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OVERSEAS JOBS ON PAGE 3
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OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

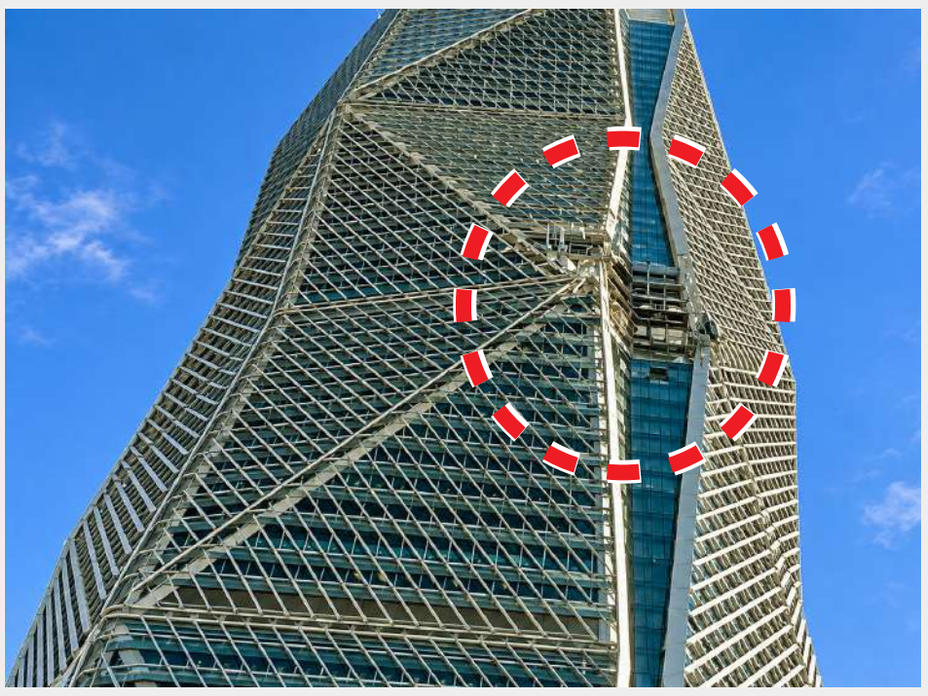
MUMBAI: FRIDAY, 27 NOVEMBER, 2026 • VOL. NO. 3 • Issue No. 84 • DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 6 PAGES

India strongly condemns attack on Riyadh tower, expresses solidarity with Saudi Arabia

NEW DELHI: The Union External Affairs Ministry has strongly condemned the attack on one of the towers of the financial district in Riyadh on Nov 24 as well as the continued attacks targeting civilian, economic and energy infrastructure in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It may be recalled that two Indians were among those injured in the attack on Riyadh financial district. The embassy of India in Riyadh is providing all possible assistance to the injured and their families.

The ministry noted that these attacks seriously endanger civilian lives, violate the sovereignty of Saudi Arabia and undermine regional security and stability. The statement called for immediate cessation of such attacks.



"We also reiterate our firm solidarity with the people and government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in safeguarding its sovereignty, territorial integrity and the security and safety of its citizens and residents. We earnestly hope that peace and normalcy will return to the region at the earliest", the statement added.

Singapore opens work visa for 24 occupations

SINGAPORE: Singapore is sharpening its strategy to attract foreign professionals with specialised skills, identifying 24 shortage occupations across sectors ranging from artificial intelligence (AI), cyber security and quantum computing to financial services, semiconductors, energy and agritech.

The revised Shortage Occupation List (SOL), detailed in a new employer guide released by Singapore's Ministry of Manpower (MOM) in November will apply to new and renewal Employment Pass (EP) applications from Jan 1, 2027. For Indian professionals looking to

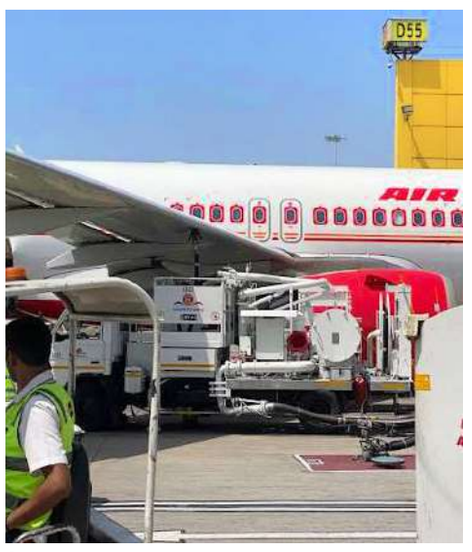
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Aviation fuel prices drop 20pc in a month

MUSCAT: The global average aviation fuel price dropped 8.9pc to $154.76 per barrel in the week ending Nov 29. Overall, the global aviation fuel price average dropped --19.6pc from the previous month but is still at 71.9pc from the previous year's average.

In line with the crude oil trends, the aviation fuel prices declined 5.1pc to 169.82 in the week ending Nov 13, 6.6pc 178.95 in the week ending Nov 6 and 2.6pc to $191.54 in the week ending Oct 30, according to the Jet Fuel Monitor.

Currently, the aviation fuel price is lowest in the MidEast at $136.42 per barrel, which is down 20pc



from the previous month and +62.6pc from the previous year. Among other regions, the aviation

(Cont. on page - 2)

Poor air connectivity, high fares hit Kullu-Manali tourism

SHIMLA: Poor air connectivity and high airfares at Bhuntar airport in Kullu district have emerged as major concerns for the tourism industry in Kullu-Manali, with tourism stakeholders urging the state and central governments to strengthen flight services to attract more high-end domestic and international tourists to the Himalayan region.

Tourism stakeholders said that the limited frequency of flights and expensive air tickets were discouraging tourists who prefer air travel, particularly those looking for convenient and time-saving access to popular destinations such as Manali and other tourist attractions in Kullu district.



They stressed that improved air connectivity was essential to position Kullu-Manali as a preferred destination for high-end tourism. Alliance Air was earlier operating flights on the Delhi-Kullu, Kullu-Dehradun and Kullu-Amritsar routes. However, the airline suspended its flight service between Delhi and Kullu from Nov 3. Similarly, flight service has also

(Cont. on page - 2)

Hubballi Airport's new Terminal getting ready

HUBBALLI: The new terminal of Hubballi Airport, which is expected to be ready by year-end, will not only upgrade facilities for passengers and flight operations, but will also showcase the heritage of North Karnataka.

The entrance of the new terminal is designed with inspiration from medieval Kalyani Chalukyan architecture style. Inside the terminal building, murals and other artworks will depict historical personalities and monuments in the region. The airport is getting aerobridges for the first time under this project, while the total area and passenger handling capacity will increase several times.

Implementation of this Rs 320-crore project, including the development of the new terminal building, apron bay upgradation, parking place development and other facilities, began two and a half years ago. The new terminal project, upgrading the facilities to international standards, is in the final stage, and the heritage-style architecture in its front portion gives the new terminal a unique look. Elements of this region's heritage are included in the new terminal, as per the instructions from the government.

Welcome EPF changes

In a welcome move, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has approved a facility allowing retiring subscribers to withdraw their provident fund savings in monthly, quarterly or half-yearly instalments, eased conditions for final withdrawals and gave in-principle approval for investments in alternative investment funds (AIFs), including start-ups. The arrangement is intended to provide retirees with a regular stream of income while allowing the unwithdrawn portion of their savings to remain invested.

EPFO's proposed AIF investments will initially be routed through government-backed entities and remain within the organisation's existing overall investment ceiling. The board approved a systematic withdrawal plan (SWP) under which members can draw their accumulated PF savings periodically instead of withdrawing the entire corpus at retirement. The remaining amount will continue to earn returns, giving members with an additional source of income after retirement.

Editorial By EL Vaidyanathan

Around 6.32 lakh EPF members aged above 55 years with provident fund savings exceeding Rs 5 lakh are pegged to be the primary beneficiaries in the initial phase. The facility will be voluntary and may also be extended to eligible family members and beneficiaries. In case of a member's death during the payout period, the nominee or dependent can withdraw the remaining balance or continue receiving instalments. The board also reduced the minimum balance that members must retain in their PF accounts from 25pc to 10pc of their contributions.

What's more, the board has reduced the waiting period for final withdrawal after leaving employment from 12 months to two months. The changes are intended to give subscribers greater access to their savings while retaining a portion of the corpus for long-term social security.

The board also gave in-principle approval for EPFO to invest up to three per cent of its fresh accretions in eligible AIFs, initially through government-backed entities and within its existing overall investment ceiling.

The board also approved amendments to the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme, 2026, providing a six-month window to eligible establishments to renew expired exemptions. The February meeting is likely to take up EPFO 3.0 (EPFO) has approved a significant overhaul of its provident fund withdrawal framework, giving subscribers greater flexibility to access their retirement savings, reducing the waiting period for final settlement after unemployment and introducing a facility for retirees to receive their accumulated savings in periodic instalments.

Under the revised provision, eligible members who leave employment and remain unemployed would be able to seek final settlement after two months instead of waiting for a year. The change is particularly relevant for workers who lose their jobs, leave employment or experience prolonged gaps between jobs and need access to their accumulated savings. It is important to distinguish this provision from partial withdrawals available during employment and from the separate withdrawal rules governing pension accumulations under EPS.

Thus, the EPFO's latest reforms—from raising the wage ceiling to Rs 25,000 to approving a Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP) and easing final settlement timelines —mark a pragmatic shift toward worker liquidity. These changes balance immediate financial relief with long-term retirement planning, though several operational details still await formal notification. New EPF Scheme 2026 brings digital compliance, simplified withdrawal rules, faster pension claims and updated EPS provisions under the Social Security Code.

LIPSYNCH

" I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuse." — **Florence Nightingale**

Saudi imposes 15pc tax on multinationals

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia will introduce a domestic minimum top-up tax on large multinational companies starting Jan, 1, 2027, to ensure profits are taxed at an effective rate of at least 15pc . The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority announced the measure is intended to protect tax revenues and align with international standards.

The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) announced the measure saying it was intended to protect Saudi Arabia's tax revenues and bring its regulations into line with international standards. The tax will apply to entities belonging to multinational groups with consolidated annual revenues of at least €750 million, or the equivalent in Saudi riyals. To qualify, the group must have met that revenue threshold in at least two of the four financial years preceding the year in which the tax applies, based on the consolidated financial statements of its ultimate parent company.

ZATCA clarified that the measure will not apply to all businesses operating in Saudi. It will be limited to qualifying entities within large multinational groups, excluding purely domestic companies that do not operate internationally or belong to a multinational group covered by the rules.

The Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax (DMTT) is designed to ensure that profits generated in Saudi Arabia by qualifying multinational groups are taxed at an effective rate of at least 15pc. Where the effective tax rate falls below that threshold, an additional tax may be collected to bring it up to the required minimum, subject to the applicable rules. The authority stressed that the 15pc threshold applies to the effective taxation of profits, not to a company's total revenue.

25pc US tariff can hit Indian exports

MUMBAI: Indian micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) could face significant financial challenges if the US imposes its proposed 25pc tariff on Indian goods, FICCI-CMSME President Harjinder Kaur Talwar has warned, calling for a fair and mutually beneficial India-US trade agreement.

Talwar emphasised that while India and the US share strong strategic and commercial ties, a bilateral trade agreement should safeguard the interests of domestic businesses.

Indian MSMEs, which play a crucial role in employment generation, manufacturing and exports, already operate on narrow profit margins. Higher US import duties could further weaken their financial position and international competitiveness. Talwar cautioned that a 25pc tariff would make business sustainability increasingly difficult for smaller enterprises. She maintained that India welcomes a trade agreement with Washington but should not compromise the interests of domestic industries by accepting unfavourable tariff conditions. The US Trade Representative (USTR) has proposed tariffs of up to 25pc on Indian goods, with certain exemptions, following an investigation into structural excess capacity and production across manufacturing sectors. Nevertheless, Washington indicated that the proposed tariff could be reduced to 17 pc if India concludes an Agreement on Reciprocal Trade addressing concerns identified during the investigation.

Aviation fuel prices...

(Cont. from page - 1)

fuel is at $145.10 in Asia and Oceania, $162.31 in Europe and CIS, 156.72 in North America, $155.33 in Latin America.

The Sultanate of Oman saw a drop of 14.7pc in the aviation fuel production in the first 10 months of 2026, according to the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI). While the domestic sales dropped by four per cent, the exports increased by 25.1pc during the same period.

Poor air connectivity...

(Cont. from page - 1)

been suspended on the Kullu-Dehradun and Kullu-Amritsar routes.

Hira Lal Rana, president of the HP Travel Agents Association, said tourism was the backbone of the economy of Kullu district and provided employment opportunities to a large number of local youth in the private sector.

He said there was an urgent need to improve air connectivity at Bhuntar airport to attract high-end tourists to Kullu-Manali. The low frequency of flights and high airfares were major setbacks for the tourism industry, which depended heavily on tourist arrivals from different parts of the country and abroad.

Budhi Prakash, another tourism stakeholder from Manali, stated that despite four BJP MPs from Himachal in the Lok Sabha, two BJP MPs from Himachal in the Rajya Sabha and Union Minister JP Nadda, who also hails from Himachal, the state could not focus on the development of tourism in the state. Air services could not be strengthened without the intervention of the Centre.

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FOREX RATES

As on 26th November 2026 (In rupees)

Currency	Bill Buy	Bill Sell
US Dollar	91.63	92.84
British Pound	119.85	121.59
Euro	99.96	102.08
Japanese Yen	57.62	58.54
Swiss Franc (CHF)	109.31	111.74
Canadian Dollar	63.86	65.3
Australian Dollar	60.01	61.32
Norwegian Krone	9.17	9.45
Swedish Krona	8.81	9.07
New Zealand Dollar	49.74	50.85
Hong Kong Dollar	11.54	11.89
Kuwaiti Dinar	304.3141	293.0809
Singapore Dollar	70.65	72.26
Saudi Arabian Riyal	24.11	24.87
U A E Dirham	24.69	25.39

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Singapore opens work visa for...

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work in Singapore, the revised list could provide an additional route to qualifying for the country's work visa system. Eligible applicants can receive bonus points under Singapore's Complementarity Assessment Framework (COMPASS), which assesses foreign professionals seeking Employment Passes.

Certain professionals in the infocomm technology category can also qualify for a longer, five-year Employment Pass, subject to the applicable requirements.

However, inclusion on the list does not guarantee a work visa. Applicants must meet specific job-duty, experience and qualification requirements, in addition to satisfying the minimum salary threshold and other Employment Pass eligibility conditions.

The revised guide identifies 24 shortage occupations across several sectors, including agritech, energy and chemicals, the green economy, financial services, infocomm technology, maritime and semiconductors.

Some of the specialised roles identified include: Artificial intelligence and machine learning: AI engineers, machine learning engineers and AI researchers.

Cloud computing: Cloud architects, cloud engineers and cloud operations specialists.

Data science: Data scientists, data engineers and chief data scientists.

Cybersecurity: Digital forensics specialists, penetration testing specialists and cybersecurity professionals.

Software development: Software engineers, full-stack developers, blockchain developers and cryptography engineers. Quantum computing: Quantum scientists and quantum engineers.

Semiconductors: Materials engineers and specialised engineering professionals. Green economy: Carbon project managers and specialists working in carbon markets.

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GULF FAQs

How to spot fake job offers in Dubai?

I am looking for a job in Dubai. How can I differentiate between a real job offer and a fake offer?

Dubai attracts people from around the world looking for better opportunities, but fake job scams can quickly turn those hopes into financial and emotional setbacks. These scams target everyone, from students and first-time jobseekers to seasoned professionals.

Becoming a victim can mean losing your savings, compromising sensitive documents such as your Emirates ID or passport, and even jeopardising your family's future. Beyond the financial loss, the emotional toll and shaken confidence can be just as damaging. To protect residents, Dubai Police has highlighted key red flags that jobseekers should be aware of.

Recognising these warning signs is the first step in avoiding fraud. If you come across a suspicious job offer or listing, it is crucial to report it through Dubai Police's eCrime platform - ecrime-hub.gov.ae

How do you know it's a fake job? According to Dubai Police's eCrime platform, a fake job scam is when someone pretends to offer you a job, but their real goal is to trick you into giving away money or personal information.

Scammers often: Use fake company names. Create real-looking websites. Pretend to represent well-known Dubai companies. Once you trust them, they may ask for payment for visa processing, training or background checks. After you pay, the job offer vanishes—along with your money. Sometimes, fraudsters also steal personal details to commit further crimes.

What to do if you spot a fake job scam? Dubai Police's eCrime platform advises taking the following steps if you spot or fall victim to a fake job: Step 1 – Never pay any fees for a job application, visa processing or training. Genuine employers in Dubai do not ask applicants for money upfront. All legitimate job expenses are handled by the employer.

Step 2 – Verify the company's contact details by visiting its official website or calling its main office directly. Do not trust numbers or emails provided in suspicious messages.

Step 3 – Be cautious if communication is only through WhatsApp, Telegram or free email services. Professional companies use official channels.

Step 4 – Trust your instincts. If something feels suspicious, double-check before sharing personal documents or details.

If you suspect a job offer is fake or you have been asked for money by a so-called recruiter:

Collect evidence such as screenshots of messages, emails, offer letters and payment requests. Report the scam promptly to Dubai Police's eCrime Division through eCrime.ae.

Do not reply further to the scammer or send any money. You can also report scams through the Dubai Police app by accessing the eCrime section.

How to verify a job offer? If you are offered a job in the UAE, you must obtain an offer letter issued by the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE). Prospective employees can verify the offer's validity at the UAE embassy in their home country.

The offer letter number can also be used to check the employer's validity on the MOHRE website: inquiry.mohre.gov.ae. How to check if the company is legitimate ? You can confirm whether a company is registered and licensed by searching its English or Arabic name in the National Economic Register (NER).

The NER is a federal platform that provides instant, accurate and comprehensive data on economic licences in the UAE. Steps to check:

Go to the NER platform. Select the option "Inquiry about economic licences". Enter the company name and select the emirate.

Click Search to see if the company has an active trade licence. How to verify a UAE entry permit

If you receive an entry permit or visa, always check its validity before proceeding.

Dubai-issued entry permit/visa: Verify through the GDRFA website (gdrfad.gov.ae/en). Click on Visa Status on the homepage, then enter your file number, nationality, date of birth, and first name.

Entry permits/visas from Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah, or Fujairah: Use the UAE's ICP Smart Services platform (smartservices.icp.gov.ae). Go to Public Services, click on File Validity, then enter your passport or file number and nationality.

Working on UAE National Day, what are my rights?

I am working in the UAE private sector. I have been asked to work on the National Day. What are my rights and privileges for working on a holiday?

In the UAE, private sector employees will get a two day break for National Day – from Wednesday, Dec 2 to Thursday, Dec 3, 2026. Under UAE labour law, employees who are required to work on a public holiday are entitled to either a substitute day off or additional pay.

Under Federal Decree-Law No. 33 of 2021, which governs private-sector employment relationships in the UAE, employees are entitled to paid leave on officially declared public holidays. However, if work conditions require an employee to work during a public holiday, Article 28 requires the employer to provide compensation.

This applies to employees who work on official holidays, including those whose regular shift schedules fall on those dates. What compensation are you entitled to? Under Article 28, employers must provide one of two forms of compensation:

1. A compensatory day off - Employees must receive a substitute rest day for each official public holiday they are required to work. This compensatory day is separate from their regular annual leave entitlement.

2. Additional holiday pay -- Alternatively, employees must receive their normal wage for the day worked, plus an additional amount equivalent to at least 50pc of their basic daily wage.

This is the minimum compensation required under the law. Employment contracts may provide more generous benefits. Can your employer decide between extra pay and a day off? Yes, the employer determines which of the two compensation methods will apply. However, whichever option is selected must meet the minimum requirements established under Article 28.

Employees should seek written confirmation of the arrangement, particularly if the employer plans to provide a substitute day off. What if your regular shift falls on a public holiday? Employees working shifts are also covered by the same legal protections. If a scheduled shift falls on an officially declared public holiday, the employee remains entitled to compensation. This means employers must provide either a substitute day off or the legally required additional pay.



What should employees do if asked to work? If you are scheduled to work during the upcoming public holiday, it is advisable to confirm the compensation arrangement with your employer beforehand. Employees can request confirmation through email or WhatsApp, specifying whether they will receive additional pay or a compensatory day off.

It is also recommended to retain attendance records, shift schedules or other evidence showing that work was performed during the holiday. Such documentation may be useful if a disagreement arises over holiday compensation.

OMAN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATED IN MUMBAI



The National Day of the Sultanate of Oman was celebrated on Nov 23 in Mumbai. Consul General of Oman in Mumbai His Excellency Mahboob Issa Al Raisi with FlyCreative CMD VS Abdulkareem and other dignitaries at the function

GLIMPSES OMAN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS IN MUMBAI

















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