

Ociped non-oil focus gets a boost with Indian order

Brigade Enterprises to import \$750,000 worth marble from Sultanate; in talks on \$1m worth equipment order

Times News Service

MUSCAT — India's Brigade Enterprises said it has placed an initial order for six containers of marble with an Omani company and have the intention to buy 34 containers more in the next two to three months.

The total value of all the 40 containers is estimated to be about \$750,000.

The company is also negotiating with an Omani firm to buy kitchen and laundry equipment valued about \$1 million for the Sheraton Hotel being built by them in Bangalore, Omani Centre for Investment Promotion and Export Development (Ociped) said in a statement.

Brigade plans to use polished Omani beige slabs for use in the Sheraton Hotel project and their requirement would be around 15,000 square metres of spotless marbles over a period of three months starting from December, the statement said.

Ociped has been inviting buyers for the thrust products to visit the Sultanate and have been organising one-to-one meetings with the exporters as part of its objective to promote non-oil Omani origin products and export strategy which has identified thrust products and



Ociped officials with executives of Brigade Enterprises. Brigade plans to use polished Omani beige slabs for use in the Sheraton Hotel project and their requirement would be around 15,000 square metres of spotless marbles.

target markets, it said. As part of that strategy, two Brigade Group officials — Shivanand Shirol, vice-president (projects) and S. Venugopal, general manager (commercial) — have been invited by Ociped to visit Oman earlier this month.

Ociped had fixed meetings with exporters of marble, case goods and mattresses for the company during their previous visit in July and the second visit was a follow-up of the first one, Ociped's acting director-general (export development), Faris Al Farsi, was quoted in the statement.

Brigade is presently execut-

ing more than 12 million square feet of development including the five-star hotel with Sheraton in Bangalore.

It has tie ups with hotel chains such as Holiday Inn, Sheraton, Accor and Banyan Tree. The company has six upcoming hotel and resort projects in Mysore, Chennai, Bangalore International Airport, Kochi and Chikmagalur, the press statement said. Omani marble is harder than other marbles, thereby facilitating lesser maintenance, wastage and is aesthetically more pleasing for the eyes. Shivanand was quoted as saying in the statement.

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