



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025 • VOL. NO. 2 • Issue No. 27 • DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 7 PAGES

Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain need foreign workers ; India is answer

NEW DELHI: Rising labour shortages across Europe, Japan, Gulf and other countries are driving demand for skilled Indian workers, with countries including Italy, Spain, Austria, Greece, Germany and the UAE actively looking to expand recruitment. In response, the Global Access to Talent from India (GATI) Foundation was launched in New Delhi.

The initiative, backed by The Convergence Foundation, Manish Sabharwal (Vice Chairman at TeamLease Services) and the Godrej Foundation, was introduced in the presence of External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar



Union Minister for External Affairs Dr Jaishankar speaking at the GATI Foundation function in New Delhi.

and Minister of State for Skill Development Jayant Chaudhary. The event was attended by foreign ambassadors, government officials, business leaders and representatives from around 34 million people of Indian origin currently live and work abroad.

Dr Jaishankar said India was preparing to meet the rising international demand for

skilled and semi-skilled workers. “There is a demand in the world and availability in India,” he said. Speaking about migration trends, Jaishankar pointed out that around 34 million people of Indian origin currently live and work abroad. “Given current global trends, the potential to expand this footprint

even in the near term is very real,” he said.

Jaishankar highlights India’s expanding engagement in Arctic region. He outlined recent discussions with other countries to create more legal migration pathways. “Just yesterday, the Japanese ambassador and I discussed an action plan to create a predictable and concrete flow of Indian talent into Japan under our Special Skilled Workers agreement,” said Jaishankar.

He added that Germany, during Chancellor Scholz’s visit in Oct 2024, expressed interest in increasing Indian employment in critical sectors. Countries such as

Italy, Spain, Austria and Greece are also seeking Indian workers across different industries, he said. Government plans and existing agreements India has signed migration and mobility partnerships or specialised worker agreements with 52 countries. Jaishankar mentioned ongoing worker movements to the UAE, Mauritius and Malaysia, as well as Singapore’s growing intake of Indian professionals.

However, he warned that matching workers to opportunities required better co-ordination. “Legal pathways must be promoted and irregular migration must be discouraged firmly,” he said.

India to amend Emigration Act to meet demands of global workplace: Jaishankar

NEW DELHI: The Emigration Act was “designed to address demands of a particular geography in a certain era” but “times have changed and our vistas have

expanded”, Minister of External Affairs Dr Jaishankar said. India is looking to amend the Emigration Act of 1983 as part of efforts to meet the demands

of the global workplace and to promote legal mobility while discouraging non-legal migration, Jaishankar said. The government has launched a range of skill training, vocational education and professional preparation efforts to make Indian workers more productive in the contemporary era, Jaishankar said at an event to mark the launch of the Global Access to Talent from India (GATI) Foundation. Noting that India has not developed or leveraged its human resources to the extent it could have in the past, Jaishankar said: “Conceptually, it is vital that we promote le-

Snub to Pakistan : Qatar Amir backs India’s fight against terror

NEW DELHI: Qatar has expressed its full support to India’s fight against terrorism and all its actions to bring the perpetrators of Pahalgam terrorist attack to justice. During a phone call with PM Narendra Modi, Amir of Qatar HH Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, conveyed his condolences and solidarity with India. External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal



said: “In a telephonic conversation with PM Narendra Modi, the Amir of the State of Qatar, HH Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani conveyed condolences and solidarity with the people of

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OPERATION SINDOOR

All is fair in love and war. And the expected has taken place. It was in the air that India would strike at the root of terror within the Pakistani territory. The defence ministry was clear in drawing a link between Pahalgam attack and the Indian retaliation. “Operation Sindoor” (meaning the red vermilion worn by married Hindu women, an apparent reference to the widows created by the April 22 attack in Indian-administered Kashmir that killed 26 males), meticulously planned and well-calibrated over 12 days by the Indian armed forces, under the political leadership of Prime Minister Modi, went off well and India can rightfully claim that only terror targets were attacked—no Pak defence installations or civilian centres were touched.

India launched Operation Sindoor on Wednesday early morning hitting nine terrorist sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir. Pakistan claimed three civilians were killed but it can be much more.

Missiles were used in these precision strikes on terror infrastructure. Pakistan’s army accepted that nine locations had been targeted. These include Markaz Subhan Allah at Bahawalpur, Sarjal at Tehra Kalan, Markaz Abbas in Kotli and Syedna Bilal camp in Muzaffarabad (all of the banned Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group). Markaz Taiba at Murdike, Markaz Ahle Hadith at Barnala and Shwawai Nalla camp at Muzaffarabad (all of banned Lashkar-e-Taiba) and Makaz Raheel Shahid in Kotli and Mehmoona Joya in Sialkot (camps and training centres of banned Hizbul Mujahideen) were targeted.

“Our actions have been focused, measured and non-escalatory in nature. No Pakistani military facilities have been targeted. India has demonstrated considerable restraint in selection of targets and method of execution,” the defence ministry statement stated. “These steps come in the wake of the barbaric Pahalgam terrorist attack in which 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen were murdered. We are living up to the commitment that those responsible for this attack will be held accountable,” the ministry’s statement said.

It may be recalled that on April 25, the United Nations Security Council issued a press statement regarding the Pahalgam terrorist attack, emphasising the need to hold the perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of this heinous act accountable and bring them to justice. One should view India’s action in this context. Col. Qureshi, the army spokesperson has also confirmed that no Pakistan army installation was targeted. “No military installation was targeted, and till now there are no reports of civilian casualties in Pakistan,” Col Qureshi pointed out.

Though Pak leaders are putting up a brave face and indicating nuclear intervention, the fact is that the country is passing through an economic crisis. There is shortage of everything in Pakistan and the only country which has supported Pakistan is China, which itself is in a deep economic setback after the imposition of tariff by the US.

According to latest reports from Pakistan, at least 10 family members of JeM chief Masood Azhar were killed in Bahawalpur. Among the deceased were Masood’s elder sister and brother-in-law. Reports also claimed that the JeM chief’s four close aides were also killed in the precision strikes. Also killed were some 70 terrorists belonging to various groups. At least now, Pakistan will realise the folly of supporting and grooming terrorists to work against India.

LIPSYNCH

“The curse of mankind is that we suffer from too much consciousness.” —Friedrich Nietzsche

India to amend Emigration Act to meet demands of global workplace: Jaishankar

(Cont. from page-1) gal mobility and strongly discourage, I would argue even prohibit, non-legal ones.” The challenge of the black economy has to be faced in the context of talent flow, societal good and national security. The Emigration Act of 1983 was “designed to address the demands of a particular geography in a certain era” but the “times have changed and our vistas have expanded”, he said.

“We need to be more promotional and aware of new possibilities, even while taking care of the vulnerable. This issue is currently being examined by the government,” Jaishankar added. At the same time, the government has taken a range of steps to give Indian citizens the “confidence to fully explore the global workplace”, such as the ability to carry out evacuation operations, and measures to back up nationals in difficult situa-

tions such as the replacement passports, payment of wages or preventing mistreatment by foreign employers, or ensuring the rights of Indians abroad.

“From establishing an effective grievance portal to creating a responsive fund for the needs of the vulnerable, we have sought to institutionalise...taking care of Indians abroad,” he said.

In recent years, India has signed migration and mobility agreements

with 22 countries, from Germany to Malaysia, to open up new avenues for both professionals and blue collar workers. These agreements also address the issue of illegal migration. Jaishankar said there are currently about 34 million Indians and people of Indian origin living and working abroad, and about half of them are Indian citizens. About a third are located in West Asia and the rest are spread across mostly developed economies.

India-UK free trade pact slashes tariffs, opens up markets

NEW DELHI: Britain and India have struck a landmark free trade agreement, slashing tariffs and expanding market access, spurred by the global tariff upheaval unleashed by US President Donald Trump — who claimed that India had now agreed to drop tariffs on US imports to

“nothing.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the India-UK pact as “ambitious and mutually beneficial” and called it a turning point in the two countries’ strategic partnership. Among India’s notable wins was a long-standing demand: Indian

(Cont. on page-7)

Two Goan origins elected to Australian parliament

CANBERRA: In a moment of immense pride for the Goan community worldwide, two individuals of Goan origin—Leon Rebello and Zaneta Mascarenhas—have secured seats in the recently concluded Australian federal elections, marking a

Snub to Pakistan : Qatar Amir backs India’s fight against terror

(Cont. from page-1) India at the loss of lives in the cross-border terror attack in Pahalgam. He expressed full support in India’s fight against terrorism and all its actions to bring the perpetrators to justice.”

Jaiswal said that PM Modi thanked the Amir for his clear message of support and solidarity. Both leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the India-Qatar Strategic Partnership and implementing the decisions taken during the Amir’s state visit earlier this year.

significant representation of Goan heritage on the global political stage.

Leon Rebello, a 30-year-old lawyer, made history by becoming the youngest Liberal National Party MP in the Australian Parliament. He will represent the southern Gold

Coast seat of McPherson. Leon is a first-generation Australian whose parents hail from Verna in Salcete, Goa.

Speaking to the media after his victory, Leon expressed his pride in his cultural roots: “I have Goan culture flowing through my veins.” He attributed much of his personal and professional values to his upbringing shaped by Goan identity. “Goan culture has helped shape my values. It’s a culture that emphasises family, hard work, and community—ideals that align perfectly with Australian values,” he added.

Meanwhile, Zaneta Mascarenhas, a sitting Labour Party MP, retained her seat from Swan, continuing her tenure in Australian politics. Her re-election further cements the contribution of the Goan diaspora in Australia’s political and civic life.

India has strongly criticised the Organisation of Islamic Co-operation (OIC) for its refusal to acknowledge the cross-border linkages to the recent terror attack in Pahalgam. The MEA slammed the OIC’s remarks as “absurd” and accused the organisation of acting at Pakistan’s behest.

“The OIC statement, issued at the behest of Pakistan, is absurd in refusing to recognise the facts of the Pahalgam terrorist attack and its cross-border linkages,” MEA spokesperson said.

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FOREX RATES
As on 8 May 2025 (In rupees)

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	84.35	85.45
British Pound	112.04	113.64
Euro	94.86	96.86
Japanese Yen	58.43	59.35
Swiss Franc (CHF)	101.56	103.75
Canadian Dollar	60.57	61.93
Australian Dollar	53.91	55.11
Norwegian Krone	8.02	8.25
Swedish Krona	8.61	8.86
New Zealand Dollar	49.78	50.87
Hong Kong Dollar	10.71	11.04
Kuwaiti Dinar	284.33	272.6
Singapore Dollar	64.66	66.13
Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.2	22.9
United Arab Emirates	22.72	23.37

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ADVISORY REGARDING RELEASE OF ADVERTISEMENT AND CONDUCT OF INTERVIEWS FOR OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT

As you are aware, only Registered Recruiting Agents (RAs) and Foreign Employers (FEs) registered under Section 10 of the Emigration Act, 1983 are authorized to engage in the business of recruitment for overseas employment.

Only such registered entities holding a valid Registration Certificate (RC) or permit are permitted to release advertisements and conduct interviews for overseas placements, strictly at their registered premises OR at any other location for which prior permission has been obtained through the eMigrate portal.

However, it has been observed that several RAs are publishing advertisements across various platforms without mentioning their Registered office Name, RC Number, and Interview Permission Number, which is a serious violation of the prescribed norms.

In Order No. Z-11025/11/2015 O/o SO (ES) dated 13th December 2016, it is clearly stated that RAs must obtain online permission for conducting interviews for ECR category workers through the eMigrate portal at least three (3) days prior to the interview date.

All recruitment agents are therefore strictly advised to comply with the above instructions issued by the Office of the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), New Delhi, regarding the release of advertisements and the conduct of interviews. Failure to comply will result in stern action by the concerned jurisdictional POEs.

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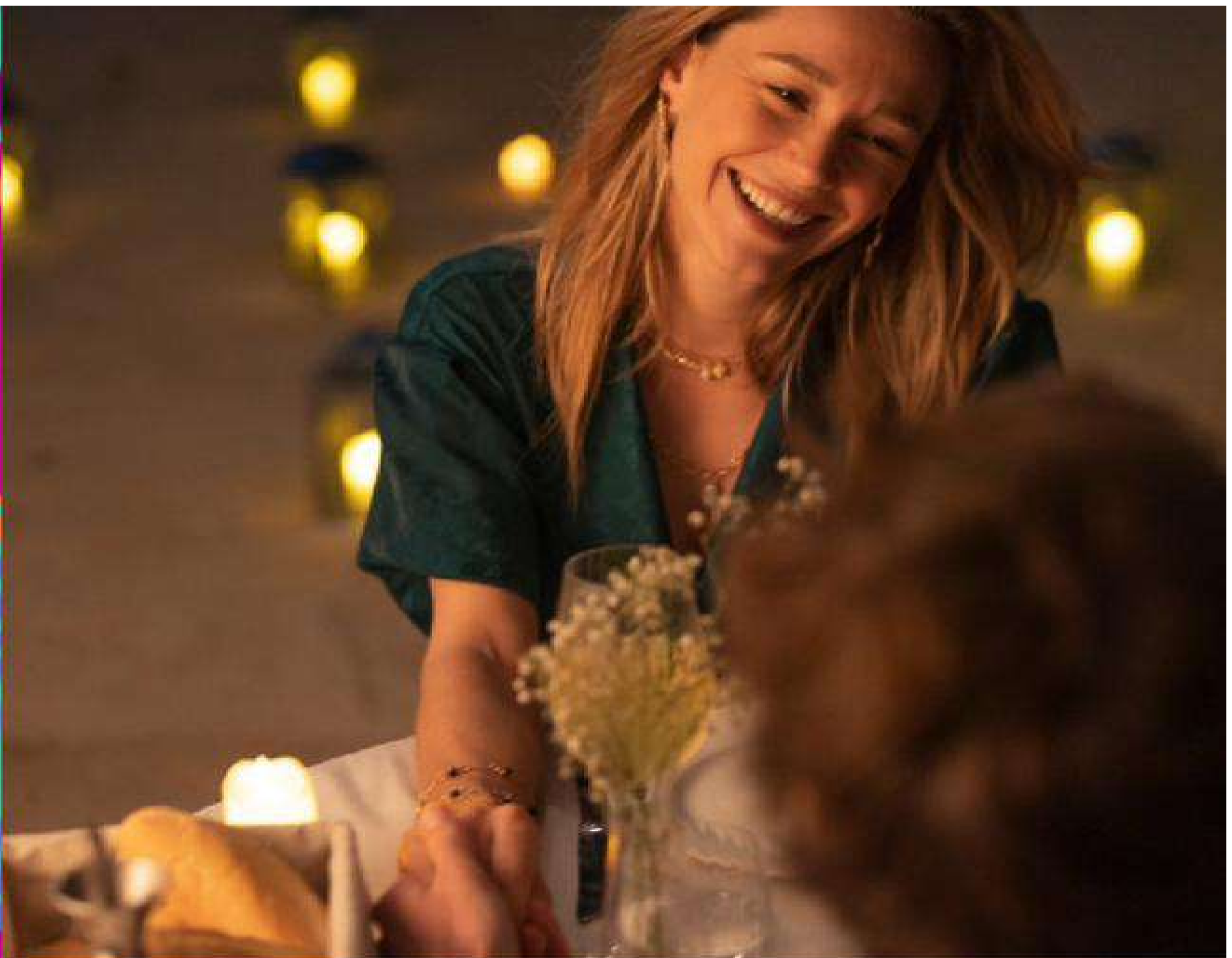
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Telangana : Telangana is the link between the North and South of India.

Andhra Pradesh : Andhra Pradesh is famous for its rich cultural heritage, stunning temples, and picturesque landscapes

Karnataka : Karnataka is famous for temples, majestic architecture, and princely vibe.



GULF FAQs

Buying Indian health insurance can mean big savings—if you navigate the fine print

I am an NRI based in Dubai. Is buying Indian insurance really beneficial?

For NRIs living in the UAE, buying health insurance in India might sound counterintuitive—especially if you're already covered where you live. But if you're earning taxable income in India or plan to return home eventually, a policy purchased back home could unlock tax breaks and cost advantages that are too good to ignore.

"Many NRIs don't realise that premia paid for Indian health insurance are tax-deductible under Section 80D of the Income Tax Act," says Brijesh Meti, a Dubai-based financial consultant. That's up to Rs 25,000 (Dh1,237) per

year for yourself, your spouse and children—and Rs 50,000 (Dh2,474) if you're over 60.

Plus, premia in India are far cheaper than in the UAE or elsewhere. For example, a family of four can get Rs 2 million (Dh98,967) in cover for just Rs 70,000–80,000 (Dh3,463–3,958) per year. And here's the kicker: NRIs can save on the 18pc GST typically charged on premia by submitting a declaration form to the insurer. If GST was already paid, a refund can be claimed.

But before you rush to buy, know this: most Indian health policies only cover treatment in India. "If you get hospitalised in Dubai, your Indian plan typically won't pay out," warns Masher Su-



leiman, a tax planning specialist in Abu Dhabi. Some insurers offer "global cover," but many limit this to emergencies or planned procedures—and usually at a higher premium with heavy co-payments.

Who can buy ?

There are restrictions for NRIs from FATF-blacklisted countries—and some policies require you to be in India at least six months

a year to remain eligible. So it's crucial to read the fine print or consult an advisor before committing.

Another watch-out? Pre-existing conditions and newborns often come with a waiting period of one to four years. So if you're planning a return to India—or even a short move—it's wise to buy a policy now and get through the waiting phase early.

Even if you're just visiting for a week, don't skip medical insurance. "You can now get tailored travel medical plans for as low as Rs 1,600 (Dh79) with coverage up to Rs 2 million," says Meti. "But be sure to check for co-payment clauses."

If you're planning to return to India within a few years, or if you earn taxable income in India, buying health insurance there makes sense—not just for the tax breaks, but for peace of mind. Just be sure to match your policy to your lifestyle and plans. If your stay abroad is long-term? Keep your Indian policy only if it's already active—and for trips home, supplement it with travel insurance.

Is it legal to co-own property with my friend?

I wish to purchase property in Dubai with my friend. Is co-ownership legal in Dubai? Could you explain how it works?

A unit jointly owned by two or more persons may not be subdivided amongst them unless that subdivision is permitted under the Master Community Declaration; the Dubai Land Department (DLD) approval is obtained and the necessary licences are granted by the competent authority. This is under Article 13 of the Law No. (6) of 2019 Concerning Ownership of Jointly Owned Real Property in the Emirate of Dubai.

"A Unit jointly owned by two or more persons may not be subdivided amongst them unless that subdivision is permitted under the Master Community Declara-



tion; the DLD approval is obtained; and the necessary licences are granted by the Competent Authority."

Article 14 of Jointly Owned Property grants co-owners a pre-emption right to purchase another co-owner's share if it is offered for sale to a third party / non-owner. This right is proportional to each co-owner's existing share.

A co-owner of a unit shall have a pre-emption

right to purchase another co-owner's share in the unit if that share is offered for sale or disposition to a non-owner. Where more than one co-owner exercises this right, each of them shall be entitled to purchase a share proportional to his existing share in the unit.

The pre-emption right prescribed under paragraph (a) of this Article shall not be established in case of sale or dispo-

sition of the co-owner's share to any ascendants, descendants, spouse, relatives up to the fourth degree or in-laws up to the second degree. Furthermore, Article 15 of the Jointly Owned Property outlines the procedures for exercising this pre-emption right, including notification requirements and timelines.

When a co-owned property is subdivided, the DLD's registration fee must be paid by the co-owners in proportion to their ownership shares prior to the subdivision, unless they agree otherwise. This is as per Article 3 (4) of the Executive Council Resolution No. (30) of 2013 Approving Fees of the Land Department, "The fees for registering the subdivision of co-owned Real Property shall be paid by the co-owners in

proportion to their respective shares prior to the subdivision".

While co-ownership of property in Dubai is legally permissible under the applicable laws, you and your friend may familiarise yourselves with the legal requirements and implications, particularly concerning subdivision rights, pre-emption provisions and registration fees. It may also be prudent for co-owners to enter into a written co-ownership agreement that clearly sets out each party's ownership percentage, financial obligations and rights relating to the property, that clearly outlines each party's ownership percentage (as recorded in the title deed), as well as their respective responsibilities, rights, and procedures for future sale or dispute resolution.

Exports surge to record \$ 825b in FY25

NEW DELHI: India's exports of goods and services hit an all-time high of \$825 billion in 2024-25, driven by a record surge in the shipments of services that reached \$386.5 billion in the last fiscal despite global trade headwinds, according to commerce ministry data.

Following the release of March services exports data by RBI, the country's overall exports for 2024-25 have been revised to \$824.9 billion from the earlier estimate of \$ 820.93 billion, announced on April 15. Total exports were worth \$778.13 billion in 2023-24. The data showed that services exports jumped to a record high of \$387.5 billion in 2024-25, registering a robust 13.6pc growth over \$341.1 billion in 2023-24. In March, services shipments rose by 18.6pc to \$35.6 billion compared with \$30 billion in March 2024.

According to the latest release, India's total exports touched a

historic \$824.9 billion in 2024-25, growing by 6.01pc over the previous year's \$778.1 billion," an official release stated. Commenting on the data, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) SC Ralhan said the data shows the resilience of exporters. However, he said that "as of today, the inflow of orders is not goods from the US and Europe. The US importers are waiting for the trade agreement and this can affect our exports, he said adding the government should immediately announce an interest subvention scheme for exporters.

Japan's Sumitomo may take over Yes Bank

MUMBAI: Japanese financial conglomerate Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) is back in the fray to acquire a controlling stake in Yes Bank. State Bank of India (SBI) has reopened talks with SMBC to pick up a controlling stake in the Mumbai headquartered lender.

While talks first started in 2024, this time, the deal terms have undergone some changes. SBI, which holds a 23.97pc stake in Yes Bank, is likely to sell up to 20pc of its holding to SMBC. The Japanese major is also expected to infuse fresh capital of seven per cent. Upon



Akasa Air adds 28th aircraft to its fleet

MUMBAI: India's youngest airline Akasa Air is continuing its expansion plan as it added the 28th aircraft to its fleet. The Boeing 737 MAX aircraft joined its fleet at Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport.

Akasa Air announced the arrival of its 28th aircraft within 32 months of commencing operations. The first leg of the delivery flight commenced from USA's Seattle to Keflavik in Iceland and concluded with the final leg from Kuwait to Bengaluru. Bearing registration number VT-YBE, the Boeing 737 MAX 8-200 aircraft arrived at Kem-

pegowda International Airport.

Since commencing operations in Aug 2022, Akasa has pursued a disciplined growth strategy focused on building scale with reliability, efficiency and service excellence. The latest addition to the fleet aligns with the airline's strategic roadmap to develop a comprehensive air network in India and globally.

With 28 aircraft al-

ready in its fleet and 198 more set to join over the next seven years, Akasa Air is building one of the youngest and most efficient fleets.

The 737 MAX fleet supports the airline's long-term growth plans while delivering 20pc better fuel efficiency and a 40pc smaller noise footprint, underscoring the airline's commitment to sustainability and operational excellence.

India-UK free trade pact slashes...

(Cont. from page-2) professionals on short-term assignments in the UK will now be exempt from paying national insurance contributions, easing the financial burden on both workers and employers.

"In a historic milestone, India and the UK have successfully concluded an ambitious and mutually beneficial Free Trade Agreement," Modi said in a post on X. The agreement, which will give 99pc of Indian exports duty-free access to UK markets and benefit especially labour-intensive sectors, will "help catalyse trade, investment, growth, job creation, and innovation in both our economies," Modi said.

After three years of negotiations and four Brit-

ish prime ministers, the agreement is expected to boost bilateral trade by JY25.5 billion (Rs 2.68-lakh-crore or \$34 billion) by 2040.

Modi's counterpart British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said the agreement — which will reduce 90pc of Indian tariffs on UK exports — "will grow the economy and deliver for British people and business." Within a decade, 85pc of the items listed in the agreement will be tariff-free. "We are now in a new era for trade and the economy," Starmer said.

The tariff turmoil unleashed by Trump jolted India and Britain in Feb into fast-tracking talks on their own pact. For India, the treaty —

opening up sectors like automotive and spirits — could act as a roadmap for trade deals that India is negotiating with the US, the EU and other countries. The provisions of the agreement serve as a signal that the Modi government is willing to open up areas of the economy long shielded from foreign competition.

India, for its part, will gain 99pc duty-free access for its exports to the UK, particularly boosting labour-intensive sectors such as textiles and food products. The treaty also opens access in areas long protected from foreign competition, including spirits and automotive products, and could act as a roadmap for ongoing Indian trade negotiations.

fund infusion, SMBC may make an open offer to take its stake to 51pc. SBI is likely to tender its remaining shareholding through the open offer.

Other Yes Bank investors Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank, which collectively hold a 7.36pc stake and private equity majors Advent International and Carlyle, who have a 9.2pc and 6.84pc holdings, respectively, are also expected to exit.

Life Insurance Corporation of India holds a 3.98pc stake in Yes Bank. "This is the struc-

ture that has been presented to SMBC," said a banker aware of the matter, adding the Japanese company's response was awaited.

Some assurances have been extended to SMBC to ensure that the deal sails through smoothly, especially with respect to voting rights and controlling majority. Deal talks with Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG), another Japanese player, and SMBC did not fructify last year, as both financial majors were seeking dispensation on voting right limits.

Border tension: 27 airports closed

NEW DELHI: A total of 27 airports across northern, western and central India have been closed for commercial operations until 5:29 am on Saturday, May 10.

The airport closures have led to massive disruption in air traffic, with Indian carriers cancelling 430 flights on Thursday—about three per cent of the country's total scheduled flights. Airlines in Pakistan cancelled over 147 flights,

which amounted to 17pc of their daily schedules.

Flightradar24, a global flight tracking platform, indicated that the airspace over Pakistan and the western corridor of India—from Kashmir to Gujarat—was largely free of civilian aircraft on Thursday. Airspace over Pakistan and the western shoulder of India between Kashmir and Gujarat was free of civilian air traffic as airlines shunned the sensitive zone.