

OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT



PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri met Tarea Sulaiman Al-Roumi, Kuwaiti Minister of Oil (and chairman) and others at the ninth OPEC International Seminar in Vienna and discussed ways to further bolster existing association between the two countries. Kuwait is the is the sixth largest source of crude oil, fourth largest source of LPG and eighth largest hydrocarbon trade partner for India

UAE Golden visa: Rayad Group says sorry for wrong news

private firm Rayad Group apologise unreservedly has issued an apology for the public confusion and took "full responsi- caused by recent reports bility" for disseminating and commentary, and we "incorrect" information take full responsibility for in the media about the ensuring future commu-"new United Arab Emir- nications are clear, accuates (UAE) Golden Visa rate and consistent with rules."

denied claims that it is offering golden visa for Dubailifetime . The based company Rayad at the centre of viral claims about "lifetime" UAE also wish to take this opand admitted responsibility for spreading mis-

If travellers comply with visa con-

DUBAI: DUBAI-based leading information. "We the UAE's stringent reg-UAE government has ulatory frameworks. We

(Golden visa that never was- Edit on page-2)

Golden Visas for a one-portunity to acknowledge time fee has apologised that certain public comments made by Rayad Group's managing director were misplaced and have contributed to the misinterpretation of our role and the nature of the initiative in question," the Rayad Group said in a (Cont. on page-2) statement.

US to impose \$250 visa integrity fee on tourists

WASHINGTON: A new US law starting next year. signed by President Trump adds a concerns among Indian travellers M (student), H-1B (work), J and education providers.

Starting 2026, Indian tourists porary visa categories. Only applying for visas to the US will diplomatic visas (A and G see a significant increase in costs. classes) have been exempt-Indian nationals planning to visit ed from this. the US for tourism, study or work will soon face a sharp increase in like a security deposit and visa-related costs. Under the newly is non-waivable. It will resigned One Big Beautiful Bill Act, portedly be collected by the a mandatory \$250 "Visa Integrity Department of Homeland Fee" will be charged on most of Security (DHS) at the time of the non-immigrant visa categories issuing the visa.

According to a report, the law ditions, such as departing the US steep surcharge to most non-im- signed by Trump on July 4 applies within five days of having a visa exmigrant visa categories, sparking to B-1/B-2 (tourist/business), F and

(exchange), and other tem-

The Visa Integrity Fee is

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Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya to be executed on July 16 in Yemen

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya, who has been convicted of the murder of Yemeni citizen Talal Abdo Mehdi, is set to be executed on July 16.



Nimisha Priya

Priya has been in a Yemeni prison for the last three years. According to the negotiator SJ Bhaskaran, the news of the execution came on Tuesday. He is set to leave for Yemen. Priya's husband, Tomy Thomas, and their daughter are expecting that they will be able to prevail upon the family of Mehdi to resolve the case by paying the blood money. Priya, originally from Kollengode

(Cont. on page-2)



Golden visa that never was!

At last, another fake news was denied officially. The UAE government has debunked rumours/published and telecast reports of a lifetime Golden Visa for select nationalities--- Indians and Bangladeshis . The source of this press release is still not traced.

On July 9, the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs and Ports Security (ICP) debunked rumours "circulating in some local and foreign media and websites about the UAE granting a lifetime Golden Visa for some nationalities." The ICP underscored "all UAE Golden Visa applications are managed exclusively through official government channels within the country and no internal or external advisory body is considered an approved party in the application process."

"The categories of golden residence, their conditions and controls are determined in accordance with decisions," ICP added, noting: "Those wishing to know the 'rate'. for UAE Golden Visa) can obtain them through the ICP website or smart application." The ICP said they have recently monitored press releases issued by a consulting office (abroad) indicating the possibility of submitting a request for a "lifetime UAE Golden Visa" that could be purchased for Dh1 lakh through a nomination process. Some reports also claimed that visa holders' servants can also relocate

to Dubai! Several Indian media organisations and a few UAEbased entities carried the press release in full faith, which the ICP said was published on Monday, July 7 "without the support of the law or referring to the competent authorities in the UAE". The ICP said they are "fully committed to providing a safe and clear environment for customers. (We are) working to enhance transparency and continuously update (our) services through official digital platforms only."

The ICP did not identify the source of the alleged unverified press release but noted " legal action will be taken against the entities that launched these rumours in an attempt to obtain money from those wishing to live and reside in the UAE by exploiting their dreams and ambitions in a decent life and a safe and stable living."

The ICP called on the public to always refer to official sources to ensure the validity of the required procedures, by going to the official website or calling the call center (600522222).

The fake press release had said: "Under the new nomination-based visa policy, Indians can now enjoy lifetime residency in the UAE by paying a fee of Dh 1 lakh (about Rs 23.30 lakh). India and Bangladesh have been selected for the first phase of testing this visa. Over 5,000 Indians are expected to apply for the Golden Visa in three months. After getting the Golden Visa, one can bring family members also to Dubai. Originally planned in 2019, the programme was basically tailored for highnet-worth individuals via real estate investment. The Golden Visa has now "expanded" to cover scientists, executives, frontline workers, schoolteachers, principals, university faculty, nurses with 15+ years of experience, YouTubers, podcasters and digital creators, accredited e-sports professionals above the age of 25 and luxury yacht owners and maritime executives".

UAE authorities say somebody to make a fast buck has done this to hoodwink gullible people. Fortunately, due to alertness of the UAE govt, that did not happen.

LIPSYNCH

"He who conquers himself is the mightiest warrior." --- Confucius

New Zealand eases visa rules for Indians

looking at New Zealand sessment (IQA). as one of their top higher visa processing for thou- pected to speed up visa dent-friendly," ifications Exempt from migration routes. Assessment" (LQEA), re-

WELLINGTON: In a undergo the costly and empt from Assessment is relief for Indian students time-consuming Interna- a step toward streamlinincreasingly tional Qualification As- ing the pathway for Indian students and skilled "The LQEA list is part professionals. By removeducation destinations, of our commitment to ing the need for an ad-Immigration New Zea- create a more efficient ditional qualification asland (INZ) has removed and transparent system sessment, the process a long-standing require- for skilled migrants," said becomes faster, more afment that slowed down INZ. The exemption is ex-fordable, and more stusands. From June 23, decisions for Indians ap- Maheswari, co-founder 2025, India had been plying under work, resi- and COO at University added to the "List of Qual- dence and post-study im- Living, a global student accommodation platform "New Zealand's deci- said. The IQA, used to moving the need for most sion to add India to the match foreign degrees to Indian degree holders to List of Qualifications Ex- New Zealand's academic framework, was previously mandatory for most skilled migrant applications. With India's inclu-(Cont. from page-1) For travellers using ESTA sion in the LQEA: Most degrees from recognised Indian universities are now accepted without

US to impose \$250 visa integrity fee on tourists

ellers do not comply, the \$13 or \$30, respectively. US government retains the fee.

Starting 2026, Indian tourists applying for visas to the US will see a significant increase in costs. While the standard visa application fee will remain unchanged at \$185, several new charges are being introduced.

The applicants will be required to pay a \$24 I-94 surcharge in addition to the \$250 visa integrity fee. The I-94 charge will be utilised to cover costs related to admission tracking at the border.

piration or legally chang- or EVUS, depending on ing their status, they can their eligibility, there will file for a refund. If trav- be additional charges of

US remittance tax on money transfer by NRIs

Senate and signed by the duced to 3.5pc by the US a new remittance tax.

to an "excise tax" on inter- ate. national money transfers

Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya...

trict, moved to Yemen in ly took a tragic turn. The blood money. family claim Priya inject-

Priya was while attempting to leave the death penalty.

to his death.

supporters continue their Chandwani,

WASHINGTON: NRIs in residing in the US in-America will soon face in- cluding NRIs, green card creased costs for sending holders, foreign students money to India. Trump's and other immigrants in One Big Beautiful Bill, America. The controverwhich has now become a sial remittance tax was law after being passed by first proposed at a rate both the House and the of five per cent, then represident, has introduced House of Representatives and finally capped at one US remittance tax refers per cent by the US Sen-

additional assessment.

The one per cent remade by non-US citizens mittance tax will apply to money transfers made by immigrants including In-(Cont. from page-1) the country and was con- dians in the US, after Dec in Kerala's Palakkad dis- victed of murder in 2018. 31, 2025. "For Indian In 2020, a trial court students, H-1B visa hold-2008 to support her dai- in Sanaa sentenced her ers and NRIs transferring ly wage-earning parents. to death. The verdict was funds, the change reduc-After working in various upheld by Yemen's Su- es the incidence of double hospitals, she opened preme Judicial Coun- withholding and excesher own clinic. Howev- cil in Nove 2023, but it sive upfront tax collecer, in 2017, a dispute left open the possibili- tion, thereby enhancing with her Yemeni business ty of avoiding execution transparency and trust in partner, Mehdi, reported- through the payment of the system. Overall, this reform advances the ob-The case has drawn jective of equitable taxaed Mehdi with sedatives widespread attention and tion without undermining to retrieve her confiscat- raised concerns over the the government's ability ed passport. But unfortu- fate of Indian nationals to monitor offshore finannately, an overdose led abroad as the family and cial activity," says Sonam Managing arrested efforts to save Priya from Partner KS Legal & Associates.

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Sabih Khan Indian origin Apple's COO

NEW YORK: In a ma- supply chain resilience of longtime operations operations head. chief Jeff Williams.

marks a historic moment chanical to further strengthen its technic Institute.

jor leadership transition and sustainability initiaat Apple, CEO Tim Cook tives, especially amid onhas appointed Indian-or- going global challenges executive Sabih such as semiconductor Khan as the company's shortages and geoponew Chief Operating Of- litical tensions. Here's ficer (COO), following everything you need to the planned retirement know about Apple's new

Sabih Khan was born Khan, a 30-year Ap- in 1966 in Moradabad, ple veteran, has played a Uttar Pradesh, before key role in building and moving with his family managing the company's to Singapore during his global supply chain. Born school years. He later in Uttar Pradesh's Morad- relocated to the United abad and raised partly in States, where he earned Singapore, Khan's rise to dual bachelor's degrees Apple's No. 2 position in economics and meengineering for Indian-origin talent in from Tufts University. folthe global tech industry. lowed by a master's in Under Sabih Khan's lead- mechanical engineering ership, Apple is expected from Rensselaer Poly-





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Lagoon Beach

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Day 03 Kalpitti Trek or Water Thrills

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- Optional glass-bottom boat ride or water sports (SCUBA, kayaking)
- Lagoon walk or beachcombing



Day 04 Departure

Breakfast & transfer to Agatti Airport for return journey





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Key things to check in your employment contract after receiving job offer

Received a tempting job offer that's hard to resist?

Before rushing to sign on the dotted lines, take your time to carefully review the details of the employment contract.

Employment contracts in the UAE vary based on the nature of the work and the agreed terms between the employer and employee. These contracts may specify fulltime or part-time roles, with arrangements such go through the annexes the Mohre within 14 days employee works for more provisions for addition-

signed, any changes to viding incorrect details visa status changes if you hours agreed upon in the od for termination aligns the offer letter terms re- to the Ministry of Human are already in the country employment contract, un- with the law (usually 30 quire the employee's Resources and Emiratisa- and eligible to transfer. consent and must comply tion (Mohre). with legal regulations. A you from potential issues sign the offer letter before salary, allowances (e.g., down the line.

and includes an annexe this offer letter. summarising important forward.

employer have signed structure in exchange for monthly or otherwise. the offer letter, it legally the agreed salary or ben-Under labour rules intro- ployer. duced in 2016, employare still protected.



as temporary, flexible, re- properly before signing, of your arrival in the UAE than one employer, he/ al retirement or pension mote work or job sharing. the employer could face a (using an employment she may not be required schemes. Once the contract is fine of Dh20,000 for pro-entry permit) or after your to work more than the

For workers already in The contract should specyour employer can get housing, transportation) When you are offered preliminary approval for and any additional benea job in the Emirates, the your employment from fits like bonuses or comsigning a contract, and submitted to Mohre and getting your work permit kept in their system. Your and residency visa. The work permit will be issued job offer details the role based on the details in

JOB TITLE AND DEparts of UAE labour law. SCRIPTION: An employ-Both you and your em- ment contract in the UAE ployer will need to sign is an agreement between these documents to move you and your employer. It outlines your job responsi-

ers cannot change the tle and description align working hours for the pri- pay for the extra time is can choose from these terms of the offer letter with what was promised vate sector is eight hours hourly wage (basic) plus nine additional languagunless you agree to the during the recruitment per day or 48 hours per 25pc of that amount. This es: Bengali, Chinese, changes; they are within process. This impacts week. This may be in-could increase to 50pc if Dari, Hindi, Malayalam, the law, and your rights your role's scope, ca- creased or decreased for overtime is done between Nepalese, reer progression and visa certain economic sectors 10pm and 4am. This rule Tamil and Urdu. This ap-Before you sign, the classification. This con- or certain categories of does not apply to employ- plies to workers coming employer is responsi- tract is based on the job workers. Home to office ees who work in shifts. ble for making sure you offer letter that both you commutes are not includ- LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS: residing in the UAE that have read and under- and your employer sign. ed in the working hours, Review annual leave enti- are seeking a new job, or stood the offer letter. If it The employer must sub- except for "certain cate- tlements, sick leave, ma- moving from one compa-

SALARY AND BENEFITS: do so in writing.

If the worker requests specific working hours.

OVERTIME



Confirm your working in a day. becomes your contract. efits provided by the em- hours comply with UAE

labour law. According quired to work beyond annexes, alongside Ara-Ensure that your job ti- to the law, the normal the normal hours, the bic and English. Workers

is proved that you did not mit the signed contract to gories of workers". If an ternity/paternity leave, ny to another.

and provisions for public holidays.Employees are entitled to a fully paid annual leave of:

30 days, if they have completed one year of service and

Two days per month, if they have completed six months of service, but not one year.

Check your eligibility for gratuity payments, which are based on your length of service and whether the contract includes

Ensure the notice periless the worker agrees to to 90 days) and is fair for both parties.

Understand the durathorough check can save the UAE, you will need to ify the agreed upon basic to perform work remote- tion and conditions of the ly, and it is granted, the probation period. UAE employer must stipulate law limits it to six months, after which either party WORK: must provide a valid reaprocess includes receiv- Mohre. Once the offer missions. It is important Employees can be asked son for termination. When ing a formal job offer, letter is signed, a copy is to find out whether salary to work overtime, provid- you complete the probation period and continue in service, the probation will be calculated as part of your service.

If you are moving to the UAE for a new job, make sure the contract outlines relocation assistance. flight allowances, or repatriation benefits upon termination. Since Janu-Once you and your bilities and management payments are specified as ed the number of extra ary 2016, Mohre allows hours do not exceed two a third language to be included in job offers, em-If an employee is re- ployment contracts, and from outside and those

Ventive Hospitality, Marriott sign up for seven new hotels

MUMBAI: Ventive Hospitality and Marriott International have signed contracts management to expand their partnership for seven new hotels comprising 1,548 rooms. While six of the upper upscale and upscale hotels are located across Varanasi, Navi Mumbai, Pune and Mundra, the collaboration also announced an ultra-luxury Ritz-Carlton Reserve hotel in Sri Lanka.

Pune-based luxury hotel owner, developer and asset manager Ventive Hospitality, which has 11 operational hospitality assets with 2,036 rooms across India and Maldives, signed



Ventive Hospitality and Marriott International signed agreement to expand partnership with seven new hotel projects across India and Sri Lanka.

hotels.

Ventive Hospitality and Marriott International expartnership with in Gujarat's Mundra. pand a contract with US-based seven new hotel projects hotel operator Marriott In- across India and Sri Lanternational on Tuesday for ka. Three of these hotels seven luxury, upper-up- are being developed by scale and upscale hotels. Ventive Hospitality and its While both the companies subsidiaries. This includes have been partners for six a 73 villa Ritz-Carlton Rehotels across the country, serve at Pottuvil near Yala

the partnership up to 13 Lanka, 161-room Varanasi Marriott and a 200room Courtyard by Marriott on the leasehold land tels will be developed by lakh EBITDA per room," the promoter group com- he said. panies on right of first ofto the company.

Ventive work for all the projects.

Rajeev Menon, presfer or alternate structure ident of Marriott Interbasis for Ventive Hospital- national for Asia Pacific, ity and will be transferred said, "Marriott has always viewed India as one of its Hospitality's strategic locations. Soon, chairman and executive India will be the third director Atul Chordia re- largest country for us, out vealed that while Varana- of the 144 operational si and Pune projects have countries. The seven new already started, the group projects will be more than has completed design just keys and every one of them will be a gem of "We are expecting to a hotel. This partnership the new contract will take East National Park in Sri complete all the projects expansion also includes in the next four to five projects where we missed years. Every year we will brand representation like deliver 200 to 300 rooms. Mundra as well as Vara-On an average we are ex- nasi, where the governpecting a capital expendi- ment of India is also fo-

NRI family killed in US mishap

ALABAMA: Four mem- atives in Atlanta, a rel-US.

A truck speeding in the visiting one of their rel- two children.

bers of a family- a couple ative told a TV channel. and their two children "The family- my brother's - from Hyderabad died daughter, son-in-law and in a car crash in Greene grand children were liv-County, Alabama, in the ing in Dallas for the last three years," he said.

As per media reports, wrong direction hit their the victims were identicar when the family was fied as B Srivenkat, his returning to Dallas after wife Tejaswini and their

The remaining four ho-ture of 2.5cr and earn 35 cusing on." Canada hikes wage thresholds for temporary foreign workers

OTTAWA: country. The wage limits positions. Development for the position will deter-

Canada mine if employers need to the stream for high-wage porary Foreign Worker under the stream for this stream. Programme used to hire high-wage positions or

old, you must apply under Canadians.

has increased the wage apply for a Labour Market positions and meet the thresholds for the Tem- Impact Assessment (LMIA) program requirements of

Below the provincial or foreign workers in the the stream for low-wage territorial wage threshold, you must apply under for companies and for- The applicable wage the stream for low-wage eign nationals applying threshold under the TFWP positions, and meet the via the Temporary Foreign has been raised by ESDC program requirements of Worker Program (TFWP) for almost every province this stream. The Tempohave been raised by the in Canada as of June 27. rary Foreign Worker (TFW) Employment and Social On or after June 27, 2025, Program allows Canadian Canada this new wage level will employers to hire foreign (ESDC) effective June 27. apply to all LMIA applica- workers for temporary jobs The wage being offered tions. If you are offering a when qualified Canadians wage to a temporary for- are unavailable. However, eign worker (TFW) that's: the Canadian government At or above the provincial claims it has been misused or territorial wage thresh- to bypass hiring talented

Oman's visa renewal grace period without fines ends on July 31

MUSCAT: The ministry ulate the labour market lier, and the removal of minder to all individuals, ployers and workers. employers, and workers that the grace period for covers fines and financial triated or transferred. rectifying legal employ- obligations totaling more on July 31, 2025.

nounced in Jan, is part of cial obligations related and settle repatriation a broader campaign by to repatriation tickets for ticket costs without facing the ministry to help reg-the year 2017 and ear-penalties.

inactive for over seven abandonment

of labour has issued a re- and support both em- obligations against liquidated companies where The package of waivers workers have been repa-

The six-month grace ment status, including than OMR 60 million. period, which began on visa (labour card) re- Key exemptions include Feb 1, 2025, has allowed newals without incurring the cancellation of fines individuals to renew lafines, will officially end for expired labour cards bour cards, cancel work This initiative, first an- years, the waiver of finan- transfer worker services

Aviation contributes \$53bn to India's GDP

NEW DELHI: India's avi-ment benefits generated ation industry generates through supply chain ac-\$53.6 billion in total con-tivities, employee spendtribution to the country's ing, and tourism-related GDP. It supports 7.7 mil- services. lion jobs across the broader economy, according to fic accounted for 21pc of recent industry data.

with additional employ- tures.

International air traforigin-destination total The sector directly em- departures from India in ploys 369,700 people 2023, representing 33.9 in aviation operations, million passenger depar-