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5TH TAS OMAN BUSINESS AWARDS CELEBRATES 25 WINNERS IN A NIGHT OF EXCELLENCE



The annual awards will bring together business leaders and industry representatives to recognise companies and individuals contributing to Oman's economic growth.

The fifth TAS Oman Business Awards concluded on a high note, celebrating 25 outstanding businesses, entrepreneurs, leaders and achievers in an evening that reflected the growing stature of one of The Arabian Stories' flagship platforms.

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Oman, Rwanda explore investment opportunities in mining, renewable energy and logistics

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His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and Rwandan President Paul Kagame held official talks at Al Hosn Palace in Salalah on Monday, as the two countries looked to deepen economic and investment ties.



Oman sets September 21 deadline to exchange old banknotes, no claims accepted after cut-off confirms CBO

The Central Bank of Oman has urged individuals holding expired banknotes from previous issues to exchange them before the end of business hours on Monday, September 21, 2026.

According to the CBO, the affected banknotes, those issued prior to the Sixth Series of 2020, can be replaced through all banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman until the deadline.

An Evening of Excellence, Leadership and Achievement

From distinguished winners and business leaders to memorable performances and celebrations, revisit the defining moments from the fifth TAS Oman Business Awards 2026.





Royal Oman Police warns of fake 50% traffic fine discount scam



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The Royal Oman Police (ROP) has warned the public that a circulating advertisement offering a 50 percent discount on traffic fines in Oman is false and is part of a suspected cyber fraud attempt.

The warning comes after an advertisement was circulated claiming that motorists could receive a 50 percent reduction on traffic fines. The

ROP said the announcement is not genuine and urged members of the public not to engage with such content.

Omani household income jumps 18.5% to RO1,839, expat income rises to RO 717

The Sultanate of Oman has launched the results of an artificial intelligence-powered Household Income and Expenditure Survey, marking what officials described as a first-of-its-kind achievement globally and a major shift in how the country produces official statistics.

The project, unveiled at the headquarters of the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) in Muscat, uses artificial intelligence to improve the efficiency, sustainability and accuracy of household income and expenditure statistics. NCSI's earlier household survey work has provided data used for economic planning, national accounts, the Consumer Price Index and inflation measurement. NCSI Portal



Muscat Municipality temporarily closes Wadi Kabir Children's Playground

Muscat Municipality has announced the temporary closure of the Wadi Kabir Children's Playground as part of a rehabilitation project.

The municipality said the closure will allow work to be carried out to enhance the playground and develop its amenities, with plans to reopen the facility in a refreshed and improved form. Muscat Municipality said the project is intended to provide visitors with a better recreational experience.



MHD ACERE wins ‘Most Valuable Brand’ award at fifth TAS Oman Business Awards

MHD ACERE received one of the top honours of the evening at the fifth edition of the TAS Oman Business Awards.

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MHD ACERE was named ‘Most Valuable Brand’ at the fifth TAS Oman Business Awards, taking home one of the event’s most prestigious honours in recognition of its brand strength and presence in Oman.

The award was presented by HE Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Majlis Al Shura, who graced the fifth edition of the TAS Oman Business Awards as Chief Guest.



Liva Insurance wins Claims Service Excellence Award at 5th TAS Oman Business Awards

The award recognises Liva Insurance’s focus on delivering efficient, responsive and customer-centric claims services across Oman.



Liva Insurance marked another significant achievement at TAS Oman Business Awards 2026, organised by The Arabian Stories, winning the Claims Service Excellence Award for its commitment to delivering efficient, responsive and customer-centric claims services in the Sultanate of Oman.

The award was presented during the TAS Oman Business Awards Ceremony, held on 6 September at InterCityHotel Muscat. bringing together leading organisations and professionals from across Oman’s corporate landscape to celebrate leadership, innovation and operational excellence.

The recognition reflects Liva Insurance’s continued focus on strengthening claims as a critical part of the customer journey. Through streamlined processes, responsive service and a strong culture of operational discipline, the company continues to enhance its claims operations while ensuring customers receive timely support and a seamless experience when they need it most.

Kochi-Abu Dhabi Air India Express flight makes emergency return after engine shutdown



An Air India Express flight bound for Abu Dhabi was forced to return to Kochi on Monday after pilots detected a rapid loss of oil in one of the aircraft's engines, eventually shutting the engine down before making a safe single-engine landing.

The Boeing 737, operating as flight IX 415 from Kochi to Abu Dhabi, was around 50 minutes into its journey and cruising at 36,000 feet when the flight crew noticed the oil quantity in Engine 1 dropping rapidly.

As the oil level continued to fall, the pilot and co-pilot carried out a FORDEC assessment, a structured decision-making process used by flight crews, and decided to abandon the Abu Dhabi-bound sector and

return to Cochin International Airport.

The commander subsequently contacted Mumbai Radio on high frequency and informed Air Traffic Control that the aircraft was turning back to Kochi, while

standard safety procedures were initiated.

During the return journey, both pilots continued to closely monitor the engine parameters and prepare for possible contingencies.

El Niño threatens UK food supplies as farmers cut production

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Britain is facing growing concerns over food security as soaring fuel and fertiliser costs, water shortages and increasingly volatile weather put farmers under mounting pressure, with some reportedly shifting away from food production towards energy crops or government-supported land schemes.



Five killed as Amazon cargo plane crashes at Miami airport

The aircraft, identified by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a Boeing 767-300 freighter, was operating as Prime Air Flight 7598 and had arrived from San Juan, Puerto Rico. The plane overshot Miami International Airport's diagonal runway shortly before 2pm local time before crashing into several vehicles on the ground.

Miami-Dade officials said five people were injured in the incident, with three in critical condition. Emergency crews also reported that people had become trapped in vehicles struck by the aircraft, while the pilot and co-pilot were initially trapped inside the plane. More than 60 fire rescue units and



around 200 emergency personnel were deployed to the scene as crews battled the resulting fire and worked to contain a fuel leak from the aircraft.

Racing legend Hamed Al Wahaibi honoured with Outstanding Achievement Award at fifth TAS Oman Business Awards



The Outstanding Achievement Award recognises Hamed Al Wahaibi not only for his accomplishments behind the wheel, but also for his role in promoting Oman internationally, nurturing national motorsport talent and contributing to road-safety awareness.

Omani motorsport legend Hamed Al Wahaibi was honoured with the Outstanding Achievement Award at the fifth TAS Oman Business Awards, recognising nearly three decades of achievement in international motorsport and his contribution to the development of the sport in the Sultanate.

The award was presented to Al Wahaibi by HE Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Majlis Al Shura, during the awards ceremony held at Intercity Hotel Muscat.

One of the most accomplished figures in Omani motorsport, Al Wahaibi has represented the Sultanate internationally since beginning his professional rally career in 1997.

His passion for motorsport began while studying in the United States, where he competed in circuit motorcycle racing before switching his focus to rallying.

Al Wahaibi went on to win the Middle East Group N Championship and fin-

ished second in the World Group N Championship in 1999 while competing in the World Rally Championship (WRC), establishing himself among the leading rally drivers to emerge from Oman.

His contribution to Omani motorsport has extended beyond his own competitive career. Between 2007 and 2012, Al Wahaibi worked to develop young Omani drivers, several of whom went on to secure victories and podium finishes in international competitions.

In 2012, he co-founded the Safety First road-safety initiative with former Oman national football team goalkeeper Ali Al Habsi, using their public profiles to promote greater awareness of safe driving.

After returning to selected rally events in 2021, 2022 and 2024, Al Wahaibi moved into cross-country rallying in 2025, competing in the FIA Baja World Cup.

His career took another turn in 2026 when he competed in a Winter GT Series

in Barcelona. Despite having no previous GT racing experience, the Omani driver finished his first race on the podium.

Al Wahaibi currently leads the 2026 FIA Baja World Cup Overall, Challenger and Masters classifications, putting him in contention for multiple titles.

The Outstanding Achievement Award recognises Al Wahaibi not only for his accomplishments behind the wheel, but also for his role in promoting Oman internationally, nurturing national motorsport talent and contributing to road-safety awareness.

Organised by The Arabian Stories (TAS), the Oman Business Awards recognise individuals, leaders and organisations whose achievements and contributions have made an impact across Oman and beyond.

The 2026 ceremony marked the fifth edition of the awards and brought together senior officials, business leaders, entrepreneurs and prominent personalities from across the Sultanate.