, food security, tourism, technology, artificial intelligence and financial and investment services.

It also touched upon a set of issues and developments on the regional and international arenas. The two sides exchanged views thereon within the framework of the two countries' keenness on consultation and the coordination of positions that would consolidate security and peace in the region.

Attending the official session of talks from the Omani side were HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs; Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court; Lt. Gen Sul-tan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office; Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister; Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance; Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office; Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, President of Oman Investment Authority; Anwar bin Hilal Al Jabri, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Sheikh Dr. Salah bin Salim Jaaboub, the Sultanate of Oman's Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The session was attended from the Kazakh side by Serik Zhumangarin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Economy; Zhaslan Madiyev, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Development; Roman Sklyar, Head of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Aida Balayeva, Deputy Chair of the Security Council; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chairman of the Zakapov, Board of Samruk-Kazyna Joint Stock Company; Aidarbek Tumatov, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan accredited to the Sultanate of Oman and a number of officials. -OHA

HM THE SULTAN RETURNS HOME

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq returned home on Tuesday evening, following a visit to the Republic of Kazakhstan. May the Almighty Allah safeguard His Majesty the Sultan and grant him success in his endeavours. -OHA



OFFICIAL LUNCHEON

President of Kazakhstan hosts official luncheon

ASTANA: President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, yesterday hosted an official luncheon at the Independence Palace in honour of His Maj-

esty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and the official delegation accompanying His Majesty. The gesture celebrates and welcomes the gracious visit His Majesty is paying to the

friendly Republic of Kazakhstan. The luncheon was attended by the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and a number of senior Kazakh officials. -OHA

MOU

HM and President of Kazakhstan grace exchange of agreements, MoUs

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan graced at the Palace of Independence in the capital Astana today a ceremony for the exchange of several documents. The two countries signed five agreements and ten memoranda of understanding, in addition to a term sheet, a memorandum of cooperation, an executive agreement, and two cooperation agreements.

The agreements encompassed accession to membership of the Eurasian Development Bank, the establishment of a presence for the Eurasian Development Bank in the Sultanate of Oman, the reciprocal encouragement and protection of investment, air transport and the establishment of the Oman-Kazakhstan Business Centre.

The memoranda of understanding covered cooperation in the field of diplomatic studies and academic training, training and

financial, cultural and youth cooperation. They also covered cooperation related to the investigation of incidents and occurrences, the enhancement of connectivity between international corridors and communications and information technology, as well as cooperation in the health, agriculture, livestock and fisheries domains.

The memoranda of understanding also encompassed those between Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of Kazakhstan (Atameken) and between the Royal Academy of Management (RAM) and the Kazakh Public Service Centre.

The signing ceremony included an executive agreement for the joint investment fund, providing for the establishment of a joint investment fund. They also included two cooperation agreements on investment opportunities in oil and gas exploration



and production between OQ and the national company KazMunayGas, and a strategic cooperation agreement for the development of renewable energy in the Republic of Kazakhstan and international markets between

"O-Green" and "Samruk Energy." Further agreements comprised a memorandum of cooperation on the establishment of the Omani-Kazakhstan Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Mineral Exploration and term sheet for the Rixos

Hotel project in the Blue City in the Sultanate of Oman.

Signing on behalf of the Omani side were Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister; Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance; Abdulsalam bin Mo-

ammed Al Murshidi, President of Oman Investment Authority; Anwar bin Hilal Al Jabri, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion; Sheikh Dr. Salah bin Salim Jaaboub, the Sultanate of Oman's Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan; Faisal bin Abdullah Al Rows, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Ashraf bin Hamad Al Maamari, Chairman of the Board of Directors of OQ Exploration and Production (OQEP); Mustafa bin Mohammed Al Hinal, Chief Executive Officer of O-Green and Mattar bin Salim Al Badi, Chief Executive Officer of Minerals Development Oman.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

MUTUAL RESPECT

His Majesty's visit marks important milestone in Oman-Kazakh relations

ASTANA: A number of ministers and officials affirmed that the visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said to the Republic of Kazakhstan marks an important milestone in the course of Omani-Kazakh relations, particularly as it witnessed the signing of 20 cooperation documents across various fields, reflecting the interest and mutual keenness to develop and elevate these relations in a manner that serves the common interests of the two countries and their peoples.

Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, said in a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA) that the historic visit undertaken by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq to the Republic of Kazakhstan marks the beginning of a pivotal phase in Omani-Kazakh relations, towards establishing a partnership in which economic interests are integrated with institutional cooperation and communication between the countries' two peoples.

The minister added that Omani-Kazakh relations are founded upon a long-standing foundation of friendship and mutual respect, and that the Royal visit lends these relations a qualitative momentum to expand cooperation and transform available opportunities into sustainable projects and interests, thereby supporting the development and economic diversification of both countries.

He explained that the strategic value of this partnership lies in the complementarity of capabilities Kazakhstan's economic standing in Central Asia, together with the Sultanate of Oman's maritime location, ports and logistical infrastructure, affords opportunities to expand market access and develop the movement of trade and investment.

The minister indicated that cooperation in energy, minerals, renewable energy, tourism and services provided promising avenues for building partnerships that draw upon the resources and expertise enjoyed by both sides.

The Foreign Minister noted that the drive towards strengthening investment and financial frameworks, and developing joint financing instruments and investment protection, would provide a more firmly grounded and sustainable basis for projects between the two countries, and enhance investor confidence and their capacity to take long-term decisions.

He emphasised that strengthening the ties between the chambers of commerce and the two business communities constitutes a fundamental element of these efforts, enabling the private sector to play a broader role in discovering opportunities and developing them into commercial and productive partnerships.

He added that the cooperation to which the Sultanate of Oman and Kazakhstan aspire extends also to knowledge, capacity-building and the exchange of expertise in administration, public service, health, transport and diplomatic training, as well as culture and youth. He noted that these fields enhance the capacity of institutions to keep pace with development requirements and lend the relations a human depth that consolidates the closeness between the two countries' friendly peoples.

On the political front, the minister affirmed that the visit allows for continued consultation on regional and international issues, and for building upon mutual respect for the sovereignty of states and support for peaceful solutions, thereby



enhancing the prospects for understanding and cooperation in addressing common challenges.

The Foreign Minister concluded his statement by saying: "We look forward to this visit establishing a phase in which the partnership between the Sultanate of Oman and Kazakhstan broadens, and in which ambition is coupled with practical programmes and institutional follow-up. What we aspire to is that the investor finds broader opportunities, that our institutions acquire new expertise, and that Omani and Kazakh society alike feels the impact of this cooperation through the journey of growth and prosperity."

Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, President of Oman Investment Authority (OIA), said in a statement to ONA that the investment partnership affirmed in a statement to ONA that the Agreement on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments between the Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan represents an advanced strategic step in the course of economic and investment relations between the two friendly countries, and lays the

STATE VISIT

HM the Sultan, President of Kazakhstan exchange orders

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, exchanged orders at the Independence Palace in the capital, Astana yesterday, on the occasion of His Majesty's state visit to Kazakhstan.

The President of Kazakhstan awarded His Majesty the Sultan the Order of Alтын Qyran (the Golden Eagle), the highest state decoration of Kazakhstan, in recognition of His Majesty and his patronage in advancing cooperation and partnership between

the two friendly countries.

In his turn, His Majesty the Sultan conferred "Al Said" Order upon the President, as a testament to the enduring ties between the two friendly nations and the deep esteem and regard they enjoy. -OHA



STATE VISIT

HM the Sultan, President of Kazakhstan grace exchange of agreements, MoUs



On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport; Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna and a number of ministers and chief executives.

On the Kazakh side, the signatories were Mukhtar Tleuberdiev, Minister

BILATERAL RELATIONS

HM the Sultan and President of Kazakhstan attend Oman-Kazakhstan Business Forum

ASTANA: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan attended Oman-Kazakhstan Business Forum at Astana International Financial Centre yesterday, within the framework of the state visit undertaken by His Majesty to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

His Majesty the Sultan commended the growth and development witnessed in the fields of partnership and investment between the two countries across several sectors, calling for the extension of new bridges of investment and economic partnership in various sectors and the discovery of available opportunities in both countries in a manner that serves mutual interests.

The forum was organised by Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and the Kazakh national company “Kazakh Invest”, in cooperation with Oman Investment Authority (OIA). The forums aims to enhance opportunities for economic and investment cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Kazakhstan, with the participation of officials and businessmen and businesswomen from the two countries.

The forum witnessed the signing of agreements and memoranda of understanding and the official announcement of the activation of electronic linkage between the Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) and the Astana International Exchange (AIX), enabling investors to access securities listed on both markets and execute trading operations through qualified brokerage firms.

Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, President of Oman Investment Authority, affirmed during the Oman-Kazakhstan Business Forum that economic and investment relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Kazakhstan are witnessing accelerating growth across the en-



ergy, mining, food security, logistics, tourism and financial sectors. He noted that the establishment of the joint Oman-Kazakhstan investment fund marks a significant step toward bolstering investments between the two countries, while the formation of the Oman-Kazakhstan Business Council will help strengthen the role of the private sector and drive economic relations toward broader horizons.

Nurlan Zhakupov, Chief Executive Officer of Samruk-Kazyna, said in his address that the forum had brought together a number of business representatives from both countries. He noted that discussions had focused on the food security, transport, logistics, mining, and energy sectors, pointing out that these fields hold substantial potential for expanding bilateral trade and investment.

Faisal bin Abdullah Al Rowas, OCCI Chairman affirmed to Oman News Agency that the Royal care enjoyed by the Omani private sector, and the attention accorded by His Majesty to empowering it and enhancing its contribution to the march of economic development, have contributed to consolidating a more open and competitive business environment and broadened the horizons of partnership and investment with various

global markets.

He explained that the attendance of His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Kazakhstan at the proceedings of the Oman-Kazakhstan Business Forum embodies the attention and support enjoyed by economic and investment relations between the two friendly countries at the highest levels, and reflects their aspirations to elevate them towards broader and more sustainable partnerships, thereby enhancing the role of the private sector in developing joint cooperation and transforming available opportunities into initiatives and projects that serve mutual interests.

He said that this forum represents an important space for the transition of trade and economic relations from the level of understanding to further practical partnerships, and affirms the role of the private sector in translating the distinguished relations between the two countries into projects and investments of added value.

He expressed his aspiration that the bilateral business meetings accompanying the forum will contribute to building direct links between Omani and Kazakh companies, and identifying priority areas of cooperation, leading to practical partnerships and projects, and

translating the close relations between the two friendly countries into broader and more sustainable economic and trade cooperation.

For his part, Dr. Salim bin Abdullah Al Shanfari, Chairman of the Omani side in the Oman-Kazakhstan Business Council, affirmed to Oman News Agency that the establishment of the Council in conjunction with the Royal visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik lends its launch particular importance, and enhances the prospects for building sustainable cooperation between the two business communities in both countries.

He explained that the Council will work to identify priorities for trade and investment cooperation, ascertain the needs of companies and direct efforts towards opportunities and projects that meet the aspirations of the private sector. He noted that the forum constitutes a practical beginning for the work of the Council, through the communication it affords between companies and the exploration of possible areas of cooperation.

He affirmed that the Council will continue to follow up on the opportunities and proposals put forward by the forum, and to coordinate thereon with the relevant parties, in support of crystallising



them into practical partnerships and projects that serve shared economic interests.

The forum witnessed the organisation of two panel sessions. The first panel session was titled “Food Security: Building Oman-Kazakhstan Supply Chains”, and featured remarks by Eng. Nasser bin Khalifa Al Kindi, Chief Executive Officer of “Invest Oman” at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion; Eng. Abdullah bin Salim Al Fazari, Director General of Strategy and Performance at the Oman Food Investment Holding Company and a number of representatives of government and private entities in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The session discussed the sectors of food security, agricultural trade and the building of Omani-Kazakh supply chains. It also explored opportunities for developing trade in agricultural and food products, and enhancing integration between production, markets and logistics services, in support of building more efficient and sustainable supply chains.

The second panel session was titled “Transport Systems and Logistics Services as Drivers of Trade and Investment”, and featured remarks by Eng. Said bin Ali Al Abri, member of the Board of Directors of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Head of

the Chamber’s branch in North Al Batinah Governorate; Al Khattab bin Salim Al Ma’ani, Senior Manager of Trade Facilitation at Oman Logistics Centre in Asyad Group, Salim bin Marhoon Al Hashmi of Oman Tank Terminal Company and a number of representatives of government and private entities in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The session discussed transport systems and logistics services as drivers of trade and investment, with a focus on the role of infrastructure, trade corridors and logistics services in enhancing the movement of goods and products. The forum was accompanied by the organisation of bilateral meetings between business owners and representatives of companies from the two countries, which allowed for discussion of cooperation opportunities, exploration of areas of investment and trade exchange and identification of market needs and available opportunities.

These meetings also formed a direct platform for examining areas of partnership in sectors of common interest, enhancing communication between companies and building business relations that contribute to the development of economic and investment cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

— ONA

IN VIENNA

Oman’s Ambassador presents credentials to Austrian President

VIENNA: President Alexander Van der Bellen of the Republic of Austria, received today Salim Saud Al Habsi, to present his credentials as Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Republic of Austria, during an official ceremony held yesterday in the capital, Vienna.

Good health and happiness
During the audience, the Ambassador conveyed the greetings of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, along with His Majesty’s wishes of good health and happiness to the President, and further progress and prosperity to the friendly Austrian people.



Continued progress
For his part, the President of the Republic of Austria asked the Ambassador to convey his greetings to His Majesty the Sultan, along with his wishes of good health and wellbeing to His Majesty and continued progress and prosperity to the Omani people.

Growth and development
The President expressed his wishes for further growth and development in bilateral relations between the two countries to serve shared interests and achieve the aspirations of both friendly peoples.

— ONA

RESEARCH STUDY

Need for young people to develop healthier digital habits highlighted

< FROM A1 Poorer sleep quality was also reported among participants with higher levels of social media use.

The researchers noted signs of digital fatigue and behavioural dependence among some respondents, including compulsive checking of social media and difficulty staying offline.

Physical health effects
The study also identified a number of physical health concerns associated with intensive social media use. These included eye strain, headaches, irregular sleep patterns and reduced physical activity.

The researchers said the findings highlight the need for young people to develop healthier digital habits and recognise when online activity begins to interfere with their physical and psychological well-being.

Call for greater digital awareness

The research team has recommended the development of digital well-being guidelines and awareness initiatives addressing the mental and physical health risks associated with excessive social media use.

It also called for stronger digital literacy and digital citizenship programmes in schools and universities, including greater awareness of issues such as anxiety, cyberstress, sleep deprivation and fear of missing out (FOMO).

The researchers recommended encouraging young people to balance screen time with physical activity and face-to-face social interaction.

Families and community institutions also have an important role to play, the study said, by encouraging open discussions about responsible social media use and supporting young people who show signs of technology dependence or social withdrawal.

The researchers urged young people to monitor their screen time, take regular breaks from social media, avoid excessive late-night use and seek support when online activity begins to affect their well-being.

They also encouraged users to verify information before sharing it on social media platforms.

The study recommends further research into the long-term psychological and behavioural effects of social media, differences in digital habits between young people in rural and urban areas, and the effectiveness of digital well-being interventions. The research was published in the Journal of Ecounism in 2024. The research team comprised Dr. Subrahmaniam Muthuraman, Dr. Mohammed Al Hazaizi and Ms. Amani Al Balushi.

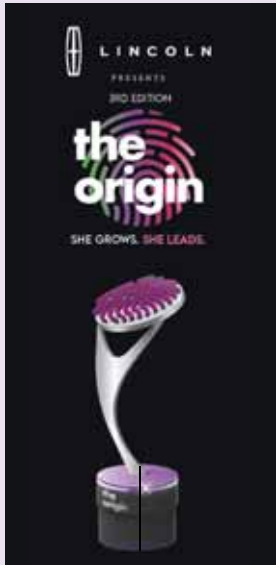
The researchers said the findings could contribute to greater awareness of digital well-being and support healthier and more balanced social media habits among young people in Oman.

The Diplomatic Club Wins Excellence in CSR Initiative for Women at The Origin Awards



The Diplomatic Club was felicitated with the ‘The Origin Excellence in CSR Initiative for Women Award’ at The Origin – Women Forum & Awards 2026. The awards presentation was held at JW Marriott Hotel Muscat, bringing together over 170+ women leaders, creatives, professionals, entrepreneurs and changemakers from across Oman and the region.

The Diplomatic Club has demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing women through impactful corporate social responsibility initiatives that support empowerment, inclusion and meaningful participation. Its efforts reflect a commitment to creating opportunities and contributing positively to



the wider community.

Through its focus on social impact and community engagement, The Diplomatic Club continues to support initiatives that promote greater opportunities for women and contribute to a more inclusive society. Its approach reflects the importance of organisations playing an active role in creating positive and sustainable change.

The Origin Awards 2026 are instituted by Times of Oman, in collaboration with Muscat Media Group, Gulf Leaders Circle and TEvents. The awards recognise exceptional women and organisations making a meaningful impact across industries and communities, while advancing leadership, empowerment, inclusion and progress.

Oman, Italy explore cooperation in fields of culture, tourism

Oman's Minister of Heritage and Tourism held a meeting with representatives of Italian institutions and companies dealing in heritage and tourism areas



FLORENCE: Salim bin Said Al Busaidi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism, on Tuesday visited the city of Florence, Italian Republic, as part of the Sultanate of Oman's efforts to consolidate ties of co-operation in the fields of culture, tourism and investment between the two countries.

During his visit to Italy, Al Busaidi held a meeting with representatives of Italian institutions and companies specialised in heritage and tourism areas. The meeting was attended by Sayyid Nizar bin Al Julanda Al Said, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Italian Republic.

Al Busaidi's visit to Florence included a tour of the city's National Theatre and historical landmarks. The Minister was accompanied by the Honorary Consul of the Sul-



tanate of Oman in the city.

The Minister was briefed about the Italian side's experience in restoring the Theatre and utilising the facility as a venue for cultural and artistic activities. He also took note of the techniques used in the conservation of architectural and heritage value of the Theatre,

as well as the City's experience in preserving its historical landmarks and enhancing their tourism appeal.

During a meeting organised by "SACE" company, the Minister conferred with a number of business-people and prominent officials from the sectors of herit-

age and tourism in Florence. The meeting focused on ways of exploring opportunities for cooperation and partnership and exchanging expertise in developing, managing and operating heritage sites in a manner that preserves their originality, their sustainability and their cultural and tourist value.

The Minister later held a meeting with Guglielmo Picchi, Chairman of the Italian company SACE. The meeting touched on opportunities for cooperation in supporting tourism investments and projects. The two sides also discussed ways to benefit from opportunities offered by SACE in the field of financing and credit solutions—with the prime objective of consolidating partnerships with the private sector and attracting Italian investment to Oman. — **ONA**

Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box: 770,
Postal Code: 112

Founder: **Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali**
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: **Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali**
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: **Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali**
Chief Executive Officer: **Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali**

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 22009004, E-mail: amcoman@choueirigroup.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

NCSI DATA

Oman's total oil exports touch 209mn barrels

MUSCAT: The total oil exports of the Sultanate of Oman reached 209 million barrels by the end of August 2026, recording growth of 1.9 percent compared with 205 million barrels during the corresponding period of 2025.

The latest data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) indicated that the Sultanate of Oman's oil production reached 270 million barrels by the end of August 2026, up 11.9 percent compared with 241.4 million barrels during the corresponding period of 2025.

According to the data, the average daily oil production rose by 10.9 percent by the end of August 2026, reaching 1.1 million barrels per day, compared with 993,300 barrels per day during the corresponding period of last year.

On a monthly basis, oil production in August reached 36.3 million barrels, compared with 35.8 million barrels in July and 34.4 million barrels in June. Oil exports during August amounted to 27.1 million barrels, compared with 26.7 million barrels in July and 25.7 million barrels in June.

The average price of Oman oil rose by 15.5 percent during the period from January to the end of August, reaching \$83.3 per barrel, compared with \$72.1 per barrel during the corresponding period of 2025. On a monthly basis, the average price of Oman oil in August reached \$79.1 per barrel, down 22.5 percent compared with July, which recorded an average price of \$102 per barrel.

In the natural gas sector, total domestic production and imports rose by 6.4 percent by the end of August 2026 on an annual basis, reaching 40.5 billion cubic metres, compared with 38.1 billion cubic metres during the corresponding period of 2025. Gas consumption at power generation plants grew by 13.8 percent, reaching 11.7 billion cubic metres. Consumption by industrial projects rose by 4.9 percent, reaching 19.9 billion cubic metres. — **ONA**

PARTICIPATION OF FOUR CLUBS

Oman Handball Super Cup's draw to take place on 11 October, 2026

MUSCAT: The draw of Oman Handball Super Cup (2026-2027 season) will take place next Sunday (11 October) at the premises of Oman Handball Association, with the participation of four clubs: Oman Club, Al Amerat Club, Nizwa Club and A'Seeb Club.

The open draw will determine the matchups of the first round, with matches scheduled to begin on 8 November and the final set for 11 November 2026.

Current season

The current season features the participation of Oman Club (the defending champion) and Al Amerat (winner of the Second Division League and the Ministry Shield), in addition to the clubs of Nizwa and A'Seeb.

Oman Club holds the record of winning the largest number of Super Cup titles. It won the competition three times (in seasons of 2017-2018, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026), while Muscat Club ranks as second best performer, with two titles (2018-2019 and 2019-2020).



— **ONA**

MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Means to empower persons with disabilities reviewed

RIYADH: Dr. Laila Ahmed Al Najjar, Minister of Social Development, reviewed during her visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Tuesday a number of experiences in the fields of caring for and empowering persons with disabilities and developing the social work system. This took place during her visit to the Authority for the Care of Persons with Disabilities and the National Centre for the Development of the Non-Profit Sector.

As part of the visit, she met with Prince Abdulaziz Talal Al Saud, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Gulf Pro-



gramme for Development (AG-FUND).

The meeting discussed a number of topics and areas related to social development, as well as exploring mean of enhancing cooperation and exchanging expertise.

MEETING



Key developments in humanitarian law discussed

MUSCAT: The Omani Committee for International Humanitarian Law on Tuesday held its second meeting of the year (2026) under the auspices of Saleh bin Yahya Al Maskari, Chairman Head of the Committee, Head of the Global Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry. The meeting saw the participation of its members who represent different government departments.

The Committee discussed key developments related to international humanitarian law, ways to support the implementation of statute's provisions and means of raising public awareness of its principles within the Sultanate of Oman. — **ONA**

شركة إسمنت عمان (س.م.ع.)
Oman Cement Company (S.A.O.G)

P.O. BOX 560, RUWI, POSTAL CODE 112, SULTANATE OF OMAN
[Factory Al Misfah West, Bausher, Tel. # 00968 24437070 ext. 102, Fax # 00968 24437777]

TENDERS

The company invites specialized companies to participate in the following tender:

Sl. #	Tender ID	Description	Tender Fee	Deadline for Request for Tenders	Deadline for Submission of Offers
1.	1562000405-26	Supply and Installation of Conveyor Belt Covering	Free	17 th October 2026 2359 Hours	20 th October 2026 2359 Hours
2.	1563000329-26	Supply & Install Goods Lift for K3 Preheater	Free	17 th October 2026 2359 Hours	20 th October 2026 2359 Hours

Tender documents can be obtained by scanning the barcode provided at the bottom of this advertisement. Bidders are required to complete all the requested information in the form to submit their request. Upon successful submission, the tender documents will be shared accordingly.

The last date for submission of offers is on Tuesday, 2359 hours, detailed date on the above table, accompanied by a bid bond issued by any local bank in Oman (equivalent to 1%) of the total tender value. The bid bond must be valid for 120 days from the last date of submission of offers, and the ORIGINAL bid bond must be submitted on the tender box at the reception of our Administration Building, Al Misfah West factory Site, Bausher, Muscat, Oman.

The Company's account is detailed below:

Account name: Oman Cement Company SAOG
Bank Name: Bank Muscat SAOG
Account number: 0423 01086 3070 017
Account Type: OMR
SWIFT Code: BMUSOMRX

For inquiries, please contact nasser.said@omacement.com & yaqub.tamtami@omacement.com
Contact details: Office number: +968 22705601, 22705566.

To request for tender documents, Please scan the code and fill the requirements.

Indian School Muladha
(Affiliated to the CBSE, New Delhi, No. 6130007)
P.O. 42, P.C. 314, Al Muladha, Sultanate of Oman
Ph. 26811234 / 26811184, Email: ismloman@gmail.com

Ref : ISML/TA/2026-27/003

JOB VACANCIES

Sr. No.	RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS :-	NO. OF VACANCIES
1.	BIOLOGY / SCIENCE - (Middle & Senior level) Qualification: B.Sc., M.Sc., B.Ed Minimum Experience: 3 yrs in CBSE Curriculum	01
2.	HINDI - (Middle & Senior level) Qualification: B.A. M.A., B.Ed Minimum Experience: 3 yrs in CBSE Curriculum	01
3.	ARABIC - (Middle & Senior level) Qualification: B.A., M.A., B.Ed Minimum Experience: 3 yrs in CBSE Curriculum	01
4.	K G - (for I S Muladha & I S Saham) Qualification: Graduate & Montessori trained Minimum Experience: 3 yrs in CBSE Curriculum	02
5.	ART - (Primary & Middle level) Qualification: B. FA / M.FA Minimum Experience: 3 yrs in CBSE Curriculum	01

❖ Eligible Candidates may email their detailed resume, qualification and experience certificates to Indian School Muladha at staffrecruitment@isml-oman.com on or before 20th October 2026.

SPORTS

Serbian Novak Djokovic bags China Open tournament title

De Minaur, who left the court for a medical timeout after the first set, continued playing with a thick bandage on his left thigh, but was unable to continue playing after winning the opening game of the second set

SHENZHEN: Serbian player Novak Djokovic was crowned on Tuesday the winner of the China Open tennis tournament after his Australian opponent Alex de Minaur withdrew from the final match. De Minaur, who left the court for a medical timeout after the first set, continued playing with a thick bandage on his left thigh, but was unable to continue playing after



winning the opening game of the second set. Djokovic won the first set with difficulty, and the score was 7-6, 1-0 in his favour when De Minaur retired. Earlier, Djokovic advanced to the China Open final after Daniil Medvedev was defaulted during their semi-final clash in Beijing.

The record six-time champion was serving for the match at 7-5, 5-3, 15/15 when a ball rebounded off the back wall. Medvedev instinctively struck the ball, sending it into the crowd where it hit a spectator, resulting in his default. Djokovic has now reached his first ATP 500 final since winning

the title in Astana in 2022. He will face fifth-seeded Australian Alex de Minaur in Tuesday's championship match. Djokovic leads their ATP head-to-head series 3-1. "A bit of a shock, to be honest," Djokovic said. "Sorry for the person [who got hit]. I honestly didn't see what happened. I hope that

person is not badly injured. On the other hand, I also feel sorry for Daniil, because I know exactly how he feels to be disqualified in a big match. I was disqualified at the 2020 US Open in similar circumstances. I am sure that Daniil didn't want to do this intentionally. It just happens."

Before Medvedev's default, he and Djokovic had produced an absorbing semi-final on Beijing's centre court that lasted two hours and 29 minutes. Fresh from winning the Hangzhou title last week, Medvedev carried an eight-match tour-level winning streak into the contest and played with confidence. Djokovic, however, recovered from an early break to take the opening set and then broke Medvedev's serve twice in the second to move within touching distance of victory. "I was three points away from the win. It was a gruelling battle, and I definitely didn't want [a] third set. It was looking like that. I don't know how many break points I saved; it was crazy. It's always a big battle with Daniil, and it's so hard to play him when he's feeling the ball well in slower conditions with a big serve. But we move on," he added. Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen defeated 18th seed Marie Bouzkova 7-6 (3), 4-6, 7-5 to set up a round-of-16 meeting with Armenia's Alina Charaeva, who eased past Britain's Sonay Kartal 6-4, 6-1. US Open girls' singles champion Sun Xinran fell 7-5, 6-1 to world No. 4 Coco Gauff. Third-seeded Gauff will meet 13th seed Elise Mertens, who beat Latvia's Jelena Ostapenko 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

UNDERGO TREATMENT

World Number 1 Jannik Sinner ends 2026 season early due to knee injury

ROME: Jannik Sinner has ended his 2026 season early, deciding to undergo treatment for his ongoing knee injury. In a video posted on Instagram on Tuesday, tennis star Sinner said he and his doctors had decided he needed treatment for his knee, bringing his 2026 season to an end. He said he was prioritising his long-term career and would do everything possible to return at

full fitness, while thanking fans for their support. "Hello everyone. I would like to give you a little update. Me together with the doctors have decided that I need a course of treatment for my knee, which means that the 2026 season is officially over. The last couple of years, especially the ending in Turin, gave me so many beautiful feelings and emotions, which this year is going to be way



different, but at the moment I also need to think about my long-term career, so I will do everything possible to get back to 100%. I will thank you already in advance for your support, and hope to see you very, very soon on court again. Ciao, ciao," he said. The world number one ranked player has not played since winning his fifth Grand Slam title at Wimbledon in July. The Italian

had withdrawn from tournaments during both the North American hard-court swing and the Asian swing. Sinner is a two-time defending champion at the ATP Finals, having won the title in Turin in 2024 and 2025 without dropping a set. The 25-year-old has a 15-2 win-loss record at the season-ending tournament. Earlier this season, Sinner won five straight ATP Mas-

ters 1000 titles in Indian Wells, Miami, Monte-Carlo, Madrid and Rome, completing the Career Golden Masters. In tennis, a Career Golden Masters is an achievement where a player wins all NINE ATP 1000 titles at least once in their career. The run also saw him record a career-best 30-match winning streak, which ended in the second round of Roland Garros. — **ANI**



toyotaoman

youtube.com/toyotaoman

@toyotaomanofficial

facebook.com/toyotaoman

www.toyotaoman.com

INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW

LAND CRUISER





Your Path. Your Cruiser.

The legendary Land Cruiser spirit has been reimagined for a new generation, combining trusted capability with a fresh and modern personality. With the freedom to explore and the joy of discovering new possibilities, every journey becomes an adventure of your own.



Saud Bahwan Automotive LLC

ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED C.R NO:1703412

Tel: 24579027

Wattayah Tel: 24579050/60 • Branches Tel: Barka 26887508/09, B.B.Ali 25553692, Bidaya 26803900, Buraimi 25660124, Ibra 25571457/25570102, Ibri 25687100, Mabela 24269400, Nizwa 25213015 / 25213008, Rustaq 26876199, Salalah 23217303 / 23217318, Seeb Al Mawaleh 24550013/24550029, Sinaw 25524203 / 25524783, Sohar 26858500, Sur 25541375/0103.

Images shown are for illustrative purpose only.

OMAN OIL PRICE FALLS
The price of Oman crude oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by November 2026 reaching \$105.40. The price of Oman crude oil fell by \$4.84 from the price of Monday, which was \$110.24. -ONA

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER
The MSX index closed at 7788.14 points, up by 0.75% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.15% at 635.23 points. Al Batinah Development Company, up 10.77%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 6.29%, was the top loser.

Meeting focuses on Oman-GCC economic integration and trade

The FGCCC discussions covered a number of areas, including ways to enhance economic and commercial cooperation among GCC states, the role of the private sector in developing intra-GCC trade and means of achieving GCC economic integration

MANAMA: The Board of Directors of the Federation of GCC Chambers (FGCCC) on Tuesday held its 69th meeting in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.

The meeting was chaired by Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim bin Mohammed Al Thani, Chairman of the FGCCC, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Qatar Chamber.

The delegation of Oman Chambers of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) was led by Rashid bin Amer Al Maslahi, First Deputy Chairman of the OCCI Board of Directors.

The discussions covered a number of areas, including ways to enhance economic and commercial cooperation among GCC states, the role of the private sector in



developing intra-GCC trade and means of achieving GCC economic integration. During the meeting, the FGCCC Board reviewed periodic reports on steps to implement past decisions. It also took decisions on supporting joint investment and real estate projects in a manner that secures the augmentation of financial returns and the application of appropriate policies.

The FGCCC Board also looked into administrative and financial reports and reviewed the Federation's future plans and draft annual budgets.

The meeting laid emphasis on the importance of establishing long-term strategic approaches to joint events. It also discussed proposals to enhance joint working mechanisms and incorporate initiatives aimed to safeguard the interests of the Gulf business sector, in addition to coordinating preparations for upcoming events and meetings with the GCC Secretariat General. -ONA

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



Research Symposium launched to advance policy foresight and economic resilience

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) on Tuesday launched its inaugural Research Symposium, marking a strategic step in strengthening the role of economic research in shaping policy, anticipating risks and advancing Oman's long-term prosperity.

Envisaged as an annual platform bringing together economists, researchers, policymakers and financial-sector experts, the symposium reflects the CBO's ambition to translate rigorous analysis into practical policy insight. It connects international expertise with a deeper understanding of Oman's economy, supporting decisions that preserve confidence, strengthen resilience and enable sustainable development in line with Oman Vision 2040.

The initiative advances the CBO's research and advisory role at a time when shifts in global growth, interest rates, capital flows and financial markets demand greater analytical depth and institutional preparedness. Its strategic purpose is to strengthen the link between knowledge and action: identifying emerging vulnerabilities, evaluating policy choices and understanding how financial developments affect businesses, households and the wider economy.

Ahmed Jaafar Al Musalmi, Governor of the Central Bank of Oman, said: "The strength of a central bank lies in its ability to preserve confidence today and prepare the economy for tomorrow. Research gives us the foresight to recognise emerging risks, the evidence to make sound decisions and the insight to turn change into opportunity. Our ambition is to make the Central Bank of Oman a leading source of policy insight—where rigorous research informs decisive action, strengthens monetary and financial stability, and advances lasting prosperity for Oman."

The governor's vision places research at the heart of an institution that anticipates developments and

helps shape effective responses. Through closer engagement between researchers and decision-makers, the symposium seeks to support policies grounded in evidence, informed by international experience and responsive to Oman's economic priorities.

The opening sessions featured economists and experts from HSBC Middle East, who examined the global economic outlook and its implications for Oman and the wider region. Discussions covered growth prospects, inflation, monetary policy in major economies and the outlook for the US dollar, alongside the opportunities and risks arising from changing global financial conditions.

Specialised sessions presented research undertaken by CBO economists and through collaboration with external experts. Topics included the transmission of US interest-rate changes to Oman under the rial's peg to the US dollar; the propagation of economic shocks across key domestic sectors; and the implications of oil-price volatility for the CBO's foreign reserves.

These areas of research address practical questions central to policy effectiveness: how international monetary conditions influence domestic financing; how pressures in one sector spread through the economy; and how external developments affect reserve resilience. By deepening understanding of these relationships, the CBO aims to strengthen its capacity to assess risks, evaluate policy responses and support informed national economic decisions.

Dr. Qais Issa Al Yahyai, Chief Economist at the CBO, highlighted the symposium as a key outcome of the Bank's Research Enhancement Project. The project focuses on improving the quality, relevance and impact of economic and financial research, while strengthening its contribution to the CBO's policy and advisory functions. -ONA

COMPETITIVELY PRICED FINANCING OPTIONS

BankDhofar puts homeownership within easier reach at urban development and homebuilding expo

MUSCAT: BankDhofar is bringing its attractive portfolio of housing and home finance solutions closer to customers at Urban October 2026 and the 4th Home and Building Expo, offering Omanis and expatriates an opportunity to explore convenient and competitively priced financing options tailored to their homeownership aspirations.

At its dedicated stall, BankDhofar will showcase housing finance solutions designed to make buying, building and improving a home simpler and more affordable. Combining competitive financing terms, flexible repayment options, convenient processing and personalised service, the Bank's offering caters to customers at different stages of their homeownership journey.

Whether customers are looking to purchase their first home, build their dream property, acquire an additional residence or improve an existing home, BankDhofar offers financing solutions structured around a wide range of individual requirements and financial circumstances.

A key highlight of the Bank's participation will be the opportunity for visitors to interact face-to-face with its friendly and professional team of housing finance specialists. BankDhofar representatives will be on hand throughout the exhibition to answer queries, explain eligibility requirements and financing options, and guide prospective customers through the application process.

For visitors contemplating a property purchase or construction project, the Bank's presence at the expo provides the added convenience of discussing financing



requirements alongside the wider range of property, construction, building and home solutions showcased at the event.

BankDhofar's participation also underscores its commitment to making homeownership more accessible through solutions that balance affordability with convenience and responsive customer service. Its extensive branch network, complemented by advanced digital banking capabilities, provides customers with convenient access to

banking services across Oman.

The bank has continued to strengthen its housing finance proposition in line with the evolving requirements of Omani citizens and expatriate residents, reinforcing its position as a trusted financial partner for customers seeking to turn their housing ambitions into reality.

Urban October 2026 and the Home and Building Expo will bring together stakeholders spanning real estate, construction, building materials, interior design, home solutions and financial services.

BankDhofar invites customers and visitors to stop by its stall during the exhibition, meet its specialists and discover how its housing finance solutions can help bring their dream home within easier reach.

TRAI

India's wireless data use jumps 25% in FY26

NEW DELHI: Wireless data usage in India rose sharply by 24.74 per cent during 2025-26, even as the revenue earned by telecom operators per gigabyte of data declined by 10.59 per cent, according to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

The contrasting trends show that while consumers are using significantly more mobile data, telecom operators are earning less revenue for every GB of data consumed.

"Total volume of wireless data usage also increased from 2,28,779 PB (petabytes) during the year 2024-25 to 2,85,376 PB during the year 2025-26 with yearly growth of 24.74 per cent," TRAI said in a report.

TRAI data also showed that wireless revenue per subscriber increased during the year. Average



wireless revenue per user per month rose to Rs 180.73 in 2025-26 from Rs 174.46 in 2024-25, an increase of 3.59 per cent.

According to TRAI's Indian Telecom Services-Yearly Performance Indicators for 2025-26, wireless data usage increased,

but at the same time, revenue realisation per GB declined to Rs 8.02 from Rs 8.97 during the year, marking a fall of 10.59 per cent.

The rise in data consumption was also reflected in the number of wireless data subscribers. The subscriber base increased to 1,026.75 million in March 2026 from 939.51 million in March 2025, registering a growth of 9.29 per cent.

As per data from TRAI, average wireless data usage per subscriber also increased. It rose to 25.51 GB per month in March 2026 from 21.53 GB a year earlier.

Despite the decline in revenue realisation per GB, total wireless data revenue increased during the year. Data revenue rose 11.53 per cent to Rs 2,39,874 crore in 2025-26 from Rs 2,15,078 crore in 2024-25.

The data trends came alongside an increase in the overall telecom subscriber base. Total telephone subscribers increased to 1,330.58 million in March 2026 from 1,200.80 million in March 2025, registering a growth of 10.81 per cent.

The wireless segment, including mobile and fixed wireless access, also expanded during the year. Its subscriber base increased to 1,282.33 million from 1,163.76 million, a rise of 10.19 per cent.

Mobile subscribers alone increased 9.40 per cent to 1,265.73 million from 1,156.99 million.

Overall telecom revenues also increased during the year. Gross revenue rose 8.59 per cent to Rs 4,04,067 crore, while adjusted gross revenue increased 10.44 per cent to Rs 3,34,659 crore. -ANI

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Al Batinah Development Company, up 10.77%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 6.29%, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 7,788.14 points, up by 0.75% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.15% at 635.23 points. Al Batinah Development Company, up 10.77%, was the top gainer while, Oman National Engineering, down 6.29%, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 12,665 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 93.91 million, with more than 281.77 million shares changing hands. Out of 77 traded securities, 27 advanced, 18 declined, and 32 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net sellers for RO 1965K while GCC & Arab investors were net buyers for RO 1472K, followed by foreign investors for RO 494K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 13,901.01 points, up 0.75%. Prices of Al Batinah Development Company, Bank Muscat, Al Anwar Investment, Oman & Emirates Investment, and Ominvest were up by 10.77%, 3.06%, 1.94%, 1.70%, and 1.49% respectively.

Prices of Oman Arab Bank, Oman Qatar Insurance, Takaful Oman, Bank Nizwa, and Al Sharqia Investment were down by 6.13%, 4.26%, 3.28%, 1.27%, and



0.98% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 10,162.79 points, down 0.10%. Prices of Muscat Thread Mill were up by 0.82%. Prices of Oman Fisheries, Gulf Mushroom Products, Voltamp Energy, OMIFCO, and Oman Cables Industry were down by 4.55%, 1.41%, 0.53%, 0.42%, and 0.15% respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.48% before closing at 3,125.87 points. Prices of Musandam Power, Muscat Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, Abraj Energy, and Phoenix Power were up by 2.72%, 2.17%, 1.35%, 1.21%, and 1.05% respectively. Prices of ONEIC, Dhofar Generating, Al Jazeera Services, Majan College, and Barka Desalination were down by 6.29%, 2.44%, 1.18%, 0.74%, and 0.59% respectively. -United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.
MSX 30 INDEX	7,809.26	7,729.87	7,788.14	7,729.87	58.27
FINANCIAL INDEX	13,937.27	13,789.98	13,901.01	13,797.44	103.56
Industry Index	10,224.69	10,162.79	10,162.79	10,172.58	-9.79
Services Index	3,137.49	3,107.19	3,125.87	3,111.07	14.80
MSX Shariah Index	638.46	634.28	635.23	634.28	0.95
MSX TR INDEX	12,107.38	11,984.30	12,074.64	11,984.30	90.34
FINANCIAL TR IDX	17,135.14	16,949.59	17,090.56	16,963.24	127.33
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	13,095.23	13,015.95	13,015.95	13,028.50	-12.54
SERVICES TR IDX	4,212.70	4,172.01	4,177.09	4,177.21	-0.12
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,291.27	1,291.27	1,291.27	1,291.27	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
281,772,202	93,913,054	12,665	39,865,226,484	27	18	32	77

MSX DAILY BULLETIN AS ON 06/10/2026

SN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (KD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
----	---------------	--------	----------	--------	------------	------	-----	----------	-------------	-----------	--------	---------	----------	------------	-----------	------------

REGULAR MARKET

OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	62,023,338	26,820,502	1,963	0.426	0.445	0.424	0.438	0.425	0.013	3.059	0.438	0.441	0.438	0.100	3,287,801,913
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	4,752	1,616	3	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.331	0.009	2.719	0.340	0.300	0.340	0.100	23,932,600
OM0000011722	AL ANWAR INVESTMENT	37,085	68,357	23	0.208	0.210	0.205	0.210	0.206	0.004	1.942	0.210	0.210	0.212	0.100	64,576,869
OM0000011881	OMAN EMIRATES HO	39,500	4,771	5	0.122	0.122	0.120	0.120	0.118	0.002	1.695	0.120	0.116	0.129	0.100	15,356,250
OM0000011333	OMINVEST	2,959	1,207	4	0.403	0.409	0.403	0.409	0.403	0.006	1.489	0.409	0.409	0.409	0.100	459,247,251
OM0000008672	OQ GAS NETWORKS	37,824,586	8,549,412	1,968	0.224	0.227	0.224	0.226	0.223	0.003	1.345	0.226	0.228	0.228	0.100	378,721,006
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	3,150,219	1,311,510	384	0.414	0.419	0.414	0.419	0.414	0.005	1.208	0.419	0.423	0.419	0.100	322,713,800
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	595,880	52,436	20	0.088	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.001	1.149	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.100	31,339,202
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	65,077,026	12,511,546	1,786	0.191	0.195	0.190	0.193	0.191	0.002	1.047	0.193	0.193	0.193	0.100	1,481,468,085
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	6,946,331	2,012,752	202	0.280	0.282	0.287	0.280	0.287	0.003	1.045	0.280	0.288	0.290	0.100	424,154,423
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INTL DEVELOPMENT & INVEST	349,308	101,320	24	0.280	0.283	0.280	0.283	0.280	0.003	1.034	0.283	0.290	0.293	0.100	145,344,449
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	17,793,302	8,828,481	702	0.491	0.500	0.490	0.495	0.490	0.005	1.020	0.495	0.495	0.496	0.010	3,960,000,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	12,400	4,101	5	0.330	0.338	0.329	0.338	0.335	0.003	0.896	0.338	0.322	0.338	0.100	35,490,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	3,410,046	1,677,779	36	0.492	0.495	0.492	0.495	0.492	0.003	0.610	0.495	0.494	0.495	0.100	804,843,446
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	1,526,115	331,597	283	0.217	0.219	0.217	0.218	0.217	0.001	0.461	0.218	0.222	0.218	0.100	662,676,080
OM0000003234	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	294,791	80,891	41	0.275	0.275	0.273	0.275	0.274	0.001	0.365	0.275	0.274	0.275	0.100	65,012,750
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	8,770,465	13,970,357	283	1.369	1.373	1.368	1.371	1.370	0.001	0.073	1.371	1.340	1.371	0.100	172,250,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	351,905	329,030	324	0.935	0.935	0.934	0.935	0.935	0.000	0.000	0.935	0.935	0.936	0.100	116,779,593
OM0000002804	SASAFFA FOODS	3,373	2,378	7	0.705	0.705	0.705	0.705	0.705	0.000	0.000	0.705	0.700	0.705	0.100	84,600,000
OM0000003000	AL MAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MKTNG	548	685	2	1.230	1.230	1.230	1.230	1.230	0.000	0.000	1.230	1.225	1.375	0.100	96,250,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO	2,900,157	1,106,110	46	0.380	0.383	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.000	0.000	0.380	0.370	0.380	0.100	76,000,000
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	20,000	3,200	4	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.000	0.000	0.160	0.156	0.162	0.100	25,600,000
OM0000003968	OQREDOO	394,038	126,005	57	0.320	0.321	0.318	0.320	0.320	0.000	0.000	0.320	0.319	0.320	0.100	208,302,154
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	22,000	4,070	4	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.000	0.000	0.185	0.181	0.185	0.100	36,932,586
OM0000004735	SEMBOOR SALALAH	418,937	119,535	26	0.285	0.287	0.282	0.285	0.285	0.000	0.000	0.285	0.282	0.295	0.100	272,053,006
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	256,684	28,904	37	0.111	0.114	0.111	0.112	0.112	0.000	0.000	0.112	0.109	0.115	0.100	19,600,000
OM0000004925	ALBATAINAH POWER	1,370,080	277,492	91	0.203	0.205	0.199	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.201	0.200	0.201	0.100	134,977,486
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	1,081,716	217,948	74	0.202	0.205	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.199	0.200	0.100	142,881,268
OM0000006908	QBASE INDUSTRIES (SFP)	26,315,967	6,972,303	2,063	0.265	0.266	0.264	0.264	0.264	0.000	0.000	0.264	0.264	0.264	0.040	913,305,584
OM0000010120	ASYAD SHIPPING	5,738,732	1,328,908	1,005	0.235	0.236	0.228	0.234	0.234	0.000	0.000	0.234	0.236	0.234	0.000	1,218,846,162
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	4,366	14,997	7	0.435	0.435	0.430	0.430	0.435	-0.005	-0.146	0.430	0.430	0.435	0.100	40,000,000
OM0000003961	VOLTAMP ENERGY	17,527	29,658	39	0.190	0.190	0.187	0.188	0.189	0.001	-0.529	0.188	0.187	0.207	0.010	188,000,000
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	40,000	6,720	2	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.169	-0.001	-0.592	0.168	0.161	0.168	0.100	12,687,696
OM0000003077	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	28,000	4,268	7	0.154	0.154	0.153	0.153	0.154	-0.001	-0.649	0.153	0.153	0.153	0.100	48,258,801
OM0000003440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO	125,824	12,807	14	0.101	0.102	0.101	0.101	0.102	-0.001	-0.980	0.101	0.101	0.103	0.100	6,090,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	28,000	7,048	10	0.252	0.253	0.250	0.252	0.255	-0.003	-1.176	0.252	0.250	0.253	0.100	10,796,434
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	83,469	13,058	29	0.157	0.158	0.156	0.156	0.158	-0.002	-1.269	0.158	0.158	0.158	0.100	94,964,673
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	8,154	4,037	8	0.496	0.496	0.488	0.488	0.495	-0.007	-1.414	0.488	0.490	0.500	0.100	24,567,080
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGG & INVESTMENT	3,875	592	2	0.154	0.154	0.149	0.149	0.159	-0.010	-6.289	0.149	0.157	0.149	0.100	22,350,000
Total		39	248,512,555	86,344,409	11,590											

Parallel Market

OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	50,000	4,700	1	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.092	0.002	2.174	0.094	0.093	0.097	0.100	14,621
OM0000010823	OMAN GATEWAY FUND	6,250	6,656	4	1.065	1.065	1.065	1.065	1.055	0.010	0.948	1.065	1.065	1.090	0.000	29,207
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	221,466	26,877	38	0.121	0.122	0.120	0.121	0.120	0.001	0.833	0.121	0.121	0.121	0.100	10,285
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	15,500	3,798	2	0.245	0.245	0.245	0.245	0.243	0.002	0.823	0.245	0.245	0.250	0.100	4,533
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	150	117	1	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.775	0.005	0.645	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.100	74,100
OM0000002020	OMAN CHROMITE	10,000	50,000	5	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	0.000	0.000	5.000	0.000	5.000	1.000	18,150
OM0000000400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	107	63	1	0.589	0.589	0.589	0.589	0.589	0.000	0.000	0.589	0.581	0.598	0.100	102,276
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	26,200	1,757	4	0.067	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.100	20,885
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	529,523	45,063	40	0.086	0.086	0.084	0.085	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.090	0.100	3,663
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	2,000	142	1	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.071	0.077	0.100	1,491
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	2,138,290	357,637	145	0.168	0.170	0.164	0.164	0.164	0.000	0.000	0.164	0.164	0.164	0.100	36,080
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	1,169	241	2	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.000	0.000	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.100	572,327
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	19,764	4,260	8	0.218	0.218	0.214	0.216	0.216	0.000	0.000	0.216	0.215	0.216	0.100	140,550
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	482,834	79,594	54	0.165	0.166	0.164	0.164	0.164	0.000	0.000	0.164	0.164	0.170	0.100	33,289
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	1,647	346	3	0.229	0.229	0.209	0.209	0.209	0.000	0.000	0.209	0.209	0.209	0.100	41,880
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	62,300	4,234	8	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.068	0.067	0.070	0.100	13,600
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	3,680	394	5	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.000	0.000	0.107	0.105	0.107	0.100	80,064
OM0000009569	JABAL REIF	8,746	931	6	0.106	0.107	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.106	0.107	0.100	18,444
OM0000011151	OMIFCO	28,421,328	6,736,529	559	0.237	0.239	0.235	0.236	0.237	-0.001	-0.422	0.236	0.235	0.236	0.000	1,578,692
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REEF	4,429	1,516	4	0.180	0.180	0.178	0.178	0.179	-0.001	-0.559	0.178	0.178	0.180	0.100	105,275
OM0000009077	MAJAN COLLEGE	3,599	486	5	0.136	0.136	0.135	0.135	0.136	-0.001	-0.753	0.135	0.135	0.138	0.100	13,365
OM0000009647	DIORAF GENERATING	25,300	2,024	9	0.081	0.081	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	177,890
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL MAF	6,825	403	1	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.061	-0.002	-3.279	0.059	0.059	0.062	0.100	24,750
OM0000009679	OMAN QATAR INSURANCE	200	36	1	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.188	-0.008	-4.255	0.180	0.178	0.205	0.100	19,019
OM0000005260	AL ANBAR BANK	537,502	184,422	109	0.358	0.358	0.337	0.337	0.359	-0.022	-6.128	0.337	0.337	0.339	0.100	674,924
Total		25	32,582,809	7,512,225	1,009											



ADVERTISE WITH US,
FIND THE RIGHT **CANDIDATES**
FOR YOUR COMPANY

CONNECT

PRINT EDITION

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 07, 2026

**PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE**

Email to : amcoman@choueirigroup.com



RENT

CARGO

VACANCY



RENT OR SALE?

**PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE**

Email: amcoman@choueirigroup.com



**CARGO MADE
SIMPLE**

Advertise with us

Send your advertisement to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

**PLACE
YOUR
ADVT HERE**

Send your ad to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com



WJ Towell Group Company



- Fleet of 2,000 vehicles
- Choose from a wide range of brands & models
- PDO, OXY and BP spec vehicles available
- Attractive rates for short-term & long-term lease

**Quality car rentals
at competitive prices.**

Muscat 9679 0594 9679 0684 Sohar 9731 6218 9429 9325 www.orbit-oman.com



JOB WANTED

FINANCE

FINANCE MANAGER/ Chief Accountant
17+ years' Oman experience (Logistics, hospitality, manufacturing, contracting, trading). OACPA Consultant. Expert in IFRS, VAT, corporate tax, banking facilities & project costing.
WA:79788708 | neilks2020@gmail.com

PROCUREMENT

15+ yrs experience in Oman EPC, EPCM manufacturing, PEB & Oil & Gas sector.
Good in Logistics & Freight, Import & Customs clearance Incoterms2020.
Whatsapp : 75123132

FINANCE

Indian male, MBA (Finance), with +9 years of experience in Accounting & Finance, seeking a position as an Audit Associate. NOC available. Valid driving license.
CONTACT : 72420067, 95272057

MANAGER

PROJECT MANAGER/ PROJECT DIRECTOR
seeking senior management/ leadership position in major civil engineering projects. Experienced, available & ready to lead.
☎ 94108621 ✉ princejacub@gmail.com

SALES/MARKETING

Seeking a suitable position in Sales, Marketing having 16 yrs of experience in Oman & 25 yrs of total experience in the field of Infrastructure, Industrial & Building material products.
BE Mechanical, DIM, Valid D/L.
Contact : 94976056

ENGINEER

PMP-certified Construction Project Manager with 10+ yrs Oman experience. M.E., Construction Eng. & Mgmt., and skilled in project execution, coordination, & team leadership. Immediately available.
Contact : 91736863

JOB VACANCY

URGENTLY REQUIRED

A reputed Excellent grade Construction Company in Muscat is looking for a

- PROJECT MANAGER CIVIL (B.E./ B.TECH)**
- PROJECT ENGINEER CIVIL (B.E./ B.TECH)**

with more than 7 years of Oman Experience in Multistory building Construction.

Email your CV to :
hr.recruitmentmct@gmail.com

ADVERTISE WITH US

Send your advt. to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

WE ARE HIRING!

SALES MANAGER – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
We are looking for an experienced and motivated Sales Manager to join our team in the alcoholic beverages industry.

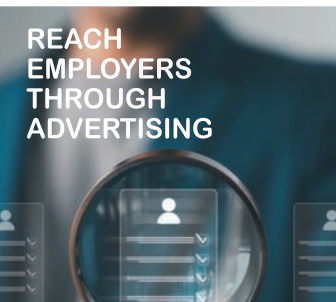
QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

- Age:** 25–40 years old
- Experience:** 5–10 years of experience in sales and marketing within the alcoholic beverages industry
- Industry Knowledge:** Strong knowledge and experience in the alcoholic beverages industry, including sales, marketing, and distribution
- Product Knowledge:** Excellent knowledge of alcoholic beverage products, including product specifications, characteristics, and market positioning
- Education:** College graduate with a degree in Sales, Marketing, Business Administration, or a related field
- Language:** Fluent in English, both written and spoken
- Communication Skills:** Excellent written and verbal communication skills with a pleasant and professional personality
- Sales Skills:** Strong negotiation, customer relationship management, and sales target achievement skills

SALARY: Salary will be discussed during the interview and will depend on the candidate's qualifications and experience.

HOW TO APPLY: Interested candidates who meet the above qualifications are invited to send their CV to: gulfspy@omantel.net.om (Subject: SALES MANAGER APPLICATION)
We look forward to hearing from qualified candidates.

**REACH
EMPLOYERS
THROUGH
ADVERTISING**



Publish your ad with us today

Send your advertisement to
amcoman@choueirigroup.com

ENGINEER

SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER
with 21+ yrs experience in building construction, FM, civil maintenance, QS, site execution, project coordination and documentation. Seeking a suitable position in Oman.
☎ 94194399 ✉ Ahmadoman015@gmail.com

HR/FINANCE

Indian, male, Masters in degree in HR and finance with 12+ yrs of experience in Oman as an HR with valid Oman D/L. Looking for a job currently in Oman.
Contact : +968 9383 5905
Email: chris_alwin@yahoo.com

RENT OR SALE?

Send your advertisement to
amcoman@choueirigroup.com



MATRIMONIAL

Hindu Viswakarma boy, Doctor, MS (ENT), 28/173 cm, currently working in Pondicherry, seeks suitable alliance from parents of professionals. Cast no bar. Contact: +968 97891959

JOB VACANCY

ADMINISTRATION

AI (Art. Intel) Admin assistant, A smart & motivated fresher with good knowledge of AI tools, MS Office & administration. good english and computer skills essential. Send CV to research@alasalaintl.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male MBA, 12 yrs of experience in accounts & procurement looking for suitable opportunities. Contact: 98104268, Email: shinishakir@gmail.com

Looking for job in Accounts with D/L. Contact: 92092486.

Accountant having 10 yrs gulf experience in accounts, D/L and NOC Available Contact: 79192017

Looking for job in Accounts with D/L. Contact: 92092486

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Senior accountant, CBA (CA SL), BBA (accounting), finance professional with 10 yrs experience, specializing in IFRS financial reporting, VAT and tax compliance, audit, treasury, financial controls, ERP systems. Contact: +968 79161550. Email: ashmalaroos@gmail.com

48 yrs male Manager in Accounts (23 yrs exp). Contact: 91410602

Chief Accountant with 25 yrs experience in accounts can handle the accounts department till finalization looking for a suitable position. Immediate Joining. Contact: 79415454

Indian Male - CPA, CMA, CA Finalist, MCom with 13+ yrs Finance exp. in Reporting, FP&A, Budgeting, MIS & ERP Implementation. Seeking Senior Finance role. Phone: 98078321

Senior Accountant cum procurement (FMCB, construction), finance job required with D/L & NOC MBA-finance, 8+ yrs experience in accounts, finance, admin (finalization, audit, MIS, banking, cash flow, VAT, payroll, etc). Contact: 94822604

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian female MCom qualified, 10 yrs of experience in home country seeking job. Tally ERP, busy, Manager.io Contact: 95473637

ADMINISTRATION

Indian female, MSc Industrial Psychology graduate with 1 yr HR experience, seeking HR, Administration, Sales or Marketing roles. Excellent communication, coordination & people management skills. Contact: 99680529, Email: evapraisya@gmail.com

Male looking a suitable post. Admin or accounts. Contact: 75224936

Male looking for suitable post admin or accounts. Contact: 72412899

Indian male graduate with 20 yrs experience seeks job for executive secretary, admin or any other suitable post. Presently available in Muscat. Contact: 91410074.

DRIVER

Driver with 15 yrs experience looking for job as house driver. Contact: 92503551

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Civil Engineer with 20+ yrs experience in telecom, ROP, motorola, mega buildings, roads, ministry projects, PDO. Applicant and licence available. Contact: 98921022

Experienced Mechanical engineer with 7 yrs of experience currently seeking opportunities in Oman. Kindly consider my profile for suitable positions. Contact 95778415. Email: Samsanju770@gmail.com

HVAC Engineer with 4 years experience in Design, Installation & Project Execution, seeking a suitable job opportunity in Oman. Currently In Oman. Contact Number : 75266389

MEP, HVAC Eng: 4+ yrs Oman experience with valid D/L is available. Contact: +968-75020107

IT

Indian female with 2.5+ yrs experience as Business analyst looking for opportunities in Oman. Domain expertise in mine operation, logistics, agriculture, HRMS and E-Commerce with MSc data analytics degree. Contact: 95328870

IT

IT support, system support Engineer with 1.5 yrs experience in India seeking opportunities in Muscat. Currently in Oman, available for immediate joining. Contact: +968 95848213

LOGISTICS

Supply chain professional with 4+ yrs of experience in logistics & inventory management, seeking immediate employment. Interested employers may contact: +968 75287206

MISCELLANEOUS

Indian male, 8 yrs Oman exp, D/L & NOC seeks job. Ready to join. Contact: 72848242

PURCHASE/ PROCUREMENT

Indian male, MBA 13 yrs of professional experience in procurement & commercial, logistics available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194

SALES/MARKETING

Experienced FMCG Sales professional with 7+ yrs in Oman. Seeking sales supervisor, HORECA, sales executive, business development or unit manager roles. Immediate joining. Contact: +968-98706181. Email: zaidahmadsyed87@gmail.com

SALES/MARKETING

MBA holder with 5 yrs of outdoor sales experience in Muscat, a valid Oman D/L, 6+ yrs of experience in the Indian pharmaceutical sales currently looking for a suitable Sales Executive Jobs. Contact: 75083534

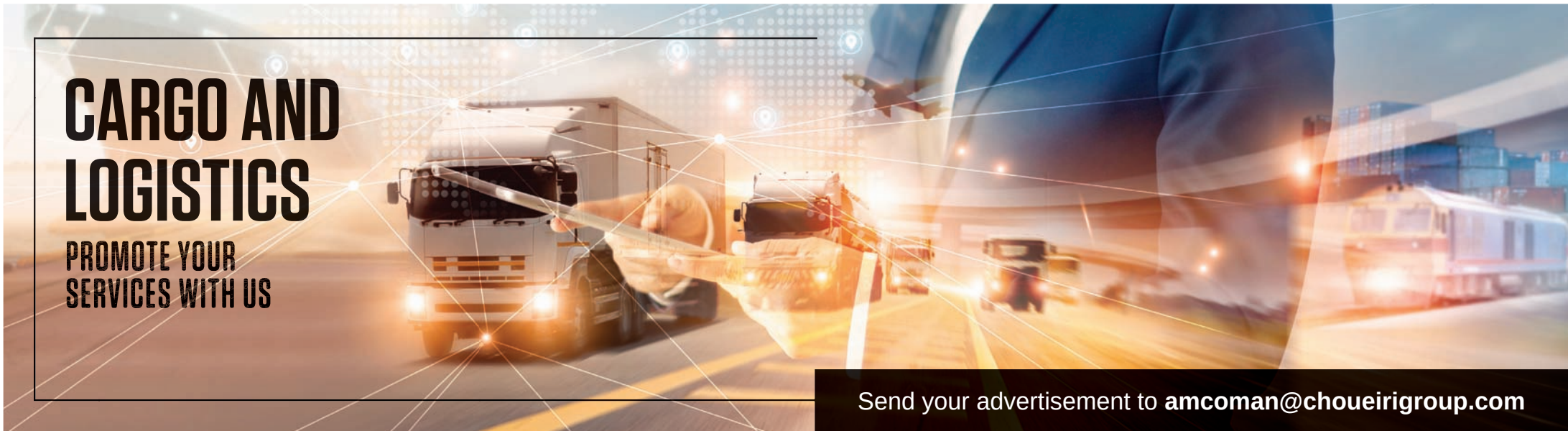
Looking for the position of sales executive, having 10 yrs experience in Oman with D/L, fluent in English, Arabic and Hindi. Ready to join immediately. Contact No: 90586123, Email: ubaidkhn84@gmail.com

Indian male MMS 2 yrs of sales and marketing experience looking for suitable opportunities. Immediate joining. Contact: 91415250, Email: tambesalwan@gmail.com

Indian Male, BBA, 20 years experience in Sales & Marketing in Oman. Holding valid Oman driving license seeks suitable placement. Contact No: 93011232, Email: jitinjoshua920@gmail.com

ADVERTISE WITH US

Send your advt. to:
amcoman@choueirigroup.com



CARGO AND LOGISTICS

PROMOTE YOUR SERVICES WITH US

Send your advertisement to **amcoman@choueirigroup.com**

SERUM INSTITUTE OF INDIA

India's HPV vaccine Cervavac gets WHO prequalification

PUNE: India's first indigenously developed Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, Cervavac, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India (SII), received prequalification from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The regulatory milestone marks the 32nd WHO prequalification for biological products received by the Serum Institute of India. Inclusion on the WHO list of prequalified vaccines enables Cervavac to be procured by United Nations agencies for global distribution.

The recombinant quadrivalent HPV vaccine targets HPV strains 6, 11, 16, and 18, and is indicated for use in girls and boys aged 9 through 26 years.

HPV-related risks

Chief Executive Officer of the Serum Institute of India, Adar Poonawalla, hailed the development, emphasising that the milestone reflects the effectiveness of the vaccine and creates the opportunity for countries to prevent HPV-related risks, while expressing enthusiasm to contribute to immunisation coverage and enhance global healthcare.

"WHO prequalification of Cervavac is an important step in strengthening the global response to HPV."

"This milestone reflects the effectiveness of the vaccine and creates the opportunity for countries to prevent HPV-related risks. We are pleased to see this indigenously developed vaccine reach this achievement, and look forward to contributing to immunisation coverage, advancing global healthcare," said Poonawalla.

— ANI

2026 Nobel Prize in physics awarded to Francis Halzen

He received the award for this "decisive contributions to the IceCube neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin," the academy said

STOCKHOLM: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences on Tuesday awarded the Nobel Prize in physics to Francis Halzen.

He received the award for this "decisive contributions to the IceCube neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin," the academy said.

The committee described the neutrinos as "ghostly messages from space."

Born in Belgium, the 82-year-old is a physics professor University of Wisconsin–Madison in the United States. Halzen acknowledged the prize as he was called on the phone by the panelists who presented the award.

He told the Nobel academy that he was "surprised" to get the prize and thanked the many con-



tributors to the project, adding that the discoveries required a lot of "luck."

"This was kind of an adventure, where success was not guaranteed. It was a long journey, but it finally worked," Halzen said.

The Belgian scientist said that he hoped his Nobel Prize reflects on the "really courageous people" who believed in the project. "No really respectable conservative physicists would have joined

me, but many talented people did, and that's why I'm here," Halzen added.

What is the IceCube neutrino Observatory?

Neutrinos are tiny cosmic particles of ultra small mass that are present everywhere. They come from stars like the sun and trillions of them pass through our bodies every second.

Scientists are not able to ob-

serve the so-called ghost particles zooming around on their own, so they measure what happens when they collide with other bits of matter. Halzen's idea of capturing neutrinos at the Earth's South Pole dates back to the 1980s. The IceCube Neutrino Observatory was subsequently built at the South Pole in Antarctica as a dedicated facility to capture and study the neutrinos.

"The neutrinos we detect are like fingerprints that help us understand the objects and phenomena where the neutrinos are produced," the group said.

"IceCube collaborators address several big questions in physics, like the nature of dark matter and the properties of the neutrino itself," the organisation says.

Using IceCube, researchers can capture neutrinos from extremely energy-rich processes in the distant universe, said the Academy.

"Francis Halzen has led an international team of researchers

and engineers who have provided us with a fantastic instrument. His tenacity and scientific vision has paved the way for a new kind of astronomy," said Mark Pearce, Chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics.

"I didn't expect it. It's a great pleasure to hear about this prize," Halzen said in a phone interview with the Academy after the prize was announced, adding that he would like to point out this project began through collaboration with many people giving their assistance.

Some 450 physicists from 58 institutions in 14 countries make up the IceCube collaboration.

The physics prize has been awarded 119 times to 230 laureates between 1901 and 2025.

Last year, it went to three scientists for their research on the strange behavior of subatomic particles called quantum tunneling that enabled the ultra-sensitive measurements achieved by MRI machines and laid the groundwork for better cellphones and faster computers.

It is the second Nobel announced this week, after the medicine prize was awarded to three scientists whose work on optogenetics has helped unravel how the brain works.

Further laureates are set to be named in chemistry, literature and peace in the days up to Friday. The prizes will be presented at ceremonies on 10 December.

The prize money this year is 12 million Swedish kronor (about \$1.2 million; €1 million), whether for an individual, a small group of laureates or an organisation.

— Agencies

FRANCE



Trade unions join students in major demonstration

PARIS: A day of nationwide blockades and street protests are planned on Tuesday in France, led by high-school and trade union groups. Tens of thousands are expected to take to the streets.

The demonstrations are part of a movement that sprung in recent weeks demanding that French President Emmanuel Macron's government tackle understaffed and underfunded schools.

Protests that began in Paris's deprived suburbs have now spread across the country, including pupils from affluent areas who have joined in solidarity.

Hundreds of high school entrances have been blocked by student protesters since late September. The students have decried poor learning conditions, such as missing teachers, overloaded timetables, dilapidated classrooms and buildings that are not suitable for high temperatures. While many of the demonstrations have been peaceful, some protesters have lit trash can fires, destroyed bus shelters or clashed with riot police, who have responded with batons, tear gas and riot-control rounds, with authorities accusing the movement of having devolved into urban violence.

Police accused of brutality towards children

The country's Justice Ministry said that 5,060 people have been arrested since the protests began. Some 87% of those taken into custody were minors.

Over 1,800 people face charges, including 1,483 minors, the ministry said, without providing details of what they had been ac-

cused of, although some 790 cases have already been dismissed.

Using disproportionate force

Trade unions and human rights groups have accused the police of using disproportionate force on children. Interior Minister Laurent Nunez said on Monday that police have launched 10 internal investigations into allegations of brutality since the protests started.

Among the reports, a 15-year-old lost his hand at a protest in the northern town of Lens, a 16-year-old lost the use of his right eye after being seriously injured in the head in the central town of Tours, while in Saint-Ouen-L'Aumone, northwest of Paris, a 14-year-old lost most of his teeth when a police officer appeared to fire a projectile at him at very close range.

Government promises response

French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu said he had ordered government ministers to study the students' leading demands.

Among the demands the government will be tackling are ensuring absent teachers are replaced, reviewing the length of the 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. school day and the need for longer lunch breaks.

The government has promised to also look at repairs needed to ageing school buildings.

Lecornu said ministers are expected to submit their first proposals by the end of October.

The protests have put pressure on a government that has sought to narrow a ballooning budget deficit. — DW

REFUGEE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Australia's migrant policy offers lessons for European Union and US

PERTH: Nations that send asylum seekers to third countries for offshore processing and holding could spend billions, only to face accusations of human rights abuses and financial mismanagement, as in Australia.

The European Union (EU) has nevertheless been considering the idea, and the United States has already made similar third-country deals, but Australia has been processing or relocating people outside the country where they seek protection for more than two decades.

Former Australian Prime Minister John Howard introduced the so-called Pacific Solution in 2001, targeting immigrants who arrived by boat, and establishing Australian migration processing centres with the help from governments in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the tiny island nation of Nauru.

Centre-left and centre-right governments described the policy as a deterrent, saying people were less likely to attempt dangerous ocean crossings or pay smugglers if arriving by boat did not provide a route to Australia. In his 2001 election policy speech, Howard said the famous line, frequently quoted since: "We will decide who comes to this country and the circumstances in which they come."

In 2008, a newly elected Labour Party government phased out the practice, saying it was a cynical, costly, and ultimately unsuccessful exercise.

But faced with more deaths at sea, a Labour government under Prime Minister Julia Gillard started sending maritime arrivals to Nauru and Manus again in 2012, after an expert panel recommended reopening the centers.

"I'm not going to play politics or look at political scoreboards when too many lives have been lost," Gillard said at the time.

Between 2013 and 2014, the number of people transferred offshore peaked to more than 3,000.

Journalists have been mostly barred from the centers on Nauru and Manus Island. Graham Thom, Advocacy Coordinator for the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA), told DW that this lack of access and independent oversight meant many Australians accepted the narrative that the policy was working.

EU considers offshore arrangements

People without a legal right to re-



main in the EU could face deportation to third countries as soon as 2027, with Rwanda and Uzbekistan reportedly under consideration as third-party countries, as well as Uganda.

The European Parliament in June approved new rules that would pave the way for so-called "return hubs" outside the EU's borders.

Denmark's Minister for Immigration and Integration, Morten Bødskov, told reporters last month the hubs would not be detention and deportation centers.

"We are not talking about camps," Bødskov said, describing the scheme instead as "a new chance to have a life in a partner country."

The group was to speak with the United Nations , the Interna-

tional Organization for Migration and the UN Refugee Agency about their next steps.

The proposal allows for harsh penalties for those who refuse to be removed to the hubs, including detention for up to 30 months pending deportation from the EU and entry bans.

US already has a third-country migration scheme

The US government has already made deals with at least 30 third countries in Africa and Latin America. In June, Amnesty International said some agreements had been revealed through the US Freedom of Information Act, while others "remain secret."

The US Supreme Court ruled late last month that the second Trump administration could resume deportations under the third-country scheme, after a US appeals court ruled that immigrants must receive effective notice of their intended destination and an opportunity to challenge removal if they fear persecution

or torture.

The first deportations from the US under the third-country removal scheme were of immigrants convicted of crimes, but more recently, foreign nationals not accused of any crime have also been deported.

Accusations of human rights abuse

Asylum seekers and human rights advocates have repeatedly alleged human rights abuses in Australia's offshore migration processing program, with Thom describing the policy as a "medieval idea."

A group of asylum seekers formerly detained on Manus Island reached a AU\$70 million (€43.47 million/\$48.47 million) settlement in 2017 after filing charges for abuse and unlawful detention.

In February, an Australian Senate inquiry heard first-hand witness accounts of neglect, untreated health conditions, and serious concerns for the safety and dignity of camp inhabitants — especially of women being kept on Nauru. Prior to the hearing, 73 UN member states had publicly raised concerns about Australia's migration policies.

Brazil, China, Finland, Germany, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey called for an end to offshore processing of asylum claims.

Australia has yet to officially comment on the recommendations, but successive governments have said offshore processing helps deter dangerous boat journeys, with former Prime Minister Tony Abbott describing the policy during his term as "decent, humane and compassionate." — DW

Full story at timesofoman.com/world



LIFESTYLE

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER NEW LITTLE BLUE OCTOPUS IN GALAPAGOS

HE'S TINY!
IT'S BLUE!



Scientists knew they had encountered something special when they first saw the tiny blue octopus in the depths of the Galapagos Islands

There's a new octopus on the ocean floors of Ecuador's Galapagos Islands that is tiny and blue (and cute) but with a long name — Microeleodone galapagensis. The news is exciting because the octopus is the size of a golf ball and because scientists know very little about octopuses that live deep in the tropical Pacific Ocean, as described in the study about the octopus published in May 2026 in the journal, Zootaxa. And it must have been very exciting for the one person who knew there was something special about the octopus when she first saw it more than ten years ago — the scientist who led the study describing

the new animal. "Right away, I knew it was something really special. I'd never seen anything like it," said Janet Voight, the lead author of the study. In 2015, scientists aboard the E/V Nautilus submersible were studying the ocean floor using the sub's remotely operated camera when they noticed the octopus, about 5,800 feet (1768 meters) below the water's surface. "He's tiny!" "It's blue!" That's how researchers described the octopus when they first saw the animal, according to the study. The crew aboard the submersible then collected the octopus and noted they saw two others that looked

like it over the course of their deep-sea mission. But when the octopus was brought back to the Charles Darwin Research Station on the Santa Cruz island in the Galapagos Islands, researchers were not sure what species it belonged to. They then contacted Janet Voight and went out of their way to make sure she had the specimen. Little octopus posed challenges for scientific research The octopus was little and one of a kind, which meant that researchers had to take specific measures to make sure they could study it. The octopus' body was preserved in alcohol and formalin and then sent from the Galapagos Islands to

Chicago for Voight to examine the animal at the Field Museum, which is one of the world's largest natural history museums. "When you describe a new species of octopus, you have to look at all the parts, including the mouth, the beak, and the teeth. And to see those things, you have to cut the specimen open. We only had the one specimen, so I didn't want to take it apart," Voight said. She worked with a team to create micro CT scans of the octopus and put together a 3D model of the animal, inside and out. That was the first time in her four-decade career on octopus evolution that she led a study that described a new species of octopus. "These are little octopuses that

live in the deep sea, and hardly anybody on Earth has ever gotten to see them. I just feel lucky that I got to work with them," she said. Why discovering a new tiny octopus is this special The Galapagos are an archipelago of 20 islands that was made famous by Charles Darwin, a biologist who used his trip to the island in the mid-1800s to formulate his theory of evolution. The surrounding waters of the islands are home to creatures that aren't found anywhere else on Earth and there's a vast part that remains unexplored. Imagine how scientists felt when they saw a tiny octopus they had never seen before. -rw

SPORTS

Spain eye UEFA Nations League quarterfinal berth against Croatia

Spain travel to Croatia after three consecutive wins in its opening group games

MADRID: Spain could secure a place in the UEFA Nations League quarterfinals on Tuesday with a win over Croatia in Split.

Spain travels to Croatia after three consecutive wins in its opening group games. Another victory would give the world champions 12 points from four matches while leaving Croatia on three.

If England also wins or draws at home to the Czech Republic, neither Croatia nor the Czechs would be able to catch Spain, assuring Luis de la Fuente's side of a top-two finish with two games remaining, at home to England

and away to the Czech Republic in November.

While Spain travels with a perfect record, Slaven Bilic's Croatia goes into the match looking to respond to arguably the most humiliating defeat in its history, a 7-0 home loss to England on Saturday.

Willpower

"Against England, we didn't bring the necessary energy, which affects confidence; confidence affects technical performance, and in the end, it all looks like a question of willpower. Now we have to play a good match, a match for



real men, against Spain," Bilic said, suggesting Spain could face a physical contest.

Spain beat Croatia 4-1 in Seville just a week ago and followed that

with a 3-1 victory over the Czech Republic on Saturday, although its performance in Oviedo was arguably its least impressive of the three games so far during the

international break. De la Fuente made nine changes from the team that faced Croatia and is expected to continue rotating his squad, particularly after highlighting the

limited recovery time available to his players during the international break.

"We will get back to Madrid at 3 a.m., then we have one day to train on Sunday, before traveling on Monday and playing on Tuesday," said De la Fuente, who has already seen five players leave his squad with injuries over the past two weeks.

Midfielder Fabian Ruiz also left the squad at the weekend for a happier reason, becoming a father for the first time. His absence could see Mikel Merino return to the starting lineup.

Lamine Yamal is expected to start after an outstanding run of form in which he has scored early goals in all three of Spain's Nations League matches. The Barcelona forward was substituted in the second half against the Czech Republic, leaving him fresher for Tuesday's game. **-Xinhua**

PCB

Sahibzada Farhan to captain Pakistan in T20Is against Sri Lanka



NEW DELHI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has announced Pakistan's men's squads for the upcoming three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka and the ODI tri-series involving England and Sri Lanka. Right-handed opening batter Sahibzada Farhan, who led Pakistan at the recently concluded Asian Games, will captain the side in the T20I series.

Left-arm fast bowler Shaheen Afridi will continue to lead the ODI side in the tri-series. All three T20Is will be played at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, with the opening match on 9 October. The second and third matches follow on 11 and 13 October, respectively. After the T20I series, Pakistan will take part in an ODI tri-series alongside England and Sri Lanka. Rawalpindi will host the opening three matches, before the tournament moves to Lahore for the remaining league matches and the final.

Sri Lanka have already named their squads for the T20I and ODI legs of their tour.

Pakistan T20I squad: Sahibzada Farhan (c), Abdul Samad, Abrar Ahmed, Arafat Minhas, Fakhar Zaman, Hasan Nawaz, Khawaja Nafay (wk), Maaz Sadaqat, Mohammad Salman Mirza, Muhammad Imran Randhawa, Naseem Shah, Razaullah, Saim Ayub, Shadab Khan, Sufiyan Moqim.

Pakistan ODI squad: Shaheen Shah Afridi (c), Abrar Ahmed, Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Rauf, Hasan Nawaz, Muhammad Ghazi Ghori (wk), Naseem Shah, Razaullah, Saad Baig (wk), Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shadab Khan, Sufiyan Moqim. **-ANI**

BOWLING COACH

Learn, grow and ask questions: Morne Morkel stresses learning for Vaibhav Sooryavanshi

LUCKNOW: India bowling coach Morne Morkel said Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's continued exposure to the Indian team environment will be valuable for his development, regardless of his immediate playing opportunities for the first T20I against the West Indies on Tuesday.

The bowling coach stressed that decisions on the playing XI will be taken by the selectors, head coach Gautam Gambhir and captain, based on what they believe is the best combination for India's World Cup campaign. Morkel also added that training alongside experienced international players, observing their preparation and learning from their approach to building an innings will help Vaibhav grow and adapt to the highest level of the game.

"I'm pretty sure, you know, Gautam will look to rotate. I mean, as I said, that is up to the selectors and the coach and the captain in terms of the playing XI, or which playing XI will be the best to win a game for India in our next World Cup. And that has always been the main focus," Morkel told reporters in the pre-match press conference on Monday.

"We all know the talent of Vaibhav. I think the more time he spends in this environment with the quality players, the more time he trains at this standard, will only be great for his cricket. And if he's not getting that game time, he's still on a bus, in the dugout, in the hotel with guys with a lot of experience. And I think with him sharing that sort of dressing room and talking through guys, just actually watching how the guys go through their processes and how they set up innings will be key for him," said Morkel.

Morkel also stressed the im-



portance of creating the right environment for young players to learn, even when their playing time is limited.

He encouraged them to closely observe experienced teammates in training, understand their approach and game plans, and ask questions.

According to Morkel, such exposure can help young cricketers learn, grow and develop a strong mindset for their careers.

"And I'm a big believer that sometimes, if you put guys in the right environment and they can ask the right questions and they can observe. So I always challenge them. I said, 'Watch what this guy is doing in training.' How does he face his first 15 balls? When we get to stuff, what sort of game plan does he come up with? And for any young player, whether he gets game time or that game time is a little limited, it's still our job to make sure these guys learn, grow, and ask questions. I think that for me is a fantastic growth sort of mind map," Morkel added.

Just three days after clinching gold at the Asian Games in Japan, India will shift their focus to a five-match T20I series against the West Indies on home soil. **-ANI**

SIX ARAB TEAMS

Oman men's volleyball team participates in Arab Championship in Jordan

AMMAN: Oman's national volleyball team is participating in the 24th Arab Men's Volleyball Championship, hosted by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The tournament kicks off on Tuesday and runs until 15 October at the Arena Hall in the Jordanian capital, Amman, with the participation of six Arab teams: Oman, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Algeria.

Oman will play Algeria later this evening at 6:00 pm Oman time. The team's second match will be against Saudi Arabia tomorrow, Wednesday, at 5:00 pm. Oman will face Kuwait on Friday, 9 October, at 7:00 pm, followed by a match against tournament host Jordan on Sunday, 11 October, at 7:00 pm. Oman will conclude its fixtures against Bahrain on



Wednesday, 14 October. The tournament will be played in a single round-robin format.

The team finishing first will win the championship and gold medals, the runner-up will receive silver medals, and the third-placed team will take bronze.

Oman finished fourth in the previous edition and won the bronze medal in the 22nd edition.

It is worth noting that 12 teams from the 18 member states of the Arab Volleyball Federation are absent from this tournament, which will have a clear impact on the technical level of the competition. The absent teams are the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iraq, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Palestine, Yemen, Lebanon, Sudan, and Somalia. **-ONA**

COUNTRY'S BIGGEST CLUBS

Copa del Rey first round promises glory of the Cup but few upsets

MADRID: The first-round draw for the Spanish Copa del Rey was made on Monday, pitting some of the country's biggest clubs against amateur and semi-professional sides.

The first two rounds do not include the four clubs that will play in the Spanish Super Cup in February, with FC Barcelona, Real Madrid, Atletico Madrid and reigning Copa del Rey holder Real Sociedad entering at the round of 32.

However, the draw does include teams such as 2024 Cup winner Athletic Bilbao, as well as Real Betis, Villarreal, Sevilla and Valencia.

The first round also features 10 teams from Spain's regional leagues that came through a preliminary round, with those sides guaranteed a lucrative home tie against higher-level opposition.



Eight of the teams to play in the first round were decided this weekend, although the return leg between Prat and San Rafael was postponed due to weather-related travel disruption, while the match between Guimar and Sporting Hortalaza was suspended following violent scenes in which the Guimar coach was allegedly as-

saulted during the warm-up.

The first round will be played over three days from Oct. 27 to 29. Although no team from the sixth tier of Spanish football has ever knocked out a top-flight opponent, the round traditionally provides some of the competition's biggest contrasts.

In addition to the 10 matches involving regional-level sides, La Liga clubs Levante and Villarreal face opponents from RFEF III, the fifth tier. Villarreal travels to Mallorca to face Manacor, hometown of tennis great Rafael Nadal, while Levante plays Tarancon.

Betis, Espanyol, Celta Vigo and Rayo Vallecano face opponents from RFEF II, the fourth tier. Rayo visits Recreativo Huelva, Spain's oldest football club, while Betis takes on Navalcarnero. **-Xinhua**

NOMINATED

ICC Men's Player of the Month nominees for September revealed

NEW DELHI: India's Abhishek Sharma and Shubman Gill, along with Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikandar Raza, have been nominated for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for September 2026 following their impressive performances in white-ball cricket.

Abhishek Sharma returned to his explosive best during India's T20I series against Afghanistan after managing just one half-century in his previous 10 T20 innings.

He made an immediate impact in the opening match in Delhi, smashing 82 off 32 balls, including seven fours and seven sixes. Abhishek reached his half-century in just 22 deliveries as India chased down 157 with 38 balls to spare, earning the Player of the Match award.

The left-hander continued his aggressive approach in the second T20I, scoring 39 off 19 balls at a strike rate of 205.26. With India having already secured the series,

Abhishek delivered his standout performance in the third match, when he batted first for the first time in the series.

He struck a record-breaking 108 off 45 balls, reaching his century in only 30 deliveries to register the fastest T20I century by a batter from a Full Member nation. His fifty came off 16 balls, while his strike rate of 317.64 was the highest by an Indian in a T20I innings. He also hit 11 sixes, the second-most by an Indian in a T20I innings, and combined with Sanju Samson to help India post their highest-ever Powerplay score of 100/0.

Abhishek was named Player of the Match once again and also won the Player of the Series award. The No. 2-ranked T20I batter finished the three-match series with 229 runs at an average of 76.33, capping a prolific September.

Sikandar Raza continued to underline his importance to Zimbabwe with a series of strong perfor-



mances against Australia, despite his side losing the three-match ODI series.

The No. 2-ranked ODI all-rounder played a key role in the opening match after Zimbabwe were reduced to four wickets while chasing a challenging target. Raza steadied the innings with a composed 57 and added 98 runs with Craig Ervine to keep Zimbabwe in the contest.

He followed it with a 45-ball 45 in the second ODI, once again contributing crucial runs in the middle order as Zimbabwe took on the reigning ODI World Cup champions.

Raza produced another impressive performance in the final ODI, remaining unbeaten on 81 off 72 balls after walking in during the 29th over with wickets falling around him. His innings helped Zimbabwe post 271/8 and provided the late impetus needed to build a competitive total.

He also contributed with the ball in the final match, dismissing Oliver Peake and Josh Inglis, who had scored a century. His performances across the series highlighted his continued value to Zimbabwe as an all-rounder.

Shubman Gill's September campaign was marked by significant milestones and a remarkable ODI innings, as the India captain and No. 1-ranked ODI batter enjoyed a prolific series against the West Indies.

In the opening ODI in Thiruvananthapuram, Gill anchored India's chase of 296 from the top of the order, scoring 110 off 108 balls. It was his 10th ODI century, while his partnership with Virat Kohli helped India complete the chase comfortably.

Gill produced an even more extraordinary performance in the second ODI in Guwahati, where India successfully chased down 406, completing the second-high-

est successful run chase in ODI history in just 43.3 overs. Gill led the pursuit with an unbeaten double-century.

After reaching his fifty, Gill shifted gears and continued to accelerate, eventually finishing unbeaten on 223 off 133 balls.

His innings included 26 fours and eight sixes, with his double-century coming off just 117 deliveries.

He reached his century in 62 balls, setting a new record for the fastest ODI century by an Indian captain.

His 223 not out was the fastest double-century in the format and also the highest individual score in a successful ODI chase. With a century in the opening match followed by a record-breaking double-century in Guwahati, Gill enjoyed one of the most outstanding individual stretches of the month, strengthening his case for the Player of the Month award. **-ANI**

IN PICTURES



Models present creations by Lacoste during Paris Fashion Week: A model presents a creation from the Womenswear Spring/Summer 2027 collections by Lacoste during the Paris Fashion Week in Paris, France.



Healing little hearts: Kabul's new hospital brings life-saving surgery to Afghan children: Afghan children with congenital heart defects are hospitalised at a cardiac hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan. — Xinhua



2026/27 ICE Hockey League: HK Olimpija vs. Pioneers Vorarlberg Miha Bericic (3rd R) of HK Olimpija shoots to score during the 2026/27 ICE Hockey League match between HK Olimpija and Pioneers Vorarlberg at the Sports Hall Tivoli, Ljubljana, Slovenia. — Xinhua



Cultural event for Confucius Institute Day held in Baku, Azerbaijan: Teachers from the Confucius Institute at Azerbaijan University of Languages sing a Chinese song during a cultural event for the Confucius Institute Day in Baku, Azerbaijan. The event was held by the Confucius Institute at Azerbaijan University of Languages. — Xinhua



6th Witchilano Paddle in Vancouver, Canada: A participant dressed as a witch paddles along the waterfront during the 6th Witchilano Paddle in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The annual event brings together hundreds of costumed paddlers to celebrate the upcoming Halloween on the water. — Xinhua



Vasa Museum showcases well-preserved 17th-century warship in Stockholm, Sweden: A visitor takes photos of a reconstruction model of the warship Vasa at the Vasa Museum in Stockholm, Sweden. The Vasa Museum in Stockholm, Sweden, features the 17th-century warship Vasa as its centrepiece. Through the ship, artifacts and themed exhibitions, the museum tells the story of the vessel's construction, sinking and salvage. The Vasa sank on its maiden voyage in 1628 and was salvaged more than 300 years later. It is one of the best-preserved 17th-century ships in the world. — Xinhua

Bollywood Actress Triptii Dimri Poses at Myntra Creator Club Event in New Delhi: Bollywood actress Triptii Dimri poses for the cameras during the Myntra Creator Club event co-hosted by Meta, in New Delhi. — ANI Photo



ROUND-UP

Cadillac turns parking into a premium ownership experience

At one of Oman’s busiest retail and lifestyle destinations, Cadillac is ensuring that its customers enjoy greater comfort, convenience, and peace of mind from the moment they arrive

MUSCAT: Finding a parking space at a busy destination can often be the most challenging part of a shopping trip. Recognising this everyday inconvenience faced by thousands of visitors, Cadillac Oman has transformed a common frustration into an exclusive ownership benefit with the introduction of the Cadillac Valet Experience at Mall of Oman.

Available exclusively to Cadillac owners, the service reflects the brand’s longstanding commitment to creating meaningful luxury experiences that extend beyond the vehicle itself. At one of Oman’s busiest retail and lifestyle destinations, Cadillac is ensuring that its customers enjoy greater comfort, convenience, and peace of mind from the moment they arrive.

Luxury has always been measured by how seamlessly life moves



around you. Through this initiative, Cadillac owners can now bypass the stress of searching for parking and instead enjoy a premium arrival experience that saves time and enhances every visit.

The Cadillac Valet Experience represents the brand’s philosophy of elevating ownership by integrating thoughtful services into customers’ daily lives. More than simply providing a parking solution, the initiative demonstrates how Cadillac continues to anticipate customer needs and deliver premium experiences that make a tangible difference to everyday routines.

By bringing this exclusive benefit to Mall of Oman, Cadillac reinforces its commitment to creating value

beyond the drive, ensuring that ownership remains rewarding whether customers are on the road or enjoying time with family and friends.

A senior spokesperson at Cadillac Oman said: “Cadillac has always been about more than building exceptional vehicles. It is about creating experiences that enhance the lives of our customers. Mall of

Oman is one of the most visited destinations in the country, and parking can often be a challenge, particularly during peak hours. Rather than accepting that inconvenience as part of the experience, Cadillac has turned it into an ownership privilege. The Cadillac Valet Experience is another example of how we continue to elevate ownership by delivering comfort, convenience and exclusivity in moments that matter most.”

This latest initiative further strengthens Cadillac’s position as a luxury brand that understands today’s customer expectations, extending its premium ownership promise beyond the vehicle and into everyday life.

FOURTH EDITION

Sohar Islamic supports Zakat conference as main sponsor, advancing sustainable Zakat practices and financial inclusion

MUSCAT: Reflecting its commitment to advancing Islamic finance as a catalyst for inclusive economic growth and sustainable social development, Sohar Islamic, the Islamic banking window of Sohar International, participated as the main sponsor of the fourth Zakat Conference and Exhibition, organised by the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs from 27 to 29 September in the Wilayat of Sohar, North Al Batinah Governorate.

The sponsorship underscores Sohar Islamic’s broader role in supporting the development of an effective and sustainable Zakat ecosystem, strengthening institutional capabilities and promoting the contribution of Islamic financial principles to Oman’s long-term development priorities.

Held under the auspices of Nasser bin Khamis Al Jashmi, Chairman of the Tax Authority, and in the presence of Dr. Mohammed bin Said Al Maamari, Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs, the conference brought together more than 600 participants, including representatives from nine Gulf, Arab and international countries, alongside government officials, specialists, researchers and stakeholders in Zakat affairs. The event provided a platform for exchanging expertise, advancing institutional cooperation and exploring approaches to enhance the efficiency, governance and developmental impact of Zakat.

Commenting on Sohar Islamic’s participation, Fahad Al Zadjali, Chief Islamic Banking Officer at Sohar Islamic, said: “The true value of Islamic finance lies not only in providing financial solutions, but also in its ability to contribute to a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy. Zakat plays a fundamental role in this ambition, serving as a mechanism for strengthening social solidarity, supporting economic empowerment and directing resources towards meaningful development outcomes. As Oman advances its national priorities, there is an opportunity to further strengthen the institutional frameworks, governance and capabilities that enable Zakat to deliver a greater and more sustainable impact. At Sohar



Islamic, we believe our responsibility extends beyond banking to supporting an ecosystem where Islamic financial principles translate into tangible economic and social value. Our partnership with the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs reflects this commitment and our ambition to contribute to a more effective, transparent and sustainable Zakat sector that supports community wellbeing and Oman Vision 2040.”

A central focus of the conference was the relationship between Zakat and sustainable development, highlighting the importance of coordinated institutional efforts in maximising its economic and social contribution. The main panel discussion, ‘Zakat and Sustainable Development: An Integrated Government Vision,’ examined opportunities to strengthen collaboration across sectors and establish a more integrated approach to addressing development priorities. The conference also marked the launch of the Zakat Institutions Readiness Index in the Sultanate of Oman, an initiative designed to assess institutional preparedness and operational effectiveness, with an emphasis on governance, institutional excellence and sustainable practices.

Further strengthening this agenda, Sohar Islamic and the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a framework for cooperation and defining their respective roles in supporting the development of the Zakat sector. The agreement reflects a shared commitment to

enhancing institutional collaboration and contributing to the sector’s long-term development. The conference also witnessed the signing of a cooperation document between the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs and the SMEs Development Authority, reinforcing the importance of partnerships in connecting social development objectives with broader economic opportunities.

Throughout the three-day programme, discussions addressed the Sharia, economic, financial, administrative and technological dimensions of Zakat, emphasising the need for sound governance, stronger institutional capabilities and effective practices to maximise its developmental potential. Together, these initiatives highlighted the evolving role of Zakat beyond its traditional charitable function, positioning it as an important contributor to social empowerment, economic participation and sustainable community development.

Through its sponsorship and institutional engagement, Sohar Islamic continues to strengthen its contribution to Oman’s Islamic finance ecosystem, supporting initiatives that connect responsible financial practices with national development priorities. As part of Sohar International’s broader commitment to creating value beyond banking, Sohar Islamic remains focused on fostering meaningful partnerships, advancing institutional development and supporting a more inclusive and resilient economy in alignment with Oman Vision 2040.

‘CONNECTED FUTURES’ FORUM

Vodafone’s connected futures brings global industry experience to Oman

MUSCAT: As digital adoption advances across Oman’s economic sectors, the focus for businesses is increasingly on how technology improves the way they operate. In sectors where safety, operational continuity and coordination are critical, this is raising the requirements placed on connectivity as more field activities, assets, applications and operational systems become connected.

Vodafone Oman put these requirements at the centre of its ‘Connected Futures’ forum, bringing together senior representatives from energy, transport and logistics, infrastructure and public safety with global technology specialists Airbus, Celona and RugGear.

Held under the patronage of Dr. Ali Al Shidhani, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology for ICT, the forum examined private 5G, IoT and mission-critical communications against the realities of the environments in which they are expected to operate. As connectivity becomes more closely tied to safety, control and real-time decision-making, network design is no longer a standalone technology consideration; it increasingly forms part of the wider operational architecture.

Eng. Bader Al Zidi, Chief Executive Officer of Vodafone Oman, said: “The value of advanced connectivity will increasingly be seen in what it enables across the sectors that drive growth and diversification, from greater productivity and resilience to stronger competitiveness. For the telecommunications sector, that means our contribution cannot be measured only by the networks we build, but by how effectively those networks enable the wider economy.”

Al Zidi went on to elaborate, “There is an opportunity for Oman to benefit from a global learning curve that is already well advanced. International experience can show what has worked, what has not, and where the real value has emerged, but it has to be considered alongside the knowledge of our own industries. Bringing those two together gives Oman a stronger basis for accelerating adoption in a way that is relevant to its priorities and operating realities.”

The international cases pre-



sented at Connected Futures placed Oman’s requirements within a wider shift already underway across critical industries. Airbus highlighted deployments with CEPSA in Spain, Tirana International Airport in Albania and Rijkswaterstaat in the Netherlands, where broadband critical communications are being introduced across energy, aviation and transport operations. Celona drew on private 5G deployments across oil, gas and petrochemical sites in the United States, while RugGear shared experience from public safety and industrial environments, including the transition of Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence from legacy narrowband systems to broadband mission-critical communications.

Oman’s oil and gas concessions, ports, logistics networks and pub-

lic safety operations face many of the same underlying demands: geographically dispersed assets, mobile workforces, safety-critical activity and an increasing reliance on real-time information. This places greater emphasis on communications that can connect people, field operations and control environments securely and consistently across the wider operating landscape.

Connected Futures builds on Vodafone Oman’s broader enterprise strategy to bring the scale and experience of Vodafone Group closer to the needs of businesses in the Sultanate. As its enterprise business develops beyond core connectivity, the company is expanding the capabilities it can bring to Oman’s industries, reinforcing its ambition to play a key role in the country’s digital economy.



TO CONTINUE
READING THE
FULL EDITION,
PLEASE
FOLLOW
OUR OFFICIAL
WHATSAPP
CHANNEL

