

OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT



PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Indo-Arab Society felicitates Hon'ble Minister Shri Adv Ashish Shelar



Maharashtra, Shri Adv. Ashish Shelar was felicitated by INDO-ARAB Society at Islam Gymkhana, Marine Drive in the esteemed presence of walks of life, Industry efforts in promoting Technology and Cultural technological Developments.

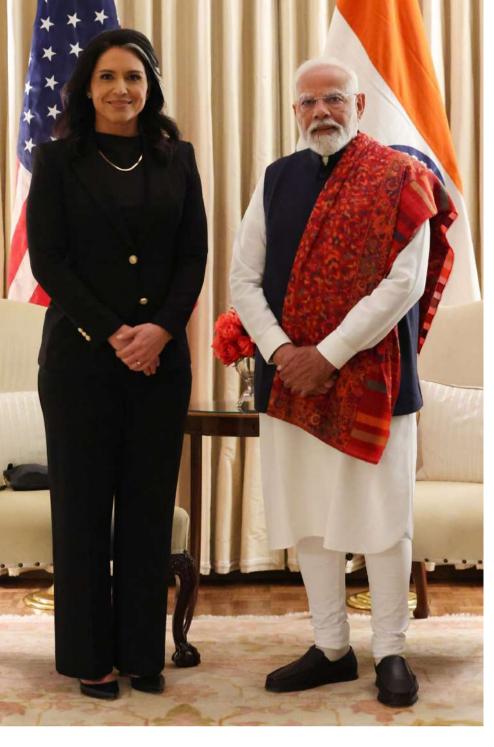
INDO-ARAB Society President Dr. Mohammad Ali Patankar in his felicitating speech, commended that Shri Ashish Shelar's commitment to

he Hon'ble Minis- integrity and harmony ter for Information reflects a leadership qualand Technology & ity that fosters inclusiv-Culture, Government of ity and unity among diverse communities. His secular approach, combined with his efforts in technology and cultural developments, makes a strong impact on society. dignitaries from various In his reply speech, Shri Shelar emphasised that leaders, diplomats and the significant global members of Indo-Arab collaboration and Inter-Society to celebrate and national networking and honour his remarkable tie-ups can open doors for cultural exchanges, advancements and economic growth. With the innovative inventions of AI can transform the world, so as to take advantages and multicore benefits.

A strong and prom-

ising Vision of Shri Shelar was praised by His Excellency Mr. KE-MALETTIN ERUYGUR, the Consul General of the Republic of Turkey, with International Networking and Policy advancements, such initia-

(Cont. on page-6)



Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Director of National Intelligence of US Tulsi Gabbard in Washington.

TAJ GROUP TO HAVE 17 HOTELS IN MUMBAI Stone laid for Tai Bandstand Hotel



Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis along with Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran performed the Bhoomi Pujan for the Ratan Tata's dream project Taj Bandstand luxury hotel in Bandra, Mumbai.

tels Company (IHCL) unveiled Taj Bandstand at the same location where once stood the iconic Sea Rock Hotel. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis laid the foundation stone for this Rs 2500 crore ho-

late industrialist Ratan Tata.

Sea Rock Hotel located on the extreme end of Bandra Bandstand was the hub of glamorous cinema parties and serious

MUMBAI: Indian Ho- tel, which is considered to corporate meetings from be a dream project of the the 1970s to the early 1990s until the hotel was permanently closed following a bomb blast. The property was subsequently bought by IHCL with a plan to build a Taj Hotel (Cont. on page-2)

ADVISORY TO OVERSEAS JOB **ASPIRANTS FROM POEs**

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Trump's tariff war

ollowing the Trump administration's decision to impose an additional 25pc tariff on all steel and aluminium imports —, coming from all countries — Moody's Ratings said Indian steel producers will face increased challenges in exporting their products.

Mexico and Canada, the top two US trading partners, immediately vowed retaliatory tariffs while China said it would challenge Trump's move at the World Trade Organisation and take other "countermeasures".

As per the think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) data, since the trade war began in 2018, US steel and aluminium imports have continued to rise. Primary steel imports increased to \$33 billion in 2024 from \$31.1 billion in 2018. The largest suppliers in 2024 were Canada (\$7.7 billion), Brazil (\$5 billion) and Mexico (\$3.3 billion). Imports from China and

lion, respectively. Indian steel producers will face in the steel producers will be steel producers will face in the steel producers will be tion in global market. No wonder, the Indian stock market crashed.

The latest move could lead to new trade disputes and retaliatory measures from affected countries, particularly from China. Moody's said it expects the tariffs will benefit steel producers in the US by increasing demand for domestic steel and raising their selling prices.

Earlier in 2018 under the first Presidency of Trump, Washington had imposed an additional 25pc import duty on steel products and 10pc on certain aluminium products. In retaliation, India in June 2019, had imposed additional customs duties on 28 American products. On July 3, 2023, the US removed tariffs on steel and aluminium imports from India. GTRI in its report said the decision was part of a broader trade resolution announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington. Modi's personal rapport with Trump helped to cool down the situation at that time. But India committed to open its market further to US goods.

The US tariffs on steel will increase competition and exacerbate oversupply at other steel producing markets. This situation will not be favourable to India at all.

"As Trump considers reviving his aggressive trade policies, the world will be watching closely. If history repeats itself, the US steel and aluminium industries may benefit in the short term, but global trade frictions could intensify, with lasting economic consequences," said an expert.

Currently, the US imports about 70pc of its aluminium supply, with about 60pc coming from Canada tariff-free. The top exporters of aluminium to the US in 2024 included Canada, with more than 3.15 million tonnes, the UAE (347,033 tonnes) and China (222,871 tonnes). South Korea and Bahrain rounded off the top five aluminium exporters to the US last year. The US also imports aluminium from Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Historically, the tariff war or sanctions have not worked against India. It may be recalled that President Bill Clinton imposed tough sanctions on Vajpayee government, cutting off all bilateral economic aid and loans by American banks to companies in India following the Pokhran-II nuclear explosions. But the sanctions against India failed miserably as India could open up trade routes with other friendly countries. Finally, Clinton withdrew the sanctions without any pre-conditions. That's was India's last laugh at US sanctions!

LIPSYNCH

"A last laugh is the best laugh". John Heywood

Unified Pension Scheme from April

NEW DELHI: The Uni-Pension Scheme fied (UPS) for central government employees will come

and the National Pension System (NPS). Under this scheme, employees will receive a fixed pen-

sion after retirement, ensuring theirfinancial well-being. It applicable is employees who are covered under the

NPS and have opted for UPS.

Unified Pension Scheme offers several key advantages to the Central government employees:

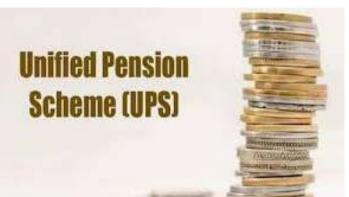
*Guaranteed pension: Under UPS, central govt employees will receive 50pcof their average salary from the last 12 months before retirement. To be eligible for this scheme, an employee must have served for at least 25 years.

*Proportional Pension: Employees who have served for more than 10 years but less than 25 years will receive a pension on a proportional basis.

*Minimum Pension: The new pension scheme guarantees a minimum pension of Rs 10,000 per month for employees retiring after at least 10 years of service.

*Family Pension: In case of an employee's demise, 60pc of the pension amount will be provided to their family as a family pension.

*Financial Security: This scheme ensures that employees remain financially secure after retirement.



2025. The objective of this scheme is to provide financial security to employees after retirement. This decision brings significant relief to central employees, government helping them maintain financial stability post-retirement.

into effect from April 1,

This scheme combines the benefits of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS)

Stone laid for Taj Bandstand...

(Cont. from page-1) at the place.

IHCL organised the Bhoomi Pujan ceremony of Taj Bandstand a luxurious project spread over two acres that will house 330 rooms and 85 apartments with multiple dining options, convention centres and other worldclass facilities. The project will also include development and maintenance surrounding areas with landscaped gardens, sporting and recreation activities as well as entertainment options paying tribute to the city's diverse and rich cultural heritage. During the Bhumi Pujan ceremony, Fadnavis appreciated the project calling it a monument of the 21st century. "The planning and design of Taj Bandstand will change the skyline of Mumbai. Mumbai has become the convention capital of India.

Just like the Taj Palace Hotel in Colaba is the monument of the 20th century, Taj Bandstand will be the monument of the 21st century."The foundation stone laying ceremony was also attended by Ashish Shelar, Minister for Information Technology of Maharashtra and MD Puneet Chhatwal, managing director of IHCL

and N Chandrasekaran, chairman of Tata Sons, the holding company of the Taj business empire.

Chandrasekaran said that Taj Bandstand was the dream project of the former chairman of the group and late industrialist Ratan Tata. "This project is very special begoing to be another symbol for Mumbai. Tata was very keen about Taj Bandstand and used to ask about the progress of this project. We are glad that the final look in-

corporates his comments and wherever he is today, he will be cherishing this day."IHCL has received key pre-construction approvals including intimation of disapproval (IOD) and provisional Fire no-objection certificate (NOC).

The construction cause it has seen its own expected to commence ups and downs. Now, it is soon and will be completed over the next four years, announced Chhatwal. With the addition of this hotel, IHCL will have 17 hotels in Mumbai including five under development projects.



India's Ambassador to Kuwait Dr Adarsh Swaika called on HE Tareq Sulaiman Ahmad Al-Roumi, Kuwait's oil minister. Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral co-operation in the entire value chain of hydrocarbon sector between India and Kuwait.

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Project Engineers - 5 yrs exp	Instrument Surpervisors - 4 yrs exp
Fabrication Engineers - 5 yrs exp	Rigger Supervisors - 5 yrs exp
PTW Coordinators - 5 yrs exp	Painting foremen - 5 yrs exp
Lifting Coordinators - 5 yrs exp	HSE Supervisors - 5 yrs exp
Project Coordinators - 5 yrs exp	HSE Officers - 5 yrs exp
QC (Mechanical) - 3 yrs exp	Material Management Officers - 3 yrs exp
QC (Piping) - 3 yrs exp	Base operative labors - 3 yrs exp
QC (Eletrical) - 3 yrs exp	Document Controllers - 3 yrs exp
QC (Structure) - 3 yrs exp	Approved Riggers - 3 yrs exp
QC (Pipeline) - 3 yrs exp	Instrument Technicians - 3 yrs exp
QC (Coating) - 3 yrs exp	Generator Operators - 3 yrs exp
Mechanical Surpervisors - 5 yrs exp	Compressor Operators - 3 yrs exp
Piping Surpervisors - 5 yrs exp	Welders for 6GR+6G+Argon - 5 yrs exp
Fitter Surpervisors - 5 yrs exp	Welders for 6GR+6G+CO2 - 5 yrs exp
Coating Inspectors - 5 yrs exp	Chargehands (Welding) - 5 yrs exp
Coating Supervisors - 5 yrs exp	Fire watchers - 3 yrs exp
Welding inspectors - 5 yrs exp	Coating Blasters - 3 yrs exp
Welding Supervisors - 5 yrs exp	Spray Painters - 3 yrs exp
Welding Foremen- 5 yrs exp	Scaffolders - 3 yrs exp

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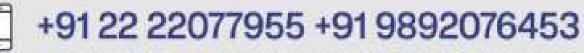
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my credit card details ments." on a website without me?

I recently lost some taining for himself or for institutions may have to money in a banking third parties any funds or compensate their customscam. The bank has properties of others, or to ers in case of any financoncluded that I was utilise the services made cial loss to the customers at fault for losing the available to third parties due to financial crimes. money as I entered by these cards or instru- However, financial insti-

making sure it was le- institutions in the UAE nancial loss arising out gitimate. In cases like are obligated to create of financial crimes if it these, would the bank awareness among their is due to gross negligence be legally obliged to re- customers and the pub- or fraudulent behaviour turn the money I lost? lic related to financial of the customers. This is Can you explain the le-crimes. This is in accordance with Clause gal options available to dance with Clause 6.2.2.6 6.2.2.4 of the Consumer of the Consumer Protec- Protection In the UAE, it is a tion Regulation issued by of Financial Institutions, crime if anyone hacks the Central Bank of UAE which states: "Licensed fie-payment transactions through its Circular No. nancial institutions must applications or websites. 8 of 2020 to all licensed compensate consumers in This may lead to impris- Financial Institutions in a timely manner for finan-



mours and Cybercrimes crime." related to Hacking eforges, clones or copies Protection lion."

its data or information security as required." with the intention of ob-

of fines by an individu- "Licensed financial in- for your financial lossal or group of individ- stitutions must demon- es resulting from a cyuals who have indulged strate they have carried bercrime/scam, provided in such a crime. This is out sufficient consumer that the loss was not due in accordance with Ar- awareness activities relat- to your gross negligence ticle 15 (2) of the Feder- ed to educating consum- or fraudulent behaviour. al Decree Law No. 34 of ers of the need to protect. If you believe that your 2021 on Countering ru- themselves from financial actions did not consti-

Payment Instruments, in accordance with clause turn the money you lost. which states, "Whoever 6.2.2.5 of the Consumer any credit card, debit of Financial Institutions card or any e-payment must maintain up-to-date may then conduct an inor captures its data or security systems and be vestigation into the inciinformation using any prepared to implement dent. of them shall be pun- new cyber security stratished with imprison- egies as needed. This enment and/or a fine of sures they can effectively not less than Dh2 lakh protect against evolving or more than Dh2 mil- threats. "Licensed financial institutions must en-Uses without au- sure their security and further investigation and thorisation any credit, protection systems are up-resolution. electronic or debit card dated and have the capac-

In addition, financial evidence.

tutions are not liable to Furthermore, financial pay compensation for fi-Regulations onment and/or payment the UAE, which states: cial losses and expenses resulting from financial crimes, misappropriation, cyber-attacks and misuse of assets and information unless it can be proven that the loss was due to the gross negligence or fraudulent behaviour of the consumers."

Based on the aforementioned provisions of law, the bank may be obligated to compensate you tute gross negligence, the The financial institution bank may be liable to re-

To pursue this, you may Regulations file a formal complaint with your bank, which

If you already have filed complaint and the bank has concluded the matter, but you are not satisfied, you may approach the Central Bank of UAE for

Additionally, you may or any other e-payment ity to develop and adopt need to report the matter instrument, or any of new approaches to cyber to the police, submitting transaction details and

Indo-Arab society felicitates...



Minister Ashish Shelar speaking at the function



Minister Ashish Shelar with dignitaries.

(Cont. from page-1)

tives can greatly enhance Mr. Manoj Gursaani and technology, tourism and all other office bearers cultural ties. Islam Gym- of Indo Arab Society and khana President Adv: all other dignitaries hon-Yusuf Abrahami, IP- oured Shri Ashish Shelar EPCIL-President & IAS on this August gathering Vice President, Shri VS and presence.

Abdulkareem, Mr. Akib,

New Haj rules released; no children allowed

RIYADH: Priority for the sure necessary. Addition-2025 Haj will be given to ally, priority for the 2025 first-time pilgrims to al- Haj will be given to firstlow more Muslims the op- time pilgrims to allow portunity to undertake more Muslims the opporthis religious obligation tunity to undertake this at least once in their lives religious obligation at

Additionally, Arabia has upgraded its re-entry visas.

Saudi Arabia has introto the 2025 Haj pilgrimby heavy crowds during the number of attendees. the pilgrimage. The decision is part of broader tinue to refine Haj regefforts to ensure a safer ulations to make the piland more seamless Haj experience.

istry, the large crowds through official channels during Haj pose serious and follow the new guiderisks to children, making lines to avoid complicathis precautionary mea-

Saudi least once in their lives.

Starting Feb 1, 2025, regulations for expatri- Saudi Arabia is issuing ates renewing their Iqa- only single-entry visas for ma (residency permits) pilgrims from 14 counand extending exit and tries, including India, to prevent unauthorised Haj participation. Authorities duced significant changes noted that unauthorised pilgrimages have contribage, including a new re- uted to overcrowding at striction banning children key sites, making crowd from participating. The management and safety ministry of Haj and Um- more challenging. The uprah stated the move aims dated visa policy aims to to protect children from improve the overall Haj potential dangers posed experience by controlling

Saudi authorities congrimage safer and more organised. Pilgrims are According to the min-encouraged to register

(Cont. on page-7)

Rising US demand reduces India's gold supply

MUMBAI: Gold leasing have more than doubled months," he said. bled within a month to rise further, Shekhar are flying gold into the a record high, follow- Bhandari, ing the overseas market, president where rates jumped due and to a supply crunch as ness global banks divert the of precious metal to the Mahindra US, industry officials reveal.

Higher leasing rates nel. are driving up jewellery production costs in the geopothe world's second-largest gold consumer and could squeeze margins of jewellers such as Titan, Kalyan Jewellers and Tribhovandas Bhimji Zaveri.

er around 1.5pc to three, vated for the next few

rates in India have dou- in a month and could

head Kotak Bank told a TV chan-

"Given litical uncertainty, trade war and benefit arising out

of higher futures prices on CME compared with Gold leasing rates, spot, it seems leasing which traditionally hov- rates will remain ele-

Global bullion banks spot prices.



US from London, Swit- jewellers. zerland and Asian hubs such as Dubai and Hong Kong to capitalise on the unusually high premium

of US gold futures over off-guard by the leasing

in London, the world's handle it." key overseas banks and lend to

Rising borrowing costs have proportionally increased leasing rates in India.

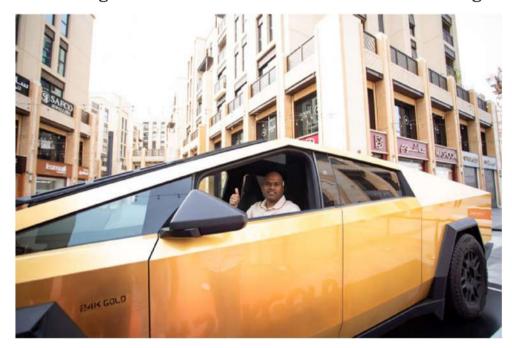
rate shooting up to a re-The rush to move gold cord high," said Amit to the US has Modak, chief executive gold of PN Gadgil and Sons, leasing rates a jeweller. "Now they're clueless about how to

Bullion-supplying the-count- banks were not bring-(OTC) ing gold into India in market. recent weeks since the Banks in im- market is in discount, port-depen- while deliveries on CO-India MEX fetch premium, borrow gold a Mumbai-based dealer over- with a bullion importing bank said. The premium on COMEX futures over spot prices widened again to about \$28 per ounce on Wednesday compared with discounts "Jewellers were caught as high as \$24 in India.

NRI wins gold-plated Tesla

Indian Someswararao emerged as the winner luck, but it was suggest-

expat in shock. People often at-Mungi tribute such wins to pure of the region's first 24K ed to me that this might



Someswararao Mungi emerges as the winner of the region's first 24K gold-plated Tesla Cybertruck in Dubai.

gold-plated Tesla Cybertruck.

fintech professional from India, emerged as the winner of the region's first 24K gold-plated Tesla Cybertruck. His unexpected win was the highlight of Dubai Gold Souk Extension's "Shop and Win" campaign, which ran from Nov 14 to Jan 31. During the campaign, shoppers received a raffle entry for every Dh500 spent at participating outlets.

Sharing his astonishment, Mungi, who has resided in Dubai since 2021, said: "Honestly, I'm still

be a blessing for good deeds done in the past. Mungi, a 38-year-old It's a humbling thought, indeed, that how we treat others truly matters. I'm grateful to the Dubai Gold Souk Extension for this once in a lifetime opportunity. It's a delightful surprise that has brought immense joy to my life."

The Dubai Gold Souk Extension combines the charm of a traditional marketplace with modern shopping, attracting both residents and tourists. It offers a diverse range of retail outlets, workshops, exchange houses, bullion dealers and banks.

Slowing workers' migration industry: L&T chairman worries

are migrating for work and the slowing labour migration in the country is one of our major worries today, SN Subrahmanyan, Chairman and Managing Director of infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro, said while speaking at CII's Mystic South Global Linkages Summit 2025 in Chennai.

"As an organisation, we employ about 2.5 lakh staff and four-lakh labourers at any given point of time. While attrition among staff does bother me, I am more worried about the availability of labourers today," he add-

He explained that L&T has a standardised method for labour mobilisation including a dedicated HR team for labour where he is closely involved. "But there is difficulty despite this because labour is not willing to move for opportunities... Maybe their local economy is doing well, maybe it is due to the various government schemes and DBTs available to them, but they are not willing to move."

The unwillingness to move for jobs is also be-

other white-collar workforce. He reminisced: "When I joined L&T as a graduate engineer, my and work. But today, if I ask a person from Chennai to work out of Delhi, he says bye. It's a different world of work today of their experiments with and we have to see how to make HR policies flexible."

He described this as a challenge in the company's efforts to "build the nation's infrastructure.".

On addressing these issues, he mentioned L&T is

CHENNAI: Lesser people ing felt in engineers and trying to tackle the issue by setting up skill training institutes and also tapping into technology. In the case of Artificial boss said if you are from Intelligence (AI), around Chennai, you go to Delhi 100 algorithms have been written by teams in our main infrastructure business, he noted.

He also gave examples new technology to tackle the issue, "3D printed buildings are still costly when seen at a rate per square foot, but if labour is getting difficult, maybe sometime in the future, we have to live with this."

New Haj rules released; no children allowed

(Cont. from page-6) tions.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia had also introduced significant changes to its visa policy, effective Feb 1, limiting travellers from 14 countries to single-entry visas. This move aims to address concerns over unauthorised Haj pilgrims entering the country on long-term visit visas.

The new regulations

target travellers from the following nations: Algeria, Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia, and Yemen. As part of the policy shift, the Saudi government has indefinitely suspended the one-year multiple-entry visas for tourism, business family visits from these countries.