



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

## PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



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**MUMBAI:** A high-level delegation of the Indo Gulf & Middle East Chamber of Commerce (INMECC) met the Hon'ble Consul General of Türkiye in Mumbai HE M Kemalettin Eryugur and held detailed discussions on expanding INMECC's operations and business collaborations with Türkiye.

The delegation was led by INMECC Chairman Dr Sharafudeen, Vice Chairman VS Abdulkareem and Secretary General Dr Suresh kumar Madhusudhanan. During the meeting, both sides discussed the immense opportunities for strengthening bilateral trade, tourism, investment, logistics, manpower co-operation and cultural exchanges between India and Türkiye.

## INMECC delegation meets Turkish envoy to strengthen India-Türkiye business ties

The consul general appreciated the growing role and activities of INMECC across India and the GCC region in promoting international business connectivity and economic co-operation. He assured full support to INMECC's proposed expansion into Türkiye and expressed willingness to facilitate collaborations with leading chambers of commerce in Ankara, including the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote trade delegations, business networking, investment opportunities and joint initiatives between entrepreneurs



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from both countries.

HE Kemalettin Eryugur reiterated that India-Türkiye relations have historically remained strong and diversified across trade, tourism, education, aviation, infrastructure and cultural exchanges. He acknowledged that recent diplomatic developments have created temporary challenges affecting trade relations and tourism movements between the two nations. However, he expressed optimism that ongoing diplomatic efforts would help normalise relations at the earliest and restore stronger economic coop-

( Cont. on page - 2 )



## Saudi budget airline flyadeal launches India flights

**DUBAI:** Saudi Arabia's low-cost carrier flyadeal will begin scheduled flights to India for the first time, launching daily non-stop services between Riyadh and Hyderabad from July 1, 2026.

The move marks flyadeal's - a subsidiary of national carrier Saudia -- entry into one of the Gulf region's busiest aviation markets, where millions of Indian expatriates trav-

( Cont. on page - 2 )

## FIMCA calls for mandatory eMigrate registration in emerging labour markets

**NEW DELHI / MUMBAI:** The Federation of Indian Emigration Management Councils & Associations (FIMCA) has called for urgent reforms to strengthen India's overseas employment ecosystem and prevent illegal recruitment in new and emerging labour markets.

FIMCA stated that India's international labour mobility framework must



now move beyond the traditional ECR-country model and respond to the growing movement of Indian workers to emerging

destinations such as CIS countries, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Balkan states and Israel.

The Federation said these corridors can become major drivers of lawful overseas employment, remittance growth and foreign exchange inflows for India. However, this opportunity can only

( Cont. on page - 6 )

## International Tea Day celebrated at Sri Lankan consulate

**MUMBAI:** The Consulate General of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Indian Chamber of International Business (ICIB) celebrated International Tea Day on Thursday, May 21, at the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Fort, Mumbai.

The event highlights the rich heritage and global appeal of authentic Ceylon Tea, featuring some of Sri Lanka's finest tea varieties including Nuwara Eliya, Uda Pussellawa, Dimbula, Uva, Kandy, Sabaragamuwa and Ruhuna. Guests got an opportunity to explore the unique aromas, flavours and characteristics of each regional tea.

The celebration aims to strengthen cultural and business ties between India and Sri Lanka while promoting Sri Lanka's world-renowned tea industry. The event carries the theme: "Sip. Savour. Celebrate - The World of Ceylon Tea."



**HE Shriani Ariyaratne, Consul, HE Priyanga Wickramasinghe, Consul General of Sri Lanka, VS Abdulkareem, CMD FlyCreative Online Limited and Suman, Manager, Sri Lankan Airlines, Western India, on the occasion of International Tea Day celebration at the Sri Lankan Consulate in Mumbai.**



## Successful UAE visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE this week may have been very brief (three-hours to be precise), but its impact is likely to be felt for decades to come. This was Modi's eighth visit to the UAE in 12 years. Modi has his own style of working and he has once again proved that he can get things done the way he wants. Modi was the first world leader to condemn Tehran's repeated strikes on the UAE and its blockade of the Strait of Hormuz. And at the same time, India has good relationship with Iran as well. India provided safe harbour and emergency docking to the Iranian naval warship IRIS Lavan at Kochi naval facilities in March, protecting the ship and its 183 crew members. The Indian government granted permission for the docking after Iran requested urgent assistance citing technical issues with the vessel. This happened just a few days before an Iranian ship was sunk by the US. This is an emphasis on maintaining strategic balance through a policy of multi-alignment.



During Modi's UAE visit, many multi-sectoral agreements were signed, pointing to a gear shift in bilateral relations between two rising powers in a fragmenting, multi-polar world. On the surface, this was another chapter in a relationship defined by familiarity and warmth – as was evident from his meeting with President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (who affectionately calls Modi his elder brother) – as well as one rooted in historical ties, the movement of people and the flow of goods, energy and services.

India's relation with the Arabian Gulf is as old as the hills and the Indian subcontinent has traded, inter-married and influenced one another for centuries. The 4.3 million Indians who call the UAE home today happen to be only the latest expression of a civilisational connection that long predates the two nation states. Despite the ongoing West Asia war, the remittances from our NRIs in the Gulf are not affected -- in fact, the remittances are on the rise. Once the war ends, the presence of Indians in the Gulf, particularly in the UAE, will only increase.

On the business front, energy co-operation featured prominently during Modi's visit with Adnoc concluding a deal with Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited under which the UAE will enhance its participation in India's strategic petroleum reserves. The two countries also agreed to work together to establish strategic gas reserves in India. Furthermore, Adnoc formalised an arrangement with Indian Oil Corporation on long-term LPG supplies. What was notable, however, was the broader framework within which these energy conversations took place—the timing is significant given the turbulence of global commodity markets and the security pressures as an outcome of the Iran war. Further, defence co-operation, technology transfer, digital infrastructure, logistics corridors and food security are all part of a bilateral agenda whose scope would have seemed ambitious only a few years ago. The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, signed in 2022, provides a formal structure to those long-held ambitions. The two countries' shared vision for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor signals something even more strategic: a joint desire to reshape an aspect of global trade and not just participate in it. So far so good.

### LIPSYNCH

*"Diplomacy is the art of winning nations without bloodshed". --- Chanakya*

## Travel Meet Asia 2026 returns to Jakarta with Brunei as official partner country

**JAKARTA:** Travel Meet Asia (TMA) 2026 will return to Jakarta on June 23-24, 2026, bringing together key industry leaders and global exhibitors from the MICE, corporate and leisure sectors. The event will take place at Swissôtel Jakarta PIK Avenue, reinforcing Jakarta's position as a strategic hub for travel and tourism exchange.

Organised by Messe Berlin Asia Pacific, Travel Meet Asia continues to grow as a leading marketplace and knowledge platform, with more than 1,500 participants, over 400 quality buyers, 100+ exhibitors and 60+ speakers expected to attend.

Darren Seah, Executive Director, Messe Berlin Asia Pacific, said: "Travel-Meet Asia has established itself as a vital platform for meaningful business exchange and industry dialogue in Southeast Asia. With Jakarta as our host city once again, we look forward to welcoming a growing community of travel professionals and to spotlighting Brunei as our Official Partner Country. The launch of Visit Brunei 2027 adds a strong dimension to this year's

## INMECC delegation meets Turkish...

( Cont. from page - 1 )  
eration.

The INMECC delegation also extended invitations to the consul general to participate in the forthcoming "Salute Maharashtra" event in Mumbai and the proposed International Business Conclave in Kochi.

The consul general gladly accepted the invitations and expressed his keen interest in visiting Kerala, popularly known as "God's Own Country."

India and Türkiye continue to maintain significant economic engagement, with bilateral trade valued at around US\$8-10 billion in recent years. Major sectors of co-oper-

event, highlighting the region's dynamic and evolving tourism landscape."

Brunei Showcases Tourism Ambitions with Visit Brunei 2027 launch. Brunei Darussalam, the Abode of Peace, will take centre stage as the Official Partner Country of Travel Meet Asia 2026. This milestone

reflects the nation's commitment to strengthening its global tourism presence through authentic cultural offerings and pristine nature-based attractions. Visitors are invited to discover a serene destination where unspoiled rainforests, rich biodiversity, and ( Cont. on page - 6 )

## Arabian Travel Market in Sept

**DUBAI:** Arabian Travel Market 2026 has officially been rescheduled to take place from Sept 14-17, 2026 at the Dubai World Trade Centre, replacing the previously announced August dates. Organisers have confirmed that all planned sessions, exhibitor participation, and associated activities, including ATM Travel Tech, will proceed as originally scheduled. The change in dates has been communicated to industry stakeholders, with registrations continuing as planned, as the event prepares to welcome global travel professionals to Dubai later this year.

## Saudi budget airline flyadeal...

( Cont. from page - 1 )  
el frequently between the Gulf and India for work, family visits and religious travel.

The airline said tickets are now available through its website, mobile app and travel agents. The airline also indicated that a second Indian route will be announced soon. The city is a major technology and business hub in southern

India and has strong travel links with the Gulf, particularly Saudi Arabia and the UAE, due to its large expatriate population.

Sanjiv Kapoor, acting CEO of flyadeal and Executive Vice President Strategies at Saudia Group, said: "India, a long-awaited addition to flyadeal's growing network of international destinations, is a key part of Saudia Group and flyadeal's long term strategy." He added: "Hyderabad is the first step of our planned expansion into India, fuelled by the strong economic, social and cultural ties that India and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have enjoyed for decades.

"The launch also expands Saudi Arabia's growing aviation links with India at a time when Gulf airlines are increasing capacity to meet strong travel demand from Indian passengers. The Saudi budget carrier is strategically positioning itself to tap into the high-volume travel corridor between India and Saudi Arabia, driven by approximately 2.5 to 2.7 million Indian expatriates living in the Kingdom, alongside a continuous flow of religious pilgrims.

ation include engineering goods, chemicals, textiles, machinery, construction materials, tourism, logistics and hospitality. Türkiye also remains one of the preferred international destinations for Indian tourists, honeymoon travellers, destination weddings and leisure tourism, supported by excellent air connectivity between Indian cities and Istanbul.

INMECC, through its growing global network, continues to play a significant role in building strategic international partnerships and promoting business diplomacy between India, the GCC region and emerging global markets.

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Swiss Franc (CHF)	121.04	123.73
Canadian Dollar	69.23	70.8
Australian Dollar	67.87	69.4
Norwegian Krone	10.2	10.5
Swedish Krona	10.13	10.42
New Zealand Dollar	55.76	57.03
Hong Kong Dollar	12.06	12.44
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RBI set to pay record dividend of Rs 3.2 trillion to govt

**MUMBAI:** Reserve Bank of India will again make a record surplus transfer to the government for this April-to-March fiscal year, a windfall that economists said would not be sufficient to prevent New Delhi from missing its fiscal deficit target. RBI, which is due on Friday to report how much it will hand over to the Treasury, is expected to transfer a sizable amount this year, in large part from profitable US dollar sales after it intervened in the foreign exchange market to stem the rupee's slide. A Reuters poll of 25 economists taken on May 19 and 20 showed RBI is likely to transfer a record dividend of Rs2.9 trillion to Rs3.2 trillion (\$30.0 billion to \$33.1 billion) to the treasury, matching the government's forecast in this fiscal year's budget.

A slim majority, 12 of 22, said the treasury is becoming too reliant on these transfers, which have surged 55-fold over the past two decades. Under recently revised rules that were originally laid out in 2019, RBI is recommended to maintain a contingency reserve of 4.5pc to 7.5pc of its balance sheet and transfer the rest to the government. The reserve is currently maintained at 7.5pc. An expected Rs3.05 trillion handover, the midpoint of the poll, would be the highest share of expected government revenue in more than two decades, excluding the fiscal year 2019-2020. But such transfers are unlikely to fully shield the budget from the US-Israeli war on Iran, economists said, as higher crude oil prices, a record-low rupee, weaker revenue growth and the prospect of additional spending strain public finances. Dollar sales are now benchmarked to the historical average price of FX purchases, which is much lower than the current dollar-rupee rate.

**PANAJI:** Fly91, India's pure-play regional airline, has introduced its newest product offering SmartBag91 — a customer-first initiative designed to simplify excess baggage for travellers while making regional flying more affordable, transparent and hassle-free. As part of the initiative, passengers can now pre-book additional baggage at highly discounted rates across any sector on the FLY91 network, and not

just on international connecting itineraries — a first-of-its-kind customer convenience feature in regional aviation. Built around FLY91's mission of "Connecting Bharat" through safe and reliable regional air travel, SmartBag91 addresses one of the most common traveller pain points: uncertainty and high costs associated with excess baggage. Under the programme, passengers can choose

from structured baggage slabs ranging from five kg to 30 kg at the time of booking, with pricing starting from Rs1000 and going up to just Rs3000 for 30 kg of additional baggage. For travellers flying home, students relocating, business passengers, families or customers carrying extra luggage for extended journeys, SmartBag91 offers greater predictability and flexibility well before arriving at the airport.

"For us, SmartBag91 is about simplifying travel decisions for our customers," said Manoj Chacko, Managing Director, FLY91. "As we continue Connecting Bharat through safe and reliable regional air travel, our focus remains on making the journey more seamless and hassle-free for passengers. This initiative is especially valuable for travellers connecting through key hubs such as Hyderabad and Bengaluru."



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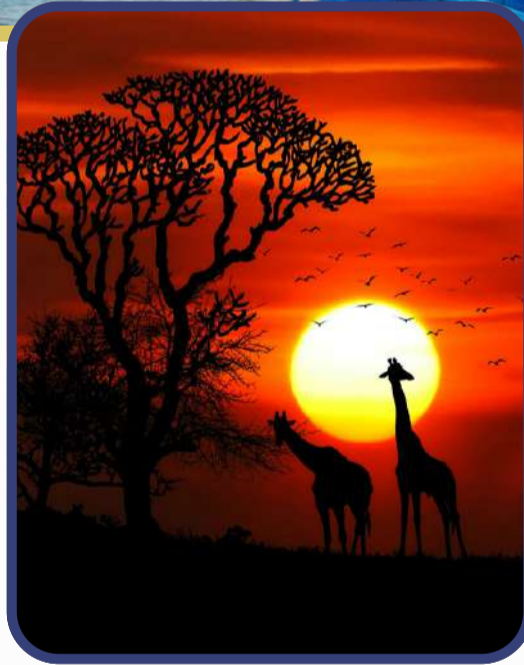
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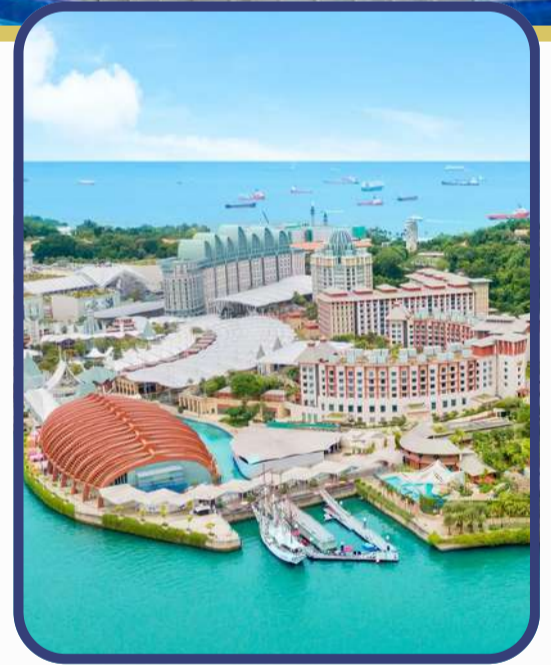
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# GULF FAQs

## Need I pass credit checks before signing rental contracts?

**I want to take a residential flat on lease in UAE. Some friends are saying that there will be credit checks before signing rental contracts. Is it true?**

Private landlords across the UAE can now request the credit scores of prospective tenants through a new "Tenant Screening" solution launched by Etihad Credit Bureau in collaboration with UAE PASS.

For UAE residents searching for homes, the move could gradually change how rental applications are assessed. For landlords, it introduces an additional tool to evaluate payment risk before signing tenancy

contracts.

The system allows landlords to access a tenant's credit score only after the tenant approves the request through UAE PASS, the country's national digital identity platform. The feature was initially previewed at GITEX 2025 by the Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA) and Digital Dubai before being rolled out through the Etihad Credit Bureau mobile app in April 2026.

For tenants in the UAE, the introduction of credit screening means finan-



cial history could increasingly become part of the rental evaluation process alongside salary certificates, Emirates IDs, visa

status and cheque arrangements. Under the new system, a landlord can send a request for a prospective tenant's credit score through the Etihad Credit Bureau platform. The tenant then receives a notification through UAE PASS and decides whether to approve or reject access to the information.

"The information is only shared once tenants accept through their UAE PASS," Etihad Credit Bureau said. If the tenant declines the request, the landlord cannot access the credit score.

For many UAE residents, particularly those applying for high-demand or high-value properties in areas of Dubai and Abu Dhabi, the system could become another factor considered during rental applications. The platform could also give landlords additional visibility into a tenant's repayment history when assessing financial reliability linked to rent payments or post-dated cheques. While the system remains consent-based rather than mandatory, landlords may seek additional financial assurances in some cases where tenants choose to share lower credit profiles, particularly

in situations involving: Etihad Credit Bureau has not announced any minimum score requirements for tenancy approvals, and the system is not currently mandatory for rental contracts. For landlords, the platform offers a formal financial screening mechanism before entering into tenancy agreements. Until now, many landlords relied primarily on: employment status, monthly salary, employer reputation, post-dated cheques and previous tenancy records.

The Tenant Screening system adds verified credit information into that process. Still, landlords are likely to assess broader indicators tied to a tenant's financial behaviour, including repayment consistency and overall credit exposure. The service may become particularly relevant for landlords leasing: luxury villas, premium apartments, high-rent properties and homes requiring multiple post-dated cheques. In those segments, landlords often face larger financial exposure if tenants default or delay payments.

A key part of the initiative is the use of UAE PASS as the approval gateway for sharing financial data. Officials described the platform as part of the UAE's expanding "digital trust infrastructure" that supports secure consent management and trusted data exchange. Hamad Obaid Al Mansoori, Director General of Digital Dubai, said: "UAE PASS has evolved into a cornerstone of the UAE's digital trust infrastructure, extending beyond digital identity to enable secure consent management and trusted data exchange."

## Who should pay Ejari renewal fees? Landlord or tenant?

**If you are renting a home in Dubai, renewing your Ejari registration is a key step every year when your tenancy contract is renewed. But a common question many residents have is simple: who actually pays for Ejari renewal --- the tenant or the landlord?**

Ejari is an official online registration system introduced by the Dubai Land Department (DLD) to regulate and document all rental contracts in the emirate. Made mandatory in 2010, it formally records tenancy agreements and makes them legally recognised by government authorities. Without Ejari, a tenancy contract is generally not recognised by government bodies in Dubai. It standardises rental agreements and creates a legally binding record between landlords and tenants, making it an essential part of the rental process, not an optional formality.

Who is responsible for Ejari registration and renewal? Ejari is regulated by the Dubai Land Department (DLD) and overseen by Real Estate Regulatory Agency. Under Dubai's rental law -- Law No. 26 of 2007 and amended by Law No. 33 of 2008: The

landlord is responsible for registering Ejari. The tenant is responsible for paying the Ejari fees, unless the contract states otherwise. This is based on Article 22 of Law No. 26 of 2007, which states that the tenant must pay all government fees and taxes related to using the property, unless agreed otherwise.

The landlord must ensure the tenancy contract is registered in the Ejari system.

The tenant usually handles the payment and often completes the renewal process. If both parties agree otherwise in the tenancy contract, that agreement takes priority. When does Ejari need to be renewed? Ejari is not a one-time process. It must be renewed or updated in the following situations:

- \*Annually, whenever the tenancy contract is renewed
- \*When the rent amount changes.
- \*When the tenant's name changes.
- \*When any property details are updated.
- \*Any material change to the tenancy arrangement requires an updated Ejari -- not just an annual renewal cycle.

# India issues Ebola advisory for passengers arriving from high-risk African nations

**NEW DELHI:** India has issued a health advisory for passengers arriving from or transiting through Ebola-affected countries, asking those with symptoms or exposure history to immediately report to airport health authorities before immigration clearance.

The advisory, issued by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), specifically mentions travellers coming from the

Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and South Sudan, all of which have been categorised as "high-risk countries" by the WHO.

The advisory has been displayed at the Delhi airport by the Airport Health Organisation (APHO).

It advises passengers to watch out for symptoms such as fever, weakness, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, sore throat and unexplained

bleeding.

It also asks travellers who had direct contact with blood or body fluids of a suspected or confirmed Ebola patient to immediately report to the airport health officer or the health desk.

According to the APHO, any traveller developing symptoms within 21 days of arrival should seek immediate medical care and inform authorities about

their travel history.

On Wednesday, Union Health Secretary Purna Salila Srivastava chaired a high-level review meeting with health secretaries of all states and Union territories to assess preparedness and response measures for Ebola. Union health ministry officials clarified that no case of Ebola has been de-

tected in India so far.

However, after the WHO declared Ebola a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), the government of India has proactively strengthened surveillance and preparedness measures across the country as an abundant precaution, official sources had said.

## e-Migrate platform enhancing safe migration, says India at UN

**NEW YORK:** Union Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh has highlighted the importance of global mobility and stressed the need for "safe, orderly and regular migration," while underscoring India's digital initiatives in migration governance at the United Nations.

Addressing the International Migration Review

Forum 2026 at the UN headquarters, Singh said the world must collectively work towards managing migration through co-operation and shared responsibility. Singh said the Indian diaspora, which is spread across more than 200 countries, plays a significant role in strengthening global economic and cultural linkages. "The Indian migration story is

both vast and dynamic. We have a diaspora of over 34 million people spread all across the globe, encompassing more than 200 countries. Our global community has served to connect economies, cultures and ideas through many centuries. Their contributions through remittances, investments and knowledge exchange continue to play a vital role, not only in India's development but also in the prosperity of the societies and the countries they have integrated into," he said.

## FIMCA calls for mandatory...

(Cont. from page - 1) be realised if recruitment is routed through verified employers, licensed recruitment channels, digitally traceable contracts and strong post-deployment worker protection mechanisms.

The statement comes in the backdrop of the recent NITI Aayog working paper, States' Framework: Advancing international mobility for skilled workers and India's recent international statements on leveraging digital innovation to promote safe, orderly and regular migration.

"India has already built the digital foundation for safe overseas recruitment through eMigrate. The next logical step is to expand mandatory employment registration be-

yond the old ECR-country model and bring emerging labour corridors into a verified and accountable system," said a FIMCA spokesperson. FIMCA noted that eMigrate 2.0 has been positioned as an end-to-end digital ecosystem for transparent migration governance, including employer verification, recruiting-agent verification and employment-contract integrity.

The Federation said this makes eMigrate the natural platform for expanding India's regulated overseas employment architecture.

"India cannot build a global workforce mobility strategy while allowing illegal intermediaries to capture new markets before licensed channels are given structured access.

## Travel Meet Asia 2026...

(Cont. from page - 2) enduring traditions come together to create truly memorable journeys.

"We are honoured to be named the Official Partner Country for Travel Meet Asia 2026, a vital platform for regional tourism connectivity. This partnership offers a strategic opportunity for Brunei Darussalam to showcase our unique blend of rich cultural heritage, pristine rainforests and warm hospitality as we build momentum toward Visit Brunei Year 2027. Through the Brunei Pavilion, we invite visitors to discover our diverse offerings, upcoming initiatives and curated experiences",

## Thailand cuts visa-free stays, citing crime by foreigners

**BANGKOK:** Thailand is drastically cutting the length of visa-free stays for tourists from more than 90 countries in an effort to curb crime involving foreign nationals.

Tourism is vital to the Southeast Asian nation's economy, but foreign arrivals are yet to return to their pre-COVID-19 highs. A recent series of high-profile arrests of foreigners has included cases linked to drug offenses, sex trafficking and foreigners operating businesses such as hotels and schools without proper permits.

Under Thailand's current tourism scheme, travellers from more than 90 coun-

tries — including Europe's 29-nation Schengen area, the US, Israel and several South American countries — are eligible to visit for up to 60 days without a visa. Thailand's cabinet approved reducing visa-free stays for travellers from those countries on Tuesday, Tourism Minister Surasak Phanchaoenworakul told reporters in Bangkok. The new visa-free duration would be decided on a country-by-country basis, with most foreign nationals granted stays of up to 30 days, while some could receive only 15 days, Surasak said. Tourists will be able to renew visas once by visiting an immigration office, a government spokeswoman said. "The 60 days was automatic but the renewal will be decided by the officer and tourists will have to explain why they are staying longer," she said.

## Saudi deports 9,576 illegal residents

**RIYADH:** Saudi security authorities arrested a total of 9,576 illegal residents in a week. The arrests were made in the joint inspections, carried out by the security forces in collaboration with the relevant government agencies, during the period between May 7 and 13, the Ministry of Interior revealed.