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HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM RATIFIES OMAN-UAE RAILWAY AGREEMENT, ADVANCING \$2.5 BILLION HAFEET RAIL PROJECT



The Royal Decree gives formal approval to the agreement underpinning a 238-kilometre cross-border railway that will connect Sohar with the UAE rail network, creating a new trade and logistics corridor between the two Gulf neighbours.

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has ratified an agreement between the governments of Oman and the United Arab Emirates to develop their cross-border railway connection, advancing a \$2.5 billion project designed to transform the movement of goods and people between the two countries.

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Rwanda President Paul Kagame to visit Oman on September 7

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During the visit, the two sides are expected to discuss a number of issues of mutual interest, with a focus on strengthening bilateral relations and exploring ways to enhance cooperation between Oman and Rwanda.



Brain-dead donor helps save four lives as Oman's organ transplant programme reaches new milestone

The Omani Center for Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation said organs retrieved from a patient declared brain dead were successfully transplanted into four patients, giving them a new chance at life.



Oman brings urban investment opportunities to the heart of London

‘Live Oman’ initiative to showcase the Sultanate’s cities, property opportunities and quality of life on Oxford Street from September 21.

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Oman is taking its investment and urban development story to the heart of the British capital, with the Live Oman initiative set to launch in London on September 21, offering international investors and buyers a closer look at opportunities to live, invest and build a future in the Sultanate. The initiative will run until October 4 at Future Stores on Oxford Street, bringing together Omani developers, major urban projects and investment opportunities under the theme “Reimagine Your Future.”



OQAE, ASYAD Group target low-carbon future for Oman’s logistics sector

OQ Alternative Energy and ASYAD Group have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) outlining key conditions for the purchase of green hydrogen.

The agreement will assess the potential for ASYAD Group to utilise green hydrogen produced by OQ Alternative Energy’s project in Duqm, paving the way for cleaner transport and logistics operations and supporting the gradual integration of hydrogen into Oman’s energy

system. The collaboration brings together the energy and logistics sectors and is aimed at creating practical and commercially viable solutions for activities that are traditionally emissions-intensive.



Oman opens 380km of new roads in Dhofar

The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology inaugurated the Harweeb-Meten road in the Wilayat of Al Mazunah and a new asphalt road network in the Wilayat of Muqshin, as part of wider efforts to upgrade transport infrastructure across the governorate. The opening was held under the patronage of His Highness Sayyid Marwan bin Turki Al Said, Governor of Dhofar, who said the projects form part of the growing momentum to develop infrastructure in the governorate. He said road development remains one of the main pillars of comprehensive development and stressed that work will continue to strengthen and expand the road network across Dhofar.

Oman joins international hydrogen network to accelerate clean energy goals



Oman has joined the International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy (IPHE) to strengthen its position in the global hydrogen sector and accelerate the development of a sustainable, low-carbon energy economy.

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Represented by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Oman’s membership will enhance international cooperation in hydrogen technologies and support their wider deployment across sectors including transportation, indus-

try, power generation and energy storage. The move is expected to further consolidate Oman’s growing role in green hydrogen and its derivatives while supporting the country’s wider economic and development ambitions.

Passenger traffic through Oman Airports drops 8.1% by July 2026

Passenger traffic through airports across the Sultanate of Oman declined by 8.1 percent by the end of July 2026, with the total number of arrivals, departures and transit passengers reaching approximately 7.69 million.

The total number of passengers stood at 7,689,967, compared with 8,366,273 during the same period in 2025.



Al Mazyouna Free Zone attracts over RO 141 million in investments to Oman

The new projects, covering industrial and logistics activities as well as export offices, are being established on a combined area of around 2,415 square metres. The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates — Madayn, which manages and operates Al Mazyouna Free Zone, said the total leased area in the zone has now exceeded 1.4 million square metres, out of a total

allocated area of more than 15.36 million square metres. Engineer Ahmed bin Khamis Al Kasbi, Director General of Al Mazyouna Free Zone, said the zone completed the readiness of its water desalination plant during the first half of the year and has begun receiving applications for the service.

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His Majesty Sultan Haitham ratifies Oman-UAE railway agreement, advancing \$2.5 billion Hafeet Rail project

The agreement was ratified under the ninth of 10 Royal Decrees issued by His Majesty on Thursday, according to the Oman News Agency. At the centre of the agreement is Hafeet Rail, the company developing the first railway connection between Oman and the UAE. The venture brings together Oman Rail, Etihad Rail and Abu Dhabi sovereign investor Mubadala. The 238-kilometre network will

run from Sohar in Oman through Al Buraimi and Al Ain before connecting with the UAE’s national railway system, effectively linking one of Oman’s most important industrial and maritime hubs with the Emirates’ expanding logistics infrastructure. The project is valued at about \$2.5 billion and has secured \$1.5 billion in project financing from a consortium of regional and international banks.

Raysut Cement Group posts RO 2.71 million profit in H1 2026

Raysut Cement Group has returned to profitability in the first half of 2026, posting a net profit after tax of RO 2.71 million, compared with a loss of RO 2.85 million during the same period last year.

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The recovery was supported by higher sales volumes, improved operational efficiency and stronger contributions from key subsidiaries including Pioneer Cement, Sohar Cement and Raysut Maldives.

The turnaround comes as Oman’s cement industry continues to play an important role in supporting construction, real estate development and infrastructure projects. Raysut Cement Group currently operates with an annual production capacity of approximately 3.47 million tonnes of clinker and 5.70 million tonnes of cement, supported by a regional distribution and export network.



Muscat Stock Exchange returns to gains after three-month slide

The Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) returned to positive territory in August, with its main index gaining 326 points after shedding more than 1,090 points over the previous three months.

The benchmark index rose 4.5 per cent during August, closing above 7,600 points, while all major sectoral indices also recorded gains.



Anthropic pushes back IPO timeline, eyes mid-October launch

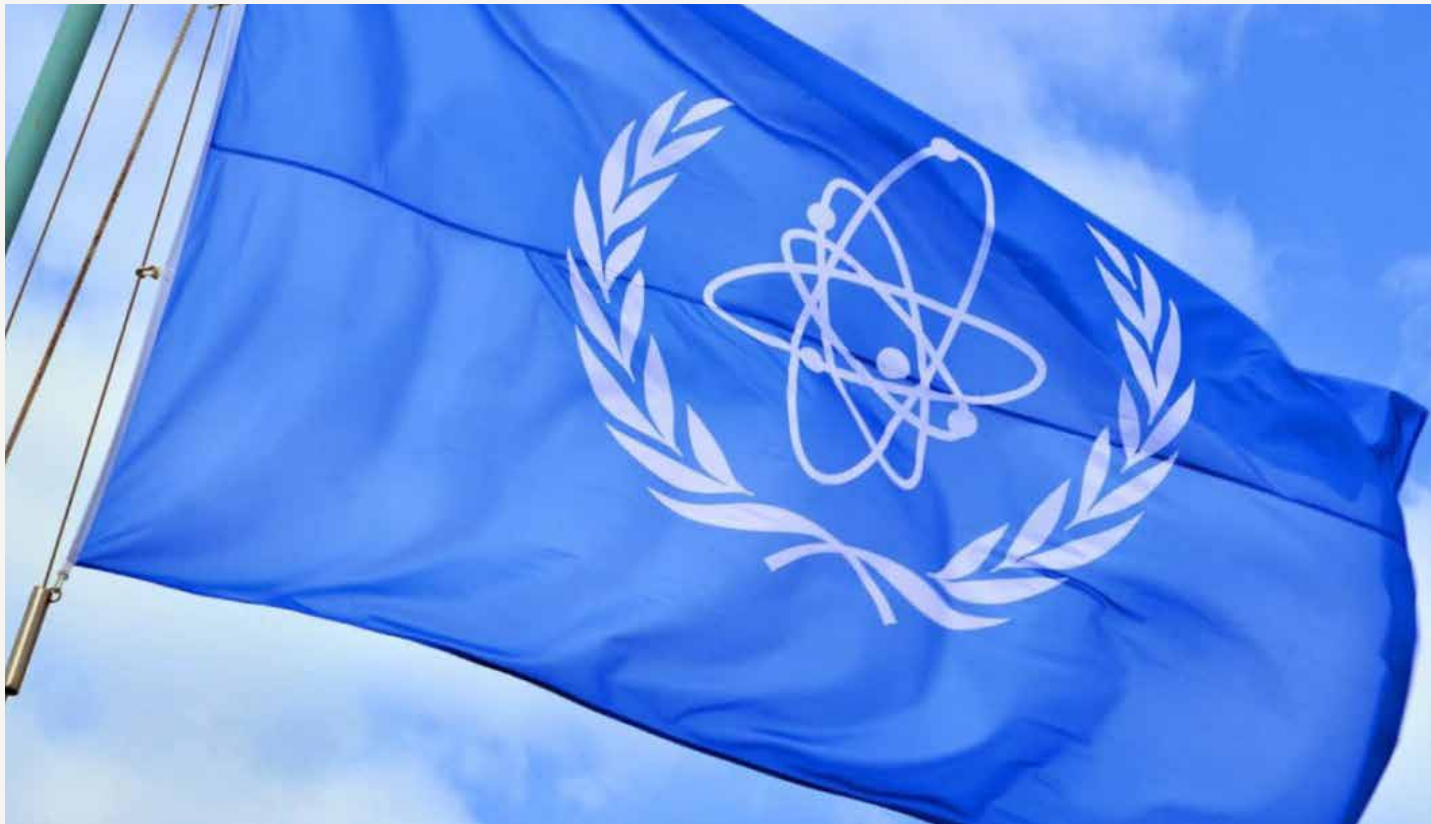


The company had been expected to publicly file its IPO prospectus as early as next week. However, the filing is now expected in late September, two of the people said, while cautioning that the timeline and other details remain subject to change.

“Anthropic is expected to begin marketing its initial public offering in mid-October at the earliest and complete the listing days before

the U.S. midterm elections in November,” it said.

The AI company is seeking to finalise over USD 10 billion revolving credit facility as part of its IPO process. “Anthropic is looking to finalise a USD 15 billion revolving credit facility, after which analysts, including those at banks involved in the financing, are expected to meet with the company, one of the people said,” the report said.



US, Britain, France and Germany draft IAEA resolution over Iran's alleged failure to meet nuclear obligations

The United States, Britain, France and Germany have drafted a resolution seeking to refer Iran to the United Nations Security Council over its alleged failure to comply with international nuclear non-proliferation obligations.

The proposed resolution could be considered by the 35-member Board of Governors of the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to diplomats familiar with the discussions. If approved,

it would mark a significant escalation in the long-running dispute over Iran's nuclear programme.

Panama Canal cuts ship traffic as El Niño deepens drought

The Panama Canal Authority said daily ship transits would be progressively reduced from 36 to 34 in early September before falling further to 32 vessels a day from September 15.

The restrictions come after unusually low rainfall reduced water levels in the artificial lakes that supply the canal and provide the freshwater needed to operate its lock system.



Ceasefire takes hold to restore power at Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant



The plant has been disconnected from external power since August 20 and is currently relying on emergency diesel generators to keep essential nuclear safety and cooling systems operating.

The IAEA warned that diesel fuel reserves at the

facility are running low, raising concerns that the plant could face a complete loss of power within days unless external electricity is restored or additional fuel supplies reach the site.

Indonesia wildfires choke Malaysia, emergency declared

Malaysia has declared a state of emergency in Serian, Sarawak, after thick haze from wildfires in neighbouring Indonesia pushed air pollution to hazardous levels, triggering widespread closures and fresh health warnings.

Malaysia's King Sultan Ibrahim approved the emergency declaration following a request from Sarawak authorities, with Prime

Minister Anwar Ibrahim's office saying conditions had reached levels that posed a threat to public health and safety.



ICC chief Jay Shah backs Oman Cricket's infrastructure growth

ICC Chairman says Oman is well positioned to host more international cricket as he calls for permanent infrastructure and backs further growth in the women's game.

ICC Chairman Jay Shah has praised Oman Cricket's progress and backed further investment in infrastructure, saying the Sultanate has the potential to host more international cricket.

Shah, during his private visit to Oman, made time to visit the Oman Cricket (OC) headquarters on Thursday, where he was briefed by OC President Pankaj Khimji, Vice-President Paul Sheridan, Treasurer Alkesh Joshi, Secretary Madhu Jesrani, board officials including Syed Anwar, Chaitanya Khimji, Damodar Katti, and chief development officer Duleep Mendis, on the organisation's development plans.

He toured the facilities and met the all-Omani national squad preparing for the Asian Games, as well as the under-19 boys, women's and under-19 girls' teams. He later held discussions with the OC board on the development of cricket in Oman and opportunities to host international and regional cricket.



Shah recalled Oman Cricket's contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic, when Oman and the UAE stepped in to host matches in 2021 after the ICC Men's T20 World Cup was moved from India.

"Oman did a fantastic job," Shah said, praising the country's infrastructure and its ability to stage international cricket

at short notice.

He said the next step was to strengthen Oman's permanent infrastructure, particularly if the country is to host more major international fixtures.

"Right now, the infrastructure is very good, but if you want to host international games, you need some permanent infrastructure also," he said.

Williams sisters suffer three-set defeat in emotional US Open doubles return

Tennis legends Serena Williams and Venus Williams made a memorable return to the US Open doubles court at Arthur Ashe Stadium before suffering a three-set defeat against Maya Joint and Hao-Ching Chan.



Salalah International Cycling Tour brings global sporting action to Oman



Organised by Dhofar Municipality in cooperation with the Oman Cycling Federation, the event will feature riders from Oman, Britain, Algeria, Ethiopia, Germany, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, Australia, Bah-

rain, the Netherlands, South Africa, France, Mongolia, Uganda, Spain, Malaysia, Rwanda, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Eritrea, Mauritius, New Zealand and Switzerland.

