



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: FRIDAY, 10 JULY, 2026 • VOL. NO. 3 • Issue No. 45 • DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 6 PAGES

ALL-IN ONE TOURIST VISA WITH FLIGHTS, HOTELS PACKAGE

Saudi introduces 'Package Visa'

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia has announced the launch of a Package Visa, a new digital initiative designed to simplify travel to the Kingdom by integrating tourist visa application directly into curated travel bookings. The launch is currently underway through qualified travel and tourism service providers across selected international markets ahead of a broader rollout.

The initiative builds on Saudi's wider efforts to simplify visiting the country. Since launching the

tourist e-Visa, Saudi has introduced several new ways to visit, including visa on arrival and the Stopover Transit Visa. Together, these initiatives have supported the country's rapid tourism

growth, with Saudi welcoming more than 29 million inbound visitors in 2025.

Commenting on the initiative, His Excellency Ahmed Al Khateeb, Saudi Minister of Tourism, said: "As Saudi's tourism sector

continues to grow at pace, Package Visa reflects our commitment to making travel to Saudi more seamless for visitors. By integrating visa issuance with travel bookings, we are simplify-

ing the visitor journey and creating a more connected travel experience. This initiative also strengthens collaboration across the tourism ecosystem and supports Saudi's position as an increasingly accessible global des-

tinuation."

For visitors, Package Visa means fewer steps between planning a trip and experiencing Saudi. Instead of arranging flights, accommodation and a visa separately, eligible travelers can book everything through one integrated travel process, with the option to add events, activities and tourism experiences. The result is a simpler, more connected journey from booking to arrival.

(Cont. on page - 2)

(Edit: Saudi Package Visa on p-2)

'India: world's next tourism opportunity,' IATO's 41st annual convention theme

NEW DELHI: Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) is set to organise its 41st IATO Annual Convention from Sept 10 to 13, 2026, in Visakhapatnam, Andhra. President of IATO Ravi Gosain announced the theme of the convention: "India: The World's Next Tourism Opportunity".

Novotel Visakhapatnam Varun Beach will be the host of the event. A major highlight of the convention will be the Indian Tourism Fair (Travel Mart), scheduled for Sept 11 and 12, 2026 at the convention venue.

The three-day convention will feature high-pow-

ered business sessions, bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, and domain experts to deliberate on critical issues shaping the future of tourism. Blending business with engagement, the event will also host a series of vibrant activities

Sanjay Razdan, Vice

President, IATO, highlighted that the association is aiming to attract nearly 1000 delegates from across the country. He further added that curated post-convention tours will be organised to showcase Andhra Pradesh's diverse tourism offerings, enabling stakeholders to promote these experiences in both domestic and international markets. Sunil Mishra, Hon Secretary will be the Chairman of the convention along with Deepak Ku-



**President of IATO
Ravi Gosain**

marr Bhatnagar, Hon Treasurer as the Co-Chairman of the convention, while (Cont. on page - 6)

Chandarasekaran's panel to run Air India

MUMBAI: Air India's next chief executive is unlikely to be named for a few months while Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran has now put together an interim panel to run the airline.

The delay comes after opposition from several quarters, including Tata Trusts chairman Noel Tata, to the proposed elevation of Nipun Aggarwal to the top post. Aggarwal was in line to take over from Campbell Wilson, who is stepping down as CEO.

Former Air India CMD Pradeep Singh Kharola, along with Chandrasekaran and other senior ex-

ecutives, will make up the interim committee, the report said. Wilson is set to exit in Sept and the airline will continue an informal search for a permanent successor even after that.

Aggarwal, however, remains a serious contender for the role despite the pushback. He has served as Air India's chief commercial officer since 2022, handling fleet expansion, sales, marketing and network planning. Before this, he held senior positions at Tata Sons, Bank of America Merrill



**Tata Sons Chairman
N Chandrasekaran**

Lynch, StanChart and BP.

Kharola's mandate is to tighten operations and execution, while Chandrasekaran will concentrate on quality control and pushing the airline towards profitability. Kharola is also likely to crack down on lapses (Cont. on page - 2)

Domestic air passenger traffic rises 11.6pc

NEW DELHI: India's domestic air passenger traffic increased in May 2026, supported by stronger seasonal travel demand even as airlines continued calibrated capacity deployment. According to data released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), scheduled domestic airlines carried around 1.54 crore passengers during May 2026, compared with around 1.40 crore passengers during the corresponding

period of last year, registering a year-on-year growth of about 10pc. On a sequential basis, passenger traffic increased from around 1.38 crore in April 2026 to 1.54 crore passengers in May 2026, reflecting a month-on-month growth of about 11.6pc. Industry observers said stronger summer travel demand contributed to the increase in passenger traffic even as airlines maintained a cautious ap- (Cont. on page - 2)



Saudi Package Visa

At a time when India emerges as one of Saudi Arabia's largest travel source markets, Saudi has introduced a pilot Package Visa service that integrates visa issuance with flight and hotel bookings into a single transaction, a move expected to simplify travel planning for international visitors, particularly for Indian tourists. The new service enables eligible tourists to complete their visa application, airfare and accommodation booking through authorised travel providers in one seamless process.

Indians will be benefiting the most from this Saudi practical move. According to the latest government of India data, 3.4 million Indians travelled to Saudi Arabia in 2024, making it the country's second-largest outbound destination after the UAE. The figure marks a 13.3 pc increase over the previous year, reflecting Saudi's growing appeal beyond religious tourism.

The new initiative enables eligible visitors to obtain a tourist visa as part of an integrated travel package. It is the result of joint efforts by the ministries of tourism, foreign affairs, interior and the insurance authority. The Package Visa builds on a series of reforms introduced since the launch of Saudi Arabia's tourist e-Visa, including the visa on arrival and the stopover transit visa, offering visitors more flexible ways to enter the Kingdom.

Saudi Tourism Minister Ahmed Al-Khateeb said the initiative reflects the Kingdom's commitment to making travel to Saudi more accessible and seamless. "Saudi Arabia's tourism story has always been about ambition, openness and continuous progress. With the Package Visa, we are taking the next step: empowering our travel and tourism partners, simplifying the journey for visitors and creating a smarter, more seamless way to experience Saudi Arabia. This pilot project is a glimpse of what comes next and we invite our partners and future visitors to be part of it," he said.

Under this, eligible travellers can book their trips through qualified travel and tourism service providers, combining round-trip flights, accommodation at licensed hospitality facilities and the electronic tourist visa application into a single package. Providers may also include events, activities and tourism experiences. The ministry of tourism said the initiative is expected to make Saudi travel packages more attractive by reducing administrative steps for visitors while helping service providers create higher-value itineraries that encourage longer stays and increased visitor spending.

To ensure service quality, only travel providers meeting strict eligibility requirements, including digital booking platforms, 24/7 technical support and customer service centres, will be allowed to participate in the programme. The announcement comes as Saudi continues to post record tourism performance. Total tourism spending reached a record SR304 billion, a seven per cent increase from the previous year, while the sector contributed 4.9pc of Saudi's GDP in 2024, with its economic contribution continuing to grow in 2025. The report showed that Saudi received 29.3 million international visitors, generating SR176.6 billion in inbound tourism spending, while 93.3 million domestic tourists spent SR127.1 billion. It also found that non-religious travel accounted for about 52pc of inbound overnight visits in 2025, compared with 44pc in 2019. Employment in tourism industries reached nearly 1.03 million jobs in 2025.

India should follow the Saudi example of promoting in-bound tourism --- an India Visa Package would go a long way in boosting tourism and bringing the precious foreign exchange .

LIPSYNCH
"Stars can't shine without darkness".
 ---An Arab proverb

Global investors showing fresh interest in India

MUMBAI: After spending more than a year on the sidelines, global investors are showing fresh interest in India as sentiment begins to improve across the country's markets.

Citigroup's India team returned from meetings

Saudi introduces...

(Cont. from page - 1)

For qualified travel and tourism service providers, the initiative creates an opportunity to offer more attractive travel packages, streamline the traveller journey and encourage longer stays and richer travel experiences. To ensure a smooth and reliable travel experience, Package Visa is available only through qualified travel and tourism service providers that meet clear service standards and offer 24/7 customer support. As Saudi continues to grow its tourism sector, Package Visa marks another step toward making travel easier, more connected and more seamless for visitors discovering the country.

The tourist package visa

with 36 US clients, saying appetite for local assets is reviving, a Bloomberg News report said. Macquarie Capital Securities is seeing a pickup in customer queries after an extended lull. Goldman Sachs Group Inc has turned more

service reflects a broader transformation in the sector, which is based on facilitating travel, strengthening partnerships with the private sector, offering more integrated tourism experiences and opening wider horizons for the world to discover the Kingdom and its diverse destinations. The new service is part of a series of programmes and services launched by the country in recent years to facilitate tourist access and enhance their experience, in line with the objectives of Vision 2030. These include the e-tourist visa, visa on arrival, transit visa and others. With some of these already in place, the Kingdom received more than 29 million inbound tourists in 2025.

positive on the nation, while Barclays Plc says it may finally be time to view the world's fastest-growing major economy as an investment opportunity.

India had fallen out of favour as investors chased markets with greater exposure to the artificial intelligence boom, while the energy shock triggered by the US-Iran war stoked concerns about the country's external finances, pushing the rupee to record lows. As those pressures ease, bankers and investors say interest in local assets is beginning to recover. "The 18-month-long negative cycle on India is eclipsing fast," K Balasubramanian, Citigroup's India CEO, said in an interview. "Investor sentiment is on the cusp of changing. They are beginning to think about India, with the fiscal deficit narrowing and the rupee coming out of the rout loop."

Policymakers have also helped the turnaround, as measures to draw foreign capital into government

(Cont. on page - 6)

Domestic air passenger traffic...

(Cont. from page - 1)

proach towards capacity deployment amid elevated operating costs.

Besides, the data showed that passenger load factor improved across most airlines during May compared with April, indicating stronger seat utilisation. Akasa Air recorded the highest passenger load factor during May 2026 at 92.5pc followed by SpiceJet (87.4pc), IndiGo (86.4pc) and the Air India Group (83.5pc).

In terms of market share, IndiGo retained its dominant position among domestic carriers after carrying 99.91 lakh passengers, accounting for 64.9pc of the market.

Similarly, the Air India Group—comprising Air India and Air India Express—accounted for a combined

market share of 25.6pc after carrying 39.33 lakh passengers.

Meanwhile, Akasa Air increased its market share to 5.8pc after carrying 8.90 lakh passengers. SpiceJet accounted for a market share of 2.5pc while Fly91, Star Air and

Alliance Air accounted for 0.4pc, 0.5pc and 0.3pc respectively. Additionally, the overall cancellation rate of scheduled domestic airlines during May 2026 stood at 0.55pc with technical reasons accounting for the largest share of cancellations.

Chandarasekaran's panel to run A I

(Cont. from page - 1)

tied to negligence and fleet upkeep. Air India's mounting losses have come up repeatedly at recent Tata Sons board meetings, with Noel Tata flagging the issue directly. Co-owner Singapore Airlines' FY26 annual report shows Air India's revenue more than doubled to S\$10.53 billion (Rs77,800 crore), up from S\$4.55 billion (Rs33,600

crore) the previous year, a jump largely tied to the Vistara merger that closed in November 2024. Losses after tax, however, widened sharply to S\$3.77 billion (Rs27,800 crore) from S\$288.4 million (Rs2,130 crore) a year earlier.

Tata holds a 74.9pc stake in Air India, which was privatised in 2022, while Singapore Airlines owns the remaining 25.1pc.

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF DIGITALISED ADVERTISEMENTS WITH ONE E-NEWSPAPER

TAP ON THE YELLOW BANNER BELOW THE REQUIREMENT ADVT TO CONNECT WITH THE RECRUITMENT AGENCY

ALBANIA (EUROPE)

TIG WELDER (STAINLESS STEEL EXP.) (€750 – €950)
REFRIGERATOR TECHNICIAN (€800 – €1000)
HEAVY DIESEL MECHANIC (€700 – €800)
ELEVATOR & EXCALATOR TECHNICIAN (€650 – €700)
3D DESIGNER /INTERIOR ARCHITECT (€700 – 1000)
AUTO CAR PAINTER (€600 – €700)
FARM WORKER (SINGLE / COUPLE) (€500 – €550)

FOR ALL ABOVE CATEGORIES FREE FOOD, ACCOMMODATION & TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED
 Report with Passport & Certificates Everest Bldg, E/11 6th Flr, Tardeo, Near Mumbai Central Station, Mumbai - 34

M.I. ENTERPRISES
 WhatsApp: 7304107211 / 8655018362
 Mail: advmie@gmail.com Web: www.mienterprises.com
 B-9165/MUMBAI/1000+/R/2026/2026

www.mienterprises.com

CALL: 022 22077954 / 59
TO BOOK ADVERTISEMENT
IN THIS PAGE

FOR REPUTED CLIENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

• LATHE MACHINE OPERATOR • DIESEL MECHANIC
 • AUTOCAD DRAFTSMAN • RUBBER LINER TECH
 • TILE & MARBLE MASON • PLUMBER

• POLYURETHANE (PU) TECHNICIAN
 • SALES SUPERVISOR - Industrial Products Exp
 • OUTDOOR SALESMAN - with Driving Licence
 • PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR - Rubber Industry
 • RUBBER EXTRUDER MACHINE OPERATOR
 • CNC MACHINE PROGRAMMER AND OPERATOR
 • ESTIMATION ENGINEER - CIVIL / ARCHITECTURE
 • TECHNICAL ENGINEER - CIVIL/ ARCHITECTURE/ FACADE
 • MAINTENANCE HEAD - Powder Coating
 • SENIOR ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN - Tissue Paper Exp.
 • PRODUCTION MANAGER - Garment Industry Exp.
 • PETROL PUMP ATTENDANT
 • SLITTER / WINDER OPERATOR - Tissue Paper Exp.

Contact with Passport & CVs or send your resumes to Email: cosmos.recruit@gmail.com / manpower@cosmosintl.co.in

COSMOS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE L.L.P.
 Unit No 12, Haroon Manzil, I.R. Road, Bhandi Bazar, Mumbai - 3
 or Call 022 23727772 / 9920525436 / 8928953534
 Regn. No. B-1233/MUMPART/1000+/S/5555/2019

www.cosmosintl.co.in

FOREX RATES

As on 9th July 2026 (In rupees)

Currency	Bill Buy	Bill Sell
US Dollar	94.95	96.21
British Pound	127.21	129.01
Euro	108.16	110.49
Japanese Yen	58.47	59.4
Swiss Franc (CHF)	117.13	119.79
Canadian Dollar	66.75	68.27
Australian Dollar	65.64	67.12
Norwegian Krone	9.62	9.92
Swedish Krona	9.71	9.99
New Zealand Dollar	54.07	55.28
Hong Kong Dollar	11.96	12.33
Kuwaiti Dinar	317.22	295.96
Singapore Dollar	73.14	74.78
Saudi Arabian Riyal	24.96	25.76
U A E Dirham	25.58	26.32

"Know what's really happening across the world, especially, in the recruitment market."

Become a 'ONE' family member today!

Stocks rebound after sharp fall

MUMBAI: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Thursday after a sharp fall in the previous session amid foreign fund inflows and buying in blue-chip stocks. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 495.86 points to 76,998 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty went up by 148.70 points to 24,025.

From the Sensex pack, Eternal, Sun Pharma, Bharti Airtel, Titan, ICICI Bank, Asian Paints, Reliance Industries and HDFC Bank were among the major winners.

Infosys, TCS, HCL Tech and Tech Mahindra were among the laggards. FII's bought equities worth Rs 1,962.80 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, quoted 1.04pc higher at \$78.83 per barrel.

Geopolitics has again played spoilsport with the Indian market, which has been slowly strengthening, V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit

Investments said.

"There are market indications that things may not deteriorate as feared. First, Brent at \$80 is not a problem. It won't create a BoP (Balance of Payments) crisis. The crisis will re-

emerge only if the tensions lead to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz again, and consequently, crude spiking above \$ 100. The present futures do not reflect such a pessimistic scenario," he added.

UAE visa grace period ends

ABU DHABI: The UAE's Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs and Port Security (ICP) had introduced the measure in June to support individuals who were unable to leave the country due to exceptional regional circumstances, including airspace closures and flight suspensions that disrupted travel across parts of the Middle East earlier this year. With the deadline now expiring, affected visa holders, residents and other eligible individuals should ensure they have either regularised their immigration status or completed the necessary departure procedures to avoid potential overstay fines and other compli-

ance-related issues.

In March, the UAE had waived overstay fines for individuals stranded in the country due to the regional conflict involving the US, Israel and Iran, which led to airspace closures and flight suspensions from Feb 28, 2026. The exemption applied to travellers unable to leave the UAE because of the disruptions and was introduced as a humanitarian measure to support those affected.

Following the return of regional stability and the resumption of normal travel operations, authorities announced a final 30-day grace period running from June 10 to July 9, 2026.

flyCreative
Online LIMITED

YOUR VISA, OUR EXPERTISE

VISA SERVICE
Travel the World, We'll Handle the Paperwork

MALAYSIA EUROPE DUBAI SINGAPORE

8657743449
8657931714

visa@flycreative.in
junaid.shaikh@flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in

flyCreative
Online LIMITED

B2B deals for
Kerala

Cochin • Munnar • Thekkady • Kumarakom • Alleppey
• Varkala • Kovalam • Wayanad.

From misty hills and lush forests to serene backwaters and pristine beaches, experience Kerala's finest destinations in one unforgettable journey.

INCLUSIONS :

- Accommodation
- Meals
- All transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary.
- Toll, Parking, drivers Bata, road tax & fuel charges.
- All Taxes

REGISTER ON :
www.flycreative.in

CALL OR WHATSAPP :
8828800805

MAIL US ON :
south@flycreative.in

Contact : 8828800805 | 022-22077955/56/57 | south@flycreative.in
www.flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in

LOOKING FOR JOBS ABROAD

Licensed agents
Always contact licensed recruitment agents registered with the government. List available on www.emigrate.gov.in

Illegal Agents
Avoid dealing with unregistered agents or brokers to prevent fraud.

ADVISORY TO OVERSEAS JOB ASPIRANTS FROM POEs

Legal recruiting agents follow the Emigration Act, 1983, ensuring transparency, ethics and worker protection. Illegal agents bypass regulations, risking exploitation, fraud and unregulated practices that harm emigrants.



flyCreative
Global Holidays

Incredible India
Accredited Agent

IATA
Accredited Agent

B2B Portal : www.flycreative.in
Email : support@flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in



fly

Creative

Global Holidays

A Destination Management Division of FlyCreative Online Limited.

BAKU

THE JEWEL OF THE CASPIAN

Experience the perfect blend of history, culture, modern architecture, and breathtaking landscapes in **Baku!**



Explore the UNESCO-listed **Old City (Icherisheher)**



Visit the iconic **Flame Towers & Fire Temple**



Stroll along the beautiful **Caspian Sea Boulevard**



Enjoy **shopping, nightlife**, and authentic Azerbaijani cuisine



Experience the fascinating **Gobustan Mud Volcanoes**

TOP ATTRACTIONS

★ Old City | ★ Flame Towers | ★ Heydar Aliyev Center | ★ Baku Boulevard |
★ Gobustan NP | ★ Ateshgah Temple | ★ Yanar Dag

WHY CHOOSE FLYCREATIVE?



COMPETITIVE PACKAGE RATES
Best value for your travel



EXPERT TRAVEL ASSISTANCE
Guidance you can rely on



CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES
Tailored to your travel needs



TRUSTED VISA SUPPORT
Smooth & hassle-free visa services



DEDICATED CUSTOMER SERVICE
We're here for you, always



BOOK YOUR **BAKU** GETAWAY TODAY!



98333 96453
93230 27987



tours@flycreative.in
ankita.chauhan@flycreative.in



www.flycreativeglobal.com

GULF FAQs

How to apply for UAE private tutor permit?

I am trained teacher from India in Dubai. How can I apply for UAE private tutor permit?

If you are looking to provide tutoring services in the UAE or make some extra income on the side, you can apply for an official private tutor permit, allowing you to provide coaching services either online or in person to individuals or groups.

Introduced in 2023 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization (MOHRE), the permit was created to regulate private tutoring outside formal educational institutions and reduce unlicensed tutoring practices across the country. The required documents vary depending on the applicant category:

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND SCHOOL STUDENTS:

Proof of student status, Latest school certificate



(for school students), written consent from a parent, guardian or custodian, certificate of good conduct, medical fitness certificate, valid passport, residency visa and Emirates ID, approved private tuition agreement and recent colour photograph with a white background. For unemployed residents: Applicants must submit: Lat-

est educational certificate, certificate of good conduct, medical fitness certificate, valid passport, residency visa and Emirates ID Experience certificate (if available), approved private tuition agreement, recent colour photograph with a white background.

EMPLOYEES WORKING IN OTHER SECTORS: Required documents include:

latest educational certificate, certificate of good conduct, NOC from employer, medical fitness certificate, experience certificate (if available), valid passport, residency visa and Emirates ID, approved private tuition agreement, Recent colour photograph with a white background.

TEACHERS IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOLS:

Applicants must provide: latest educational certificate, certificate of good conduct, NOC from employer, medical fitness certificate, experience certificate (if available), valid passport, residency visa and Emirates ID. Approved private tuition agreement, recent colour photograph with a white background.

HOW TO APPLY ? Follow these steps to submit your application through MOHRE:

Visit the MOHRE website or mobile app and select services. Search for private tutor licensing and click start service. Enter your Emirates ID number and verify using the OTP sent to your registered mobile number.

Select the category that applies to you. Upload the required documents. Download, sign and upload the code of conduct. Submit your application.

There is currently no service fee for applying for a Private Tutor Permit in the UAE. Once submitted, applications are typically processed within two working days. Upon approval, the permit remains valid for two years, allowing tutors to legally provide private tutoring services across the UAE.

My marriage wasn't officially registered — how do I get my child's birth documents?

I am a Muslim man, married to a Muslim woman without a marriage contract, as her father was present online and the witnesses were present in person. We now have a child, but we are unable to obtain his identification documents. What should we do to get the official documents for the child?

You must file a lawsuit in the Personal Status Court in your place of residence to prove the marriage and the child's lineage to you. To prove the marriage, the wife's father (her guardian) and the witnesses who were present at the time must be summoned to give their testimonies before the judge.

Regarding the child, the court will refer you as the child's father, the child's mother and the child to the forensic laboratory for DNA testing of the child and the parents to determine whether they are the child's biological parents. The judge will also refer the child to forensic medicine for a medical examination to determine his age and date of birth.

Upon receiving the test results, if it is established that you are indeed the biological parents of the child, the court will then confirm the marriage and the child's lineage. When the judgment is issued, you must open an execution file with the same court that issued it in order to obtain the child's identification documents.

Can a 15-year-old legally work in the UAE ?

I have a daughter 15 years old and she was accepted to work for an advertisement agency. Is it legally permissible for her to work and get a work permit? What are the conditions required to employ a child?

According to Article-5 of the UAE Labour Law, it is prohibited to employ children under the age of 15. Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization does not issue work permits to children below this age.

However, the law permits children aged 15 to 18 to work under official work permits issued by the ministry, provided that certain conditions are applied including time of employment and work nature.

These conditions are:
a) Written consent of the

child's guardian or custodian. b) A certificate issued by the medical entity proving the health fitness of the child to undertake the required work. c) The actual working hours shall not exceed six hours per day and shall include one break or more, which shall not be less than one hour in total and this period(s) shall be defined, so that the child does not work for more than four consecutive hours. d) The child shall not work

between 7 pm and 7 am. e) The child shall not be employed in dangerous or arduous works or in works which, by their nature, are likely to harm his health, safety or morals and which are defined by a resolution of the minister in co-ordination with the concerned authorities. f) The child shall not work overtime, be kept in the workplace after the prescribed hours or work on weekends or official holidays.



Akasa Air plans to fly under UDAN

MUMBAI: Akasa Air is planning to launch services under the government's regional air connectivity scheme UDAN or "Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik".

Vinay Dube, CEO of the airline, which completes four years of commercial flight service next month, said that aircraft are joining its fleet at a steady,

predictable pace. The company has taken delivery of nine new Boeing 737 Max aircraft so far this year and has ordered a total of 226 aircraft; the remaining 186 aircraft are expected to join the fleet by the end of 2032. Currently, Akasa Air serves 28 domestic and seven international destinations. The airline aims

to increase its capacity by 30pc in the current financial year and by 30-40pc over the next four to five years. Vinay Dube said the company plans to participate in the UDAN scheme and will decide after studying all the routes.

It should be noted that on July 4, the central government introduced

a revised version of the UDAN scheme to provide affordable air services to the public and connect unserved or underserved destinations. Launched in Oct2016, the scheme has

so far operationalised 669 routes. Company uses only one type of aircraft. On the question of joining the ATF Price Stabilisation Fund and the Emergency Loan Guarantee Scheme, Dube said the company is studying the terms of both initiatives.

OCI Card renewal not required even for new passport

NEW DELHI: The Government of India continues to offer repeated clarifications regarding the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card days after the document's digital version, e-OCI, was introduced to simplify international travel for those possessing it. As a result, travellers will no longer be required to carry the physical OCI booklet at all times.

Expanding the same "OCI Card Goes Digital" approach, the Bureau of Immigration announced this week that the process was further simplified by eliminating the need to

renew the OCI card. "Renewal of OCI Card is no longer required," the Indian Bureau of Immigration said in a post on X.

As a result, the revised procedure eliminates the requirement to apply for an OCI card renewal even if the cardholder obtains a new passport or updates their personal details. Laying out the do's and don'ts tied to the development, the Bureau of Immigration stated: "You no longer need to apply for a fresh OCI Card. Simply update your details online through the OCI Portal and download your updated e-OCI

Card."

This applies to all those who obtain a new passport after turning 20, obtain a new passport after turning 50 or update their personal particulars, including name, nationality and gender. The Bureau of Immigration advises OCI holders to visit the official services portal at oci-services.gov.in. There, they can access their OCI profile by entering their passport number last linked to the OCI card, OCI card number and date of birth.

Global investors...

(Cont. from page - 2)

debt and shore up the rupee have boosted investor confidence. The change is starting to show up in markets. Indian equities beat emerging-market peers in June by the most in seven months, global funds bought a record \$4.4 billion of index-eligible government debt and foreign

outflows from stocks were the smallest in four months.

The rupee has rebounded, ranking as one of Asia's strongest-performing currencies last month. India's lack of AI-linked plays may become less of a drawback as doubts grow over how long the rally in AI-heavy markets such as South Korea and Taiwan can last.

'India: world's next...

(Cont. from page - 1)

Vijay Mohan, Co-Chairman- IATO Andhra will be the co-ordinator.

Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Bhuvnesh Kumar, Secretary (Tourism), Suman Billa, Additional Secretary & Director General (Tourism) along with Chief Minister of Andhra Chandrababu Naidu and Kan-

dula Durgesh, Minister for Tourism will attend the convention.

Gosain informed that the event is being hosted with the support of the Andhra govt including Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh, Ajay Jain, Special Chief Secretary (Tourism) and Amrapali Kata, CEO, Andhra Tourism Authority.

Kerala Travel Mart to focus on new source markets

KOCHI: The 13th Kerala Travel Mart (KTM), scheduled for Sept 2026, will focus on expanding Kerala's presence in new international source markets while creating fresh business opportunities for the state's tourism industry.

The travel mart will bring together domestic and overseas tour operators, travel agents, DMCs, MICE planners, hospitality players, startups and investors through structured business meetings and networking sessions. Jose Pradeep, President, Kerala Travel Mart Society, said that the event would also promote less-



Jose Pradeep, President, KTM

er-known destinations and support emerging tourism enterprises. Organisers said demand has increasingly shifted towards experiential travel, with MICE tourism, destination weddings and curated cultural experiences emerging as key growth segments alongside Kerala's traditional wellness and backwater offerings.

Taj to have 700 hotels by 2030

MUMBAI: Tata Group-owned Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL), which owns and runs the Taj group of hotels, has said it has signed 20 hotels in the first quarter of FY27 and is "well poised" to achieve a 700-hotel portfolio by 2030 under its "Accelerate 2030" strategic roadmap.

The hospitality major

currently has a pipeline of 263 hotels. During the quarter, the company also opened 11 new hotels across its brands. "With a focus on our growth brands 17 of the 20 signings this quarter (April-June) were across Gateway, Ginger and Tree of Life. These included new destinations and emerging markets like Bharatpur, Trichy, Sindhudurg, Jawai, Wayanad and deeper penetration in established markets of Mumbai, Goa, Agra and Kolkata," said Suma Venkatesh, Executive Vice President, Real Estate & Development, IHCL.

"Taj reached a milestone of 150 hotel portfolio with three signings this quarter growing its



Suma Venkatesh

leisure footprint to Dharashala, Barapani in Meghalaya and Kusr valley in Maharashtra," Deepika Rao, Executive Vice President, Hotel Openings & New Businesses, IHCL said. "This quarter, IHCL expanded its footprint with 11 hotel openings taking its operating portfolio to over 380 hotels across brands and markets. Internationally, the company strengthened its presence with the opening of Taj Hessischer Hof of Frankfurt and Taj Bush Lodge in Greater Kruger, South Africa," Rao said.

