



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025 • VOL. NO. 2 • Issue No. 39 • DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 7 PAGES

## Over 1,000 UP Muslim pilgrims stranded in Iran

**LUCKNOW:** Over 1,000 people from Uttar Pradesh are stranded in conflict-hit Iran amid escalating tensions between Israel and Iran. Most had travelled for Shia pilgrimages (Ziyarat) to key religious cities such as Mashhad, Qom and Tehran. Among the stranded are 34 pilgrims, comprising entire families, who began their journey on May 27, travelling through Iraq and Syria before reaching Iran via Salam Air. With return flights cancelled and explosions reported nearby, many now face financial strain, limited access to essentials and growing anxiety over their safety. Relatives of Maulana Nusrat, a cleric from Lucknow on a pilgrimage with the group, said they were currently stuck in Qom after their return flight, originally scheduled for June 18, was cancelled. "They have now been told the flight may resume on June 21, depending on the situation," a family member said. "Their funds are depleting and we are extremely worried."

Maulana Nusrat, in a video message recorded aboard the Fidak train (Cont. on page-7)

## A heartfelt note from the depths of history



By  
**HE Hassan  
Mohseni  
Fard**

(Acting Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Iran — Mumbai)

Should we sacrifice a thousand-year friendship for a fleeting moment of gain?

By an Iranian heart, mindful and awake — a diplomat who has long strived to bring closer two

ancient nations and lay the foundations of a strategic and lasting relationship — and who, by the grace of God, has now found the opportunity to serve more meaningfully among the good people of India and the Marathi community at the Consulate General of Iran in Mumbai.

A note from the depths of history.

In politics, it is often said: "There are neither eternal friendships nor everlasting enmities;

only interests remain." Chanakya, the great Indian statesman who laid the foundations of political thought centuries ago, spoke these words with profound wisdom.

And I, as an Iranian who has read and understood his works, know well his warning:

"Be cautious of the friend of your enemy; he is a double-edged sword."

Indeed, politics must be conscious and cautious.

(Cont. on page-2)

## Kerala-Gulf air fares flare-up due to war

**KOZHIKODE:** The ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran has severely disrupted flight services from Kerala to several West Asian countries. Following the closure of Iran's airspace, six flights between Gulf and Kannur were cancelled on Wednesday. Similar disruptions were reported at Kochi, Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram airports. Services to Dubai and Sharjah were the most affected.

Meanwhile, expatriate organisations, including the Kerala Muslim Cultural Centre (KMCC), and Kerala PravasiSangham have voiced concerns over a sharp spike in ticket prices amid the crisis. They alleged that passengers are being forced to pay exorbitant fares to travel to Gulf countries.

On Tuesday, two flights (Cont. on page-2)

## Tourism Master Plan for Oman's White Mountain

**MUSCAT:** Spanish-based tourism and hospitality industry consulting firm THR Strategic Tourism Advisors has announced that it has been appointed by Oman's Ministry of Heritage and Tourism to master plan the development of Jabal

Al Abyadh (The White Mountain) into a sustainable tourism attraction.

Located in the Wilayat of Al Hamra in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, Jabal Al Abyadh is the second highest peak in Oman, reaching an elevation of around 3,000 metres. Unlike other well-known mountain destinations in the governorate, notably Al Jabal Al Akhdhar and Jabal Shams, which are connected by modern access to the summit of the White Mountain is only via graded tracks that are off-limits to only but the most skilled motorists.

But with Jabal Al Abyadh enjoying almost the same favourable natural and weather-related characteristics as Al Jabal Al Akhdhar and Jabal Shams — cooler climes, rugged landscapes, campsites and other features suited for adventure tourism — authorities have de-

(Cont. on page-7)

## Saudi suspends seven Umrah companies

**MAKKAH:** The Ministry of Haj and Umrah has taken regulatory action against seven Umrah companies after detecting violations related to transportation services for pilgrims.

The violations involved failure to provide transport in line with the agreed terms outlined in the companies' approved service programmes.

As a result, the ministry has suspended the operations of the violating firms and liquidated their bank guarantees to fund alternative transport services for the affected pilgrims.



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**WE POST RECRUITMENT ADVTs.  
ACROSS MULTIPLE PLATFORMS**



**GLOBAL REACH, INSTANT ACCESSIBILITY!**

022-22077895 / 8828737706 / 8828656610

prince@overseasne.com ■ media@overseasne.com

**www.overseasne.com**



## Air safety concerns

One more air crash, loss of lives and property and many more unanswered questions. The Air India Ahmedabad crash is the nation's worst air tragedy since the 1996 mid-air crash over Haryana that killed 349 people. On the top of everyone's mind is how the Boeing Dreamliner, which has a good safety record, crashed immediately after take-off. Was dual-engine failure the cause? Did the control system fail? Was there a bird hit? Was it a software failure? Was the fuel adulterated? Was the aircraft overloaded? Was it pilot's error? Or, were there other concerns? All these questions will be (hopefully) answered only after a thorough probe. To be sure, such a painstaking process will take time.

But it is best not to reach any conclusions or pin blame on Air India, the pilots or the maker of the aircraft. Investigation should not be a challenge since there were hundreds of eyewitnesses and videos and photos taken by mobile phone users. The social media which is blamed for everything, in this case played a key role in tracking the crash, much before news agencies could get the news.

The dead included former chief minister of Gujarat Vijay Rupani. Just one person, a British citizen of Indian origin, survived. The survivor, Viswash Kumar Ramesh, however, lost his sibling, who was travelling in the same flight. Other casualties include medical students taking lunch at the hostel mess where the plane fell.

Flying has become safer over the years and travel by air is very common now. True, an accident of this scale is bound to cast a shadow over the sector, which has been expanding at great speed in India. The AI-171 crash brings the focus back on the air safety. The increasing financial strength of the middle class, rise in disposable incomes and professional exigencies have led to a spike in the demand for air travel. More and more world class airports have been built and existing ones expanded to meet the demand. Airline companies — Indian and foreign — too have cashed in on the rush and have included new destinations in their itineraries and expanded the number of flights. In the last five years, the number of domestic routes rose from 646 to 823. In the same period, domestic air passenger numbers grew from 137.6 million to 228 million. Nevertheless, it has been a hard task to meet the sector's need for quality personnel — pilots to ground staff including maintenance engineers — with reports indicating a decline in pilot training and so on. These concerns and fears — some of them real, some others exaggerated — will have to be considered and addressed to reassure fliers that safety is never compromised.

Indian aviation has been a great success story born out of economic liberalization — the country is now the world's third largest aviation market. The government wants to turn India into an aviation hub and compete with the likes of Dubai and Singapore. Passenger satisfaction and trust is crucial to realising this ambition: The AI-171 crash may cast a question over such prospects. Which is why the government should do its best to establish the cause of the crash, pin responsibility, punish the guilty and implement necessary remedial measures.

### LIPSYNCH

*"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."*—Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Evacuated Indian students reach Delhi

**NEW DELHI:** A group of 110 Indian students, who were stranded in Iran and evacuated, have landed at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. A majority of them, 90 are from J&K.

The students all from Urmia Medical University and the first students'

group to be evacuated -- were transited via Armenia and Doha and boarded the flight to Delhi late last evening. Iran is currently engaged in hostilities with Israel and the families of Indian students have been desperately seeking help from the government. There have been mas-

sive protests over this in Kashmir, which sends the maximum number of students to Iran.

Reports say there are more than 13,000 Indian students in Iran, most of whom are pursuing a medical degree. In a statement, the J&K Students' Association has thanked Prime Minister Modi and External Affairs Minister Jaishankar for the timely evacuation effort. It said it was hoping that the others would be evacuated soon.

All flight tickets including the Delhi to Srinagar leg have been arranged free of cost by the Union government.



**Stranded Indian students in Iran arrived back Delhi airport on Thursday.**

## A heartfelt note from the depths of history

(Cont. from page-1)

And yet — something stirs uneasily in my heart. Why?

Because when it comes to India and Iran, this is no longer merely "politics."

Here we stand face to face with history, culture, language, mysticism, poetry, religion and a shared human spirit.

How can one so lightly set aside this treasure — the memories, the books, the echoes of Persian verse in the Mughal courts of India, the teachings of Buddha woven into Persian literature, the deep mutual respect between two noble nations

— all for the sake of a relationship built merely on temporary interests?

Is it worthy — for us, two ancient and noble peoples — to drift apart simply because of another country whose bond with India is founded on economic needs?

No. It is beneath the dignity of India. And it is beneath the dignity of Iran.

I am certain that deep within the cultural conscience of India too, today's silence stirs with unease.

Never do I suggest that India should forsake its interests.

Rather, I say that India

— the heir of a civilization nurtured by the Gita and the Upanishads — knows better than any newly risen power:

Some friendships are rooted in the very soil, in the blood, in memory — not in military agreements.

We Iranians, throughout history, have been India's good neighbors. We have drawn closer and closer through the poetry of Hafez, Saadi, Bidel, Tagore and Iqbal;

We have come with adobe tablets, with script, with calligraphy;

We have come with the heart. And now — if India's friendship with our enemy seeks to shatter this bridge of a thousand years —

I have but one question:

Is this truly worthy of the great heart of the Indian people? Never. No fleeting interest deserves to sever such a deep and enduring bond.

I remain hopeful.

For the heart — unlike interests — does not rot.

I have always sought, and continue to strive, to know the Indians by their own voice — not by the voice of their enemies.

And you?

## Kerala-Gulf air fares...

(Cont. from page-1)

each between Abu Dhabi and Thiruvananthapuram, and Sharjah and Kozhikode, were cancelled. The situation escalated on Wednesday, with six flights from Kannur grounded. Additionally, four services each from Kozhikode, Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram were called off. All cancelled flights were operated by Air India and Air India Express between Kerala and Sharjah - Dubai.

Several other flights between Kerala's four international airports and various GCC countries were delayed by hours. Authorities at Dubai International Airport had earlier warned of significant delays and cancellations due to airspace restrictions over Iran, Iraq and Syria, urging passengers to check with airlines for the latest updates. However, Airports Authority of India has not issued any such advisory.

## 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

**Urgent Requirement CYPRUS (EUROPE)**  
**EMPLOYMENT VISA FOR A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY**

MASONS (GULF EXP.)	953 - 1199 €
MASONS (INDIAN EXP.)	833 - 993 €
SHUTTERING CARPENTERS	833 €
STEEL FIXERS	833 €
ARC WELDERS	833 €
LABOURS	740 - 1019 €
MASON ASSISTANT	900 €

**Duty Hours:** 8 Hrs + OT / 5 working days  
English speaking / Age limit 40 years.  
**Contract Period:** 2 years (Renewable)  
Free Food, Accommodation & Medical  
Send CV, Certificates (Exp. & Edu.),  
PP Copy & Photo. **Working video must.**

**M/s Alfa HRD Services**  
A-101-103, Sahani Tower,  
Sec. 5, Rajender Nagar,  
Sahibabad, Ghaziabad  
(U.P.) - 201005  
E-mail: [alfahrd11@gmail.com](mailto:alfahrd11@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.alfahrd.com](http://www.alfahrd.com)  
Toll Free No.: 1800 5701786 WhatsApp : 09319708905  
Registration No. B-1783/UP/PER/1000+/5/9374/2018

<https://alfahrd.com/>

**CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK FOR**

**WhatsApp**

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VanK6K4DzgTJhFrER23I>

**CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK FOR**

**facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BdgME7wju/>

**CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK FOR**

**Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DldW9Tw0ub9/?igsh=MXczem85cjhwagE1cA==>

**CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK FOR**

**YouTube**

[https://youtube.com/shorts/LjeeEJB\\_i2k?feature=share](https://youtube.com/shorts/LjeeEJB_i2k?feature=share)

**CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK FOR**

**X.com**

<https://x.com/Mediaovers16859/status/1914552001418973284/photo/1>

## FOREX RATES

As on 19th June 2025 (In rupees)

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	86.01	87.13
British Pound	115.28	116.92
Euro	98.28	100.35
Japanese Yen	59.29	60.22
Swiss Franc (CHF)	104.45	106.71
Canadian Dollar	62.45	63.84
Australian Dollar	55.68	56.88
Norwegian Krone	8.51	8.76
Swedish Krona	8.81	9.06
New Zealand Dollar	51.34	52.46
Hong Kong Dollar	10.82	11.15
Kuwaiti Dinar	290.498	270.98
Singapore Dollar	66.56	68.06
Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.63	23.34
United Arab Emirates	23.17	23.84

*"To make your dreams into a reality."*

Become a 'ONE' family member today!

**flyCreative Online LIMITED**

## Monsoon Wellness Retreats at Xandari Resorts

Embrace the serenity of Kerala during the monsoon season with a rejuvenating escape to Xandari Resorts.

**CARDAMOM A Nature Retreat**

Set amidst the mist-covered hills and spice plantations of Thekkady

**₹ 12,189 per person**

**Xandari Pearl**

A tranquil beachside retreat on the pristine Marari coastline

**₹ 22,749 per person**

**Offer valid until 30 September 2025**

**PACKAGE INCLUSIONS:**

- Two nights accommodation Daily Breakfast
- Evening tea/coffee with snacks
- One holistic Total Ayurveda experience
- One wellness treatment of your choice : Head Massage, Face Massage, or Herbal Steam Bath
- Complimentary in-house activities
- All applicable taxes

For exclusive offers and personalized assistance, please contact your Relationship Manager.

Terms and conditions apply.

18002099923 | SOUTH@FLYCREATIVE.IN | WWW.FLYCREATIVE.IN

[www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)

**flyCreative Online LIMITED**

## Hyderabad

**4 Days 3 Nights** | MINIMUM 2 PAX | **₹24,975 / Per person** Only Breakfast

**HOTEL DETAILS : THE PARK / SIMILAR**

Accommodation Breakfast Hotel Taxes Sedan Car

CONTACT : 8828800804 | 9152110170 | 9207740605 | 8828800805  
022-22077955/56/57 | SOUTH@FLYCREATIVE.IN | WWW.FLYCREATIVE.IN

[www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)

**flyCreative Online LIMITED**

## UAE

**TOURIST VISA SERVICES**

**FAST PROCESSING, SEAMLESS EXPERIENCE!**

30 DAYS	60 DAYS
48 Hours	96 Hours
30 DAYS MULTIPLE	60 DAYS MULTIPLE

8657743449 | 8657931714 | [visa@flycreative.in](mailto:visa@flycreative.in) | [junaidd.shaiikh@flycreative.in](mailto:junaidd.shaiikh@flycreative.in) | [www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)

[www.flycreative.in](http://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](http://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.



Your Trusted Travel Company Since 1978

**Incredible India**

B2B Portal : [www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)  
Email : [support@flycreative.in](mailto:support@flycreative.in)

[www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)

**TRAVEL MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

**FOR**

**CORPORATE**

**TRAVEL SERVICES**

**CONTACT**



**7218934741**

**corp@flycreative.in**

**9152110150**

**trevor@flycreative.in**

**8657535283**

**tasneem.petiwala@flycreative.in**

**9849447938**

**Sq@flycreative.in**

**[www.flycreativeglobal.com](http://www.flycreativeglobal.com) | [www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in)**



# Explore SOUTH INDIA DMC

FlyCreative is a premier Destination Management Company (DMC) with over 40 years of travel expertise. Operating across India and specializing in **South India – Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad and the Lakshadweep Islands** – we craft bespoke travel experiences tailored to your unique preferences. At FlyCreative, we are committed to delivering seamless journeys, exceptional service, and unforgettable memories, ensuring every trip is nothing short of extraordinary. Our deep local knowledge, trusted partnerships, and personalized approach set us apart. Whether it's cultural exploration, luxury retreats, or offbeat adventures, we bring your travel dreams to life.



Contact : 8828800805 | 022-22077955/56/57 | [south@flycreative.in](mailto:south@flycreative.in)  
[www.flycreative.in](http://www.flycreative.in) | [www.flycreativeglobal.com](http://www.flycreativeglobal.com)

# GULF FAQs

## Can I be denied car insurance based on my traffic violations?

**Can an insurance company deny car insurance if you have too many fines or traffic violations on your file?**

Your driving record is one of the most important aspects an auto insurance provider will look at when you are applying for insurance, according to industry experts who spoke with this newspaper. But that does not mean that you can be denied insurance coverage because of a poor traffic record.

However, according to experts, your traffic history can affect the type of coverage you get and the premium you have to pay. Here is all you need to know.

Driving without insurance? These are the fines

Vehicle insurance is mandatory in the UAE and driving a vehicle without it can result in a Dh500 fine and four black points.

Vehicle registration ex-

pired but insurance still valid. Can I drive my car?

You may be only eligible for third party insurance.

According to Hitesh Motwani, the chief marketing officer at InsuranceMarket.ae, you cannot be denied car insurance coverage completely. "You will be offered a third-party coverage instead. Insurers may deny a comprehensive policy in case of adverse driving history. But we generally don't see this in practice unless it's a high performance vehicle," he said. You will be offered a third-party coverage instead. Insurers may deny a comprehensive policy in case of adverse driving history. But we generally don't see this in practice unless it's a high performance vehicle.

If you are denied car insurance, you can file an insurance related complaint with the UAE's

Central Bank. "The individual can file a complaint to the Insurance Authority with all relevant documents (car registration card, driver's licence and Emirates ID) to review their case, to at least ensure the car is covered for basic or third party insurance to get the car registered," Madiha Asif,

team leader and business analyst at Nexus Insurance Brokers, said.

What is third-party insurance? "Third party insurance is the most basic insurance [cover] to comply with UAE Law, insuring an individual's liability against any bodily injury and property damages to any third par-

ty caused by the used of an insured vehicle," Asif said. Third party insurance is the most basic insurance [cover] to comply with UAE Law, insuring an individual's liability against any bodily injury and property damages to any third party caused by the used of an insured vehicle.

## Can insurers deny life cover payout if illness was undisclosed?

**I am the heir to my mother, who had made a life insurance policy. I requested the payment of the policy amount from the insurance company as her heir, but the company refused to pay on the grounds that my mother died of cancer, although she had not disclosed this condition when signing the life insurance policy. My question: Does the insurance company have**

**the right to refuse payment based on this?**

As a general rule, Article 1046 of the Civil Transition Law bounds the insurer, in the case of life insurance, to pay, to the insured or to the beneficiary, the sums agreed upon the occurrence of the event insured against or on the maturity date stipulated in the contract, without the need to establish the damages sustained by the insured or the beneficiary.

But the insured, according to Article 1032 of the same law, is bound to reveal, at the time of conclusion of the contract, all information which the insurer consider of importance to be known by him, to assess the risks covered by him. He is also bound to inform the insurer of all matters occurring during the contract period, which can lead to the aggravation of risks.

Moreover, pursuant to Article 1033 of the same law, If the insured, in bad faith, conceals a matter or makes a false statement in such a manner as to lessen the importance of the risk insured against, or leads to a change in its object, or if he fraudulently breaches his promise to fulfill an obligation, the insurer is entitled to demand rescission of the contract and be paid all premiums due prior to such demand.

Based on the above, in case the insurance policy contains a term related to the medical situation of the insured and the latter did not disclose it, the insurance company has the right not to pay and the beneficiary must prove that the insurance company is mistaken, to get paid.

## You are eligible for air ticket refund

**I recently booked a flight through a travel agent, which I now need to cancel. However, the agent says I won't get my money back, as the flight option I selected does not allow cancellations. Can I get my money back?**

It is assumed that the travel agent did not provide you with clear and complete information about the non-refundable nature of the flight ticket before booking. A consumer has the right to obtain accurate information about the goods or services they purchase, use, or receive. This is by Article

4(2) of Federal Law No. 15 of 2020 on Consumer Protection, "Obtaining true information on the commodities purchased, used or consumed or the service received."

The performance of all contractual obligations is subject to the principle of good faith, as prescribed under Article 246 (1) of the Federal Law No. (5) of 1985 On the Civil Transactions Law of the UAE, which states: "1. The contract shall be implemented, according to the provisions contained therein and in a manner consistent with the requirements

of good faith."

The wording in a contract should be clear under Article (265) (1) of the UAE Civil Transactions Law, "If the wording of a contract is clear, it may not be departed from by way of interpretation to ascertain the intention of the parties." Furthermore, if an individual approves something after an agent has done it on his behalf, it may be considered as if you had given consent to the agent before the agent doing such work. This is by the Article 930 of the Federal Law No. (5) of 1985 On the Civil Transactions Law of the United Arab Emirates,

"Subsequent permission for a dealing shall be regarded as a prior grant of agency."

Based on the aforementioned provision of the law, if the travel agent did not inform you that the air ticket is non-refundable before booking, you may have grounds to request a refund or compensation under the UAE Civil Transactions Law and Consumer Protection Law. The agent is obliged to act in your interest and provide full disclosure. You may also contact the airline directly to check if any refund or rebooking options are available.

# Ahmedabad crash: over Rs 4000cr insurance claim ranks among India's costliest

**MUMBAI:** Non-life insurance major General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) estimates that total insurance claims related to the June 12 crash of Air India Flight AI 171, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, could reach up to \$475 million (approximately Rs 39.4 billion), making it one of the country's costliest insurance claims.

The Ahmedabad-to-London flight, carrying 242 individ-

uals—230 passengers and 12 crew members—tragically crashed shortly after taking off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad. Total claims for the Air India crash could reach \$475 million, driven primarily by liability payouts, which are expected to exceed the aircraft's value by more than 2.5 times. In rupee terms, this translates to approximately Rs 4,091 crore (based on

current exchange rates).

"The way we see it, the hull (the aircraft) will be around \$125 million and liability claims—on account of passenger liability, third-party liability, and other personal accident and travel policies—should amount to about \$350 million," said GIC Chairman Ramaswami Narayanan. Only one passenger, British national Vishwash Kumar Ramesh, survived the crash. Additionally,

at least 38 people on the ground were killed when the aircraft struck a medical college hostel in the Meghani Nagar area.

Reports indicate that in April 2025, Air India increased insurance coverage for its Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner from Rs 750 crore to Rs 850 crore following an engine replacement.

While the cause of the crash is still under investigation by India's Aircraft Accident Investiga-

tion Bureau (AAIB)—with support from the UK's Air Accidents Investigation Branch and the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)—preliminary findings suggest engine failure as a potential cause.

The Tata Group, which owns Air India, announced compensation for the families of the victims and pledged support for rebuilding the destroyed medical college building.

## Over 1,000 UP Muslim pilgrims...

(Cont. from page-1) between Mashhad and Qom, captured the gravity of the situation as explosions could be heard in the background. He mentioned pilgrims from Barabanki and other UP districts

were with him. Maulana Nusrat's kin said that they had the information that currently the flights were suspended, but markets in Iran were open and people were visiting holy sites.

Similarly, Ali Mahmood

of Lucknow shared that his wife and children were among those stuck in Iran. He expressed deep concern for their safety, stating that while they were currently safe, he was mentally distressed. "I keep checking with them through WhatsApp. I just want them home safely," he said, urging the immediate intervention of the Government of India. Shia cleric Maulana Saif Abbas from Lucknow has written to the Ministry of External Affairs, requesting urgent evacuation. He highlighted that many pilgrims had planned and budgeted only for the original travel duration, and are now struggling with extended hotel stays, limited funds, and restricted access to medicines.

## Tourism Master Plan...

(Cont. from page-1) to open up this location to tourism development as well.

"We are excited to share that we've officially launched a project to develop a tourism master plan for Jabal Al Abyadh, also known as Oman's White Mountain," said THR. The company added in a post that a team from THR, accompanied by representatives from the ministry and local ex-

perts, had recently made an initial site visit to "explore this breathtaking destination, located less than a two-hour drive from Muscat".

THR, which has undertaken over 1100 projects in around 70 countries, specialises in tourism and hospitality industry consulting, destination strategy, marketing and management, resorts and hotels and tourism development plans.



## Ethiopian Airlines links Addis Ababa -Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD:** The GMR group, which manages Rajiv Gandhi International Airport here, has announced the launch of new direct flight services from Hyderabad to Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. From Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL), the inaugural flight on Tuesday successfully departed for Addis Ababa after a celebratory ceremony attended by senior officials from GHIAL, key officials from Ethiopian Airlines and other airport stakeholders.

This new route marks a significant milestone in expanding the airport's international connectivity, offering a crucial air link between South India and the African continent.

With three weekly evening departures from Hyderabad, passengers can look forward to a seamless and comfortable journey of six hours and

25 minutes. Pradeep Panicker, CEO of GHIAL said: "We are delighted to welcome Ethiopian Airlines passenger services to Hyderabad. This new direct route to Addis Ababa reinforces our commitment to connecting Hyderabad with key international destinations." Africa is an emerging market with increasing strategic importance, and this flight will serve as a critical bridge for commerce, tourism and cultural exchange between the two regions, he noted.

We are confident that this new service will be well-received by passengers looking for convenient and efficient connectivity to Africa. The direct connection is expected to facilitate greater opportunities for business, leisure and tourism travellers, while also opening new doors for trade and investment between India and Africa.

## Indian iPhones flood US market

**NEW DELHI:** Nearly all the iPhones exported by Foxconn from India went to the US between March and May, customs data showed, far above the 2024 average of 50pc and a clear sign of Apple's efforts to bypass high US tariffs imposed on China. The US market is flooded by Indian iPhones.

The numbers show Apple has realigned its India exports to almost exclusively serve the US market, when previously the devices were more widely distributed to countries including the Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Britain. During March-May, Foxconn exported iPhones worth \$3.2 billion from India, with an average 97pc shipped to the US, compared with a 2024 average of 50.3pc, according to commercially available customs data.

India iPhone shipments by Foxconn to the US in May 2025 were worth nearly \$1 billion, the second-highest ever after the record \$1.3 billion worth of devices shipped in March. Apple declined to comment, while Foxconn did not respond.