



# India's air passenger traffic to hit fresh high in FY25

**MUMBAI:** India's air passenger traffic is expected to grow 11pc year-on-year and hit a record high of 41.8 crore passengers in the current financial year (FY25), which is likely to push up revenues of Indian airports, ratings agency ICRA has said.

The agency estimates that the revenues of airports in its sample set, which comprises airports operated by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the airports at Delhi, Hyderabad and Kochi, are likely to grow by around 15 to 17pc year-on-year in the ongoing fiscal. ICRA also noted that passenger traffic at Indian airports in 2023 recovered to 106pc of the pre-pandemic levels, beating the global recovery level of 96pc. The recovery seen by Indian airports in terms of passenger footfalls was better than what was witnessed in other major markets like the US, Europe, China and the MidEast. Going forward, the ratings agency said that the growth

will be underscored by strong pick-up in both leisure and business travel, improving connectivity to newer destinations in the domestic segment and the continued uptick in international travel.

### International travel

"In 2024, fueled by a growing middle class and expanded route capacity, more Indians are traveling internationally than ever before. In the first three months of 2024 about 97 million passengers travelled through Indian airports. Just 10 years ago, the same figure would have taken a whole year to achieve," said the report. As of March, domestic air passenger traffic surged 21pc above 2019 levels and international travel rose by four per cent. Indian travellers are increasingly exploring key markets, with a 53pc increase in visits to Japan, a 248 pc growth to Vietnam, and a 59pc rise in visits to the US, compared with 2019, despite a stronger US dollar. Amsterdam, followed

by Singapore, London, Frankfurt and Melbourne are the top five trending destinations that Indian travellers are visiting this summer between June and August. "Consumers in the Asia Pacific region have an intense desire and willingness to travel and are becoming increasingly savvy to ensure they get the best value and unforgettable experiences from their trips," said David Mann, chief economist, Asia Pacific, Mastercard.

"Indians are embracing the call to travel with a newfound enthusiasm with both leisure and business-related travel demand in India having crossed pre-pandemic levels. It has helped us deliver strong growth in a quarter that is typically a seasonally slower period for leisure travel. We have posted our best-ever financial performance during FY24 in terms of both gross bookings and profit," said Rajesh Magow, Group CEO, MakeMyTrip.

# Germany to launch job opportunity card in June

**MUMBAI:** If your qualifications and abilities meet the requirements, you may be able to find legal employment opportunities in Germany. The German government plans to implement a "opportunity card" in June 2024, which will permit foreigners who are fully recognised for their qualifications obtained abroad and who are classified as "skilled workers" to remain in Germany and seek employment. No additional documentation of a permanent employment contract will be needed.

Proof of a foreign university degree, a voca-

tional qualification recognised by the state in the training country or a vocational certification awarded by a German Chamber of Commerce Abroad must be provided by all other applicants. Furthermore, a foundational understanding of either German (level A1 CEFR) or English (level B2 CEFR) is necessary.

Are you from a country outside the EU/EEA or Switzerland and would like to apply for an opportunity card under Section 20a of the Residence Act? The following options are open to you:

**OPTION - 1:** You have

a foreign professional or academic qualification that is fully recognised in Germany. Alternatively, you obtained your university degree or professional qualification in Germany. If you obtained your university degree or professional qualification in Germany, you can immediately apply for a residence permit for job seekers under Section 20 of the Residence Act. This gives you more time to look for a job (18 months instead of one year) and you can work part-time without restrictions during this time.

(Cont. on page-2)



## HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

### A CAREER IN NURSING

**Nursing isn't for everyone, but it may be for you?**

**N**ursing has long been an attractive career path because of its traditionally stable job market, competitive wages and opportunities to serve in a caring and people-centered human services career. Undoubtedly, there are few careers that can compare to nursing when it comes to positively impacting people's lives. Becoming a registered nurse means taking one of several paths. You can earn a diploma from an accredited nursing school. You can earn a bachelor's degree from an accredited university programme. You can also earn a master's degree in nursing in any specialty you want. You can start research programme or fellowship as per your choice and academic excellence.

Why should you choose a career in nursing?:By deciding to become a nurse or by becoming a nurse, you are making a very fulfilling career choice. This career is a heavenly experience, especially for professionals who take pleasure in providing care and identifying solutions to meet patient needs. A Nursing Career can bring you various career benefits such as high salary, good career outlook, advanced opportunities, specialisation possibilities and many more.

Pros and Cons of pursuing Nursing Career: Nursing is a fast-paced and in-demand field. This profession offers many benefits to people who enjoy helping others. Like any other job, there are pros and cons. It is an undisputed fact that the long list of benefits in the

nursing career far outweighs the challenges in it. Here are they:

- Being happy by helping others back to wellness
- Excellent Security, Salary, and Benefits
- Overtime pay
- Job outlook
- Travel opportunities
- Continual education opportunities
- Choose or Change Your Specialty
- Learn Transferable Career Skills
- Pride
- Professional recognition
- Flexibility
- Job satisfaction
- Working with a diverse array of people
- Shift scheduling options
- Day-to-day variety
- Simple Wardrobe (You can wear the same color scrubs every day, and no one will make fun of you)
- Change Your Job but Not Your Career
- Several Ways to Become a Nurse

Just as nurses make a difference in the lives of their patients everyday, their knowledge and education in nursing makes a difference in their lives and the lives of their families. Nursing career is therefore a unique profession that can bring a lot of personal fulfilment in a nurse's life. It seems fit to say that nursing is a unique combination of skills and compassion. This may be the reason why nursing has been ranked as a reliable profession for the past two decades.

**Qualities that Make a Good Nurse Practitioner:** A person who has studied nursing can only become a nurse after successfully

(Cont. on page-6)



## India-Iran historic deal

Just a few days before the tragic death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash and in the face of the US sanctions, India and Iran successfully signed the historic 10-year contract to develop and operate the Iranian port of Chabahar. This was diplomacy at its best.

The deal is projected to enhance regional connectivity and facilitate trade involving India, Iran, Afghanistan and other nations. The long-term contract was signed by Indian Ports Global Limited and the Port & Maritime Organisation of Iran. Located in the uneasy Sistan-Balochistan province on Iran's southern coast, the Chabahar port will offer Indian merchandise a gateway to Afghanistan and Central Asia

through a road and rail project known as the International North-South Transport Corridor. What's more, the route will bypass Pakistan, whose relations with Iran have deteriorated in recent months and whose ties with India is worsening over the years. The Chabahar port is on the Iranian coast on the Gulf of Oman, very close to the Gwadar port in Balochistan province, which Pakistan is developing in partnership with China. It also figures in India-Iran-Russia co-operation plans to develop a significant trade route.

While India is friendly with both the US and Iran, the US sanctions failed to deter India from signing this contract. US sanctions on Iran over its purported nuclear programme have restricted the operations of this port, which India had proposed to develop way back in 2003. True, there was a veiled threat by the US that sanctions will apply to India and any Indians doing business with Iran which came soon after India signed Chabahar port deal. India is not new to US sanctions. It may be recalled that the Clinton administration had imposed sanctions against India following the Pokhran-II nuclear test, which the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee brushed aside and laughed off in his own inimitable style. The present government too staged a diplomatic coup when at the height of the Russia-Ukraine war, India signed a contract to buy cheap Russian crude oil and at the same time flayed Russia for attacking Ukraine. There were European Union restrictions also in place for trading in Russian oil which, however, did not affect the movement of crude to India and export of refined fuel. India had used the same Chabahar port last year to send 20,000 tonnes of wheat to aid-starved Afghanistan. India has proved time and again that, when it comes to humanitarian aid, it will not lag behind.

It was a timely gesture on the part of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to have thanked Iran's president and foreign minister -- who lost their lives in a helicopter crash -- for the success of Chabahar Port agreement. Speaking at the Delhi Tamil Education Association reception, Jaishankar remarked: "We've been trying for almost 20 years now to have an agreement with Iran. We could have a short-term agreement. But in recent months, because of the interest and initiative of the president and foreign minister (who died in the air crash), we were able to finalise this long-term agreement." Well said.

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### LIPSYNCH

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

— Malala Yousafzai

# DXB ready to receive 91m passengers in 2024

**DUBAI:** Dubai International Airport (DXB) remains on course to welcome 91 million passengers in 2024 and thus better its previous best numbers of 89.1 million recorded in 2018. The first three months of this year has already seen 23 million fliers use DXB and even the

rains in April) will have a significant impact because we're back to normal operations.

"People are still arriving and departing as they would normally. A few days of disruption will disrupt numbers in the short term, but in the longer term, I don't think we'll have a par-

was the busiest month, with 7.9 million passengers. The first quarter saw 109,238 in total flight movements, an 8.3pc increase year-on-year. (With load factors reaching 79.1pc in the first quarter, the passenger per aircraft movement reached 217.)

"As Dubai emerges



rains during April will not have much of an impact on full-year 2024 traffic.

"We have 2.5 lakh passengers going through the airport every single day," said Paul Griffiths, Dubai Airports' CEO. "And over the year, I don't think this (the

particular problem."

DXB will particularly look to its January to end March performance as setting the pace for the whole of 2024. The 23 million passengers recorded during the quarter represents an 8.4pc rise compared with last year. January

as a global leader for attracting talent, businesses and tourists from across the globe, our focus remains on sustaining growth momentum and enhancing the overall airport experience for every guest passing through our terminals," said Griffiths.

## Germany to launch job...

(Cont. from page-1)

**OPTION 2:** You score a minimum of six points in the points system in addition to meeting the following requirements:

You have successfully completed vocational or academic training. It is important that the qualification is recognised by the country in which you obtained it. In addition, your vocational qualification must have required at least two years of vocational training. To support your visa application, you will need

a positive result for this qualification, which you can apply for online at the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB).

Opportunity cards are valid for one year at most, if the holder can sustain themselves during that time. During that time, the holder may work up to 20 hours a week in secondary employment or participate in work trials while in Germany. If the applicant can't obtain another resident title due to employment-related reasons but has been

offered suitable employment, the opportunity card may be renewed for an additional two years.

It is easier for candidates to acquire jobs in Germany with the Opportunity Card. It enables candidates to work in Germany without having to go through a drawn-out recognition procedure. A university degree or at least two years of vocational training are necessary, in addition to fluency in either German (A1) or English (B2).

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# LuLu ties up to expand Vietnamese products in global markets

DOHA: LuLu Group's vast international network and its robust relationship with the government of Vietnam are seen as essen-

that LuLu Group has been operating a world-class, state-of-the-art distribution centre in Ho Chi Minh City since 2018.

countries, we would like to showcase to the people in these areas the wide variety of Vietnamese specialities, not only with



tial factors in expanding the reach of Vietnamese products in global markets, ambassador Tran Duc Hung has said. Hung, who led the launching of the Vietnamese Festival hosted by LuLu Hypermarket, told a TV channel on the sidelines of the event

“Rice and coffee from Vietnam are our top exports; number two in the world, and we have exported a lot of these agricultural products to the US and the EU already. Now we want to expand more Vietnamese products in LuLu through its distribution system. We want to showcase more of our products to Qatari people and also expand in Doha,” the ambassador pointed out.

Hung noted that LuLu Group's distribution centre in Ho Chi Minh City is also instrumental in increasing the number of products bearing the LuLu private label exported from Vietnam, which reflects the growing and healthy relationship between the Southeast Asian country and LuLu Group.

“Through LuLu's distribution system world-wide, particularly in the GCC region and Asian

agricultural products but also Vietnamese electronic goods like mobile phones and computer component parts. We have a lot of other consumer goods, too, which we want to showcase to the people in Qatar and also in GCC countries,” the ambassador further explained.

“I am confident, and I believe that the volume and size of the trade cooperation between Vietnam and Qatar, through LuLu, will be growing more and more in the near future,” Hung emphasised. Asked about the success of the Vietnamese Festival in all LuLu hypermarkets across Qatar, the ambassador noted: “Our relationship with Qatar spans 30 long years. On the other hand, since the establishment of LuLu's office in Ho Chi Minh City in 2018, LuLu has brought a lot of Vietnamese agricultural products to Doha.

FOREX RATES		
As on 23rd May, 2024 (In rupees)		
Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	83.94	83.04
Euro	91.08	90.14
Australian Dollar	56.25	55.32
Japanese Yen	0.57	0.52
Canadian Dollar	61.73	60.82
Singapore Dollar	62.50	61.59
Swedish krona	8.78	6.99
UAE Dirham	23.06	22.51
Swiss Franc	92.43	90.63
British Pound	106.56	105.61
New Zealand Dollar	51.71	50.45
Thai Baht	2.39	2.19
Hong Kong Dollar	11.63	10.32
Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.91	21.96
Bahraini Dinar	227.81	213.81
Chinese Yuan	12.40	10.60
Danish Krone	12.61	11.61
Kuwaiti Dinar	277.49	261.49
Malaysian Ringgit	18.84	17.39
Omani Rial	222.26	210.26
Qatari Riyal	23.62	21.37
South African Rand	5.04	4.20

**GROUP OF COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA (IN LARGE NO'S)**

- \*Procurement /Safety /Electrical Estimation Engineer\* Janitorial Supervisor\*Housekeeping Trainer
- \*Cost Control &Budget Specialist \*Project Procurement & Logistic Coordinator\*\*Gas Chemical Technician
- \*Trailer Driver (Indian License) (10 No's)\*Mechanical Estimation Engineer\*Family Cook
- \*Van Salesman (Indian License/English speaking /SSC passed)(10 No's) \*Assistant Welder (SR 1200 + 200 (FA))
- \*Logistic Transport Supervisor\*Sales Supervisor \*Clothes Cutting Machine Operator\*Family Driver (Ind lic)
- \*Electrician (10 No's)[ITI Holders]\* Industrial Electrician (10 No's)[ITI Holders]
- \*MultiCraft Foreman (Steel/Civil Exp) \* Sales Supervisor (Gift & advertising Field Exp/Saudi Driving License)

**QATAR:** - \*Facility Supervisor \*SR Hyac / Vrf/ Chiller Technician (10 No's)\*Real Estate Coordinator  
\*Jewellery Purchaser/Designer/Salesman\*Maintenance Foreman\*All Rounder Painter\* Carpenter  
\*AC Technician \* Duct man\*Furniture Carpenter \* Steel Maker / Fabricator (Salary QR 1500-2000/-) \* Auto Electrician

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\*Ladies /Fashion Designer (Salary - DHS 2000 - 5000 /-) \*Plantation Worker (Salary - DHS 1200 + Food/-)

**OMAN/BAHRAIN:**\* Scaffolding Engineer \* Scaffolder Level 1/Level 2/Level 3 certified(Large No's)  
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**Sr Mechanical Engineers**  
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**Mechanical Engineers**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in Plant, Machineries and Equipment inspection, must have international codes of ASME Sec. I, V, VIII and IX, ANSI B31.3/4/8, NACE, and API 620/650 and AWS D1.3 or has valid certifications in API-510 and ASNT Level II in RT, PT, UT & VT and must be valid Driving License

**Electrical Protection Engineers**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Electrical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in Testing and commissioning of substation, DC Systems (battery charger, battery bank and UPS if possible) and reply to protection systems, review setting, implement new setting, perform maintenance activities and verify the performance of the relay. Download and verify the relay operations and Obtain certifications from relay manufacturers and good aware in all testing equipment.

**Design & Drafting Engineer**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Electrical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in develop a design for electrical systems and aware of best practices and how to develop the single line diagram and must have experience in primavera software and designing tools.

**Welding Inspectors (CSWIP 3.1)**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in welding inspection of the construction of Petrochemical or hydrocarbon facilities. The applicant must have AWS or CSWIP 3.1 certification and must be valid Driving License.

**Coating Inspectors (NACE)**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in welding inspection of the construction of Petrochemical or hydrocarbon facilities. The applicant must be NACE Level II certified and must be valid Driving License.

**HVAC Inspectors**  
Applicant should be B E / B Tech in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in HVAC inspection in construction projects with industry codes and standards (e.g. SMACNA, Uniform Mechanical Code, NFPA 90A & 905.1)

**Transformer Specialists**  
Applicant should be B E / Diploma (Electrical Engineering) with minimum 10 years' experience in performing electrical testing, using test equipment, analysis results and provide recommendations and must have in transformer failure troubleshooting and pre-commissioning activities for transformer including installation.

**RT Technicians**  
Applicant should be Diploma in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in radiographic testing in Construction of petrochemical or hydrocarbon industries.

**RT Film Interpreters - II**  
Applicant should be Diploma in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in production radiographic film and performing production radiography on castings and weldments using radioactive isotopes in Construction of petrochemical or hydrocarbon industries.

**Eddy Current Technicians**  
Applicant should be Diploma in Mechanical Engineering with minimum 10 years' experience in supporting of activities such as design, testing, production and operation of equipment and systems in Construction of petrochemical or hydrocarbon industries.

The candidates meeting the ABOVE CRITERIAS can attend the WALK-IN interview with updated CV and all relevant supporting documents  
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# GULF FAQs

## Who will pay unemployment insurance premium?

**I** work for a private company in UAE and I want to know, according to the labour law, about the unemployment insurance law and who is legally responsible for paying the premium of this insurance – the employer or the worker? Who is responsible for paying the fees of transferring the worker's salary to the bank?

The Unemployment Insurance Scheme is a form of insurance/social security that provides Emiratis and residents working in the federal and private sectors financial support, if they lose their jobs, as a result of termination by their employers. The compensation is on a monthly basis at the rate of 60pc of the contribution salary (basic salary) for a period of three months from the date of unemployment, which is the maximum period for compensation for each claim. The scheme applies to all workers in the private and federal sector except:

The insured worker will lose his/her eligibility for compensation if any of the following situations occur:

- \* He/she was dismissed from work for disciplinary reasons under the UAE's Labour Law in the private sector (Federal Decree Law No. 33 of 2021 Regarding the Regulation

of Employment Relationship and its amendments) and the Human Resources Law in the federal government, in addition to any applicable legislations,

- \* There has been fraud or deceit involved in his/her claim,

- \* The establishment where he/she works is fictitious.

The financial support will be given in exchange of a monthly insurance premium paid by the worker during his employment, not by the employer.

The employer must encourage and direct his employee to subscribe as per Article 8 of the Ministerial Resolution No. 604 of 2022 Concerning Unemployment Insurance Scheme (Establishments must encourage and direct their employees to subscribe to the scheme, obtain unemployment insurance policies and pay premiums on a timely manner.)

The employer is responsible for paying the fees for transferring the worker's salary to the bank because he pays the salary as per Article 22 of the Labour Law 33 of 2021 ("The employer shall pay the salaries or wages to its workers on their due dates in accordance with the regulations approved in the ministry, as well as the conditions, rules and procedures specified by the Implementing Regulation.")

## Dilemma over loan to employee

**I** am the owner of a private company. Four months ago, I gave one of my employees an interest-bearing loan. A month ago, this employee submitted his resignation from work, and he currently refuses to work during the warning period, which is three months, and also refuses to return the debt. According to this employee, the employer does not have the legal right to lend interest to the worker. My question is: What is the appropriate action to take against this employee?

I would advise the questioner that usury interest (maximum interest) between natural people is considered a criminal act according to Article 458 of the Federal Law Decree No. (31) of 2021 Promulgating the Crimes and Penalties which states that "A penalty of incarceration for a period not less than one year and a fine not less than Dh50,000 shall be imposed on any natural person who deals with another natural person by usury interest in any kind of civil or commercial transaction, whether such interest is express or latent.

("Latent interest shall include any

commission or benefit stipulated by a creditor, if such a commission or benefit has no corresponding real legal benefit or service provided by the creditor as a consideration. A principal debt and latent interest may be proved by all means available. If the perpetrator takes advantage of the debtor's need, weakness or passion to commit the crime stipulated in this Article, this shall be considered an aggravating circumstance.")

But the interest between a company and a natural person does not lie under the above same Article. Which means that in case the loan was given by your company to the employee, then you can claim the loan with the interests and leave the matter to the court to decide about it. In case the loan was given by you personally, then it is better to claim the original loan without the interests and use any mean to prove that the employee took the loan, including but not limited to, the bank transfer instead of using the loan agreement signed (if such agreement is existed).

Regarding the three months' notice, you are entitled to claim them in all

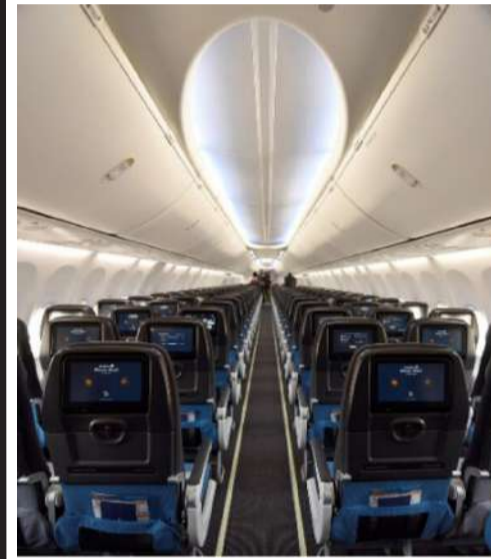
## Rs 16 lakh Rolex stolen on flight

**DUBAI:** "I completely blacked out when I saw that my cash and Rolex were missing from my bag," former UAE resident Arsalan Hameed said while recounting his recent journey from Abu Dhabi to Riyadh via Doha.

The Pakistani national was visiting his family in Abu Dhabi for Eid and struggling to return home to Saudi Arabia, where he

travels a lot. Upon landing, he quickly boarded another flight to Riyadh and, not bothering to check if his valuables were still in his carry-on baggage, fell back asleep after storing his backpack in the overhead bin.

It was only when Hameed reached home that he realised his watch worth Dh73,000 (over Rs 16 lakh), as well as cash worth



lives now, due to record rains impacting flight operations from the UAE. After multiple flight delays and cancellations, he says he boarded a crowded flight to Doha, exhausted from his journey. He stored his bag in the overhead bin, and promptly fell asleep – something he says he has "a habit" of doing while flying, since he

SR3,000 and GBP260 (about Dh4,000) were stolen during his journey of 2.5 hours.

Unfortunately, he is not the only person who has had such an experience – and while these incidents occur across the world, UAE travellers have of late been taking to social media to warn fellow passengers to be more aware.

## Emirates-owned Transguard to hire limousine drivers

**DUBAI:** Emirates group entity Transguard is on a recruitment drive. The entity, which offers multiple services for businesses, will be hiring new limousine drivers, with interviews scheduled for May 25 at the Emirates HQ. Pre-registration is not required.

"This role in particular offers qualified applicants the opportunity to support one of the UAE's leading airlines as well as to work directly with VIP passengers," said Cathy Masters, Director – Aviation.

Applicants must have

a UAE driving licence issued in or before May 2022 and two years of relevant experience. "Transguard offers a dynamic and inclusive workplace environment where our employees can thrive and grow," said Cathy.

It is not known how many new positions will be created. Transguard has been expanding its pool of business-focused services, which also includes offering security services. The company recorded revenues of Dh2.5 billion for the 2022-23 financial year.

cases because the employee should pay them as per Article 43 of the labour law ("The party who did not abide by the notice period shall pay to the other party compensation, which is called notice period allowance, even if the absence of notification does not cause damage to the other party and the compensation shall be equal to the worker's wage for the full notice period or the remaining part.")

# Qualities that make a good nurse practitioner

(Cont. from page-1) completing a degree, diploma or related training program and registering with a NURSING COUNCIL or a REGISTERING AUTHORITY. But, the next step from a nurse to a “nurse practitioner” is a big one. As mentioned in the previous parts, a nurse should have all the qualities required for a healthcare worker. If you want to be a successful nurse practitioner, there are many characteristics you need to bring to nursing practice. Some qualities are personality traits we are born with. But that are not sufficient and in order to become an even more successful nursing practitioner, some characteristics must be strengthened and built. So, what qualities make a good nurse practitioner? Here are some of the qualities that make a good nurse practitioner.

- Attentiveness
- Compassion
- Integrity
- Competence
- Communication
- Optimism
- Empathy
- Creativity
- Tenacity
- Time Management
- Flexibility
- Confidence
- Preparation
- Leadership
- Analytical Skills
- Patience
- Enthusiasm
- Self Awareness
- Endurance
- Encouraging
- Respectful
- Emotional Stability
- Critical Thinker
- Team Player
- Professional

Becoming a successful nurse practitioner requires a lot of hard work and acquiring the qualities required of a nurse practitioner. You can build and strengthen at least a few of the above traits, even if it is impossible to assume that you have to have all the qualities of a nurse practitioner. All it takes is a little conscious effort.

**INC & its nursing programme in India:** Indian Nursing Council is a na-

tional regulatory body for nurses and nurse education in India. It is an autonomous body under the Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, constituted by the Central Government under section 3(1) of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947 of Indian parliament. According to the



original act the function of the council is to provide “uniformity in nursing education”(Source: WIKIPEDIA). The functions of Indian Nursing Council are:

- To establish and monitor uniform standards of nursing for nurses, midwives, auxiliary nurse, midwives and health visitors’ education by doing inspection of the institutions
- To recognize the qualification(s) under section 10(2) (4) of the Indian Nursing Council Act 1947 for the purpose of registration and employment in India and abroad.

- To prescribe minimum standards of education and training in various nursing programmes and prescribe the syllabus and regulations for nursing programmes under section 16 of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947
- Power to withdraw the recognition of qualifica-

tion under Section 14 of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947 in case the institution fails to maintain its standards under Section 14(1)(b) of the Act when an institution recognised by a State Council for the training of nurses midwives, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives or health visitors does not satisfy the requirements of the Council

- To recognise Degree/Diploma/Certificate awarded by Foreign Universities
- To give approval for registration of Indian and Foreign Nurses possessing foreign qualification
- To regulate the policies of training of nursing programmes in the field of nursing to improve the quality of nursing education
- (Source INC website) State Nursing Councils in India: At the state level, state nursing councils and nursing boards regulate nursing practice and education. There are 30 State Nursing Councils in India. They are :
  - Andhra Pradesh Nurses & Midwives Council
  - Arunachal Pradesh Nursing Council
  - Assam Nurses Midwives & Health Visitor Council
  - Bihar Nurses Registration

under Section 11(2)(a) of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947

- To maintain Indian Nurses Register for registration of nursing personnel
- To advise the State Nursing Councils, Examining Boards, State Governments and Central Government in various important items regarding nursing

education in the country

- To promote research in nursing
- To prescribe code of ethics and professional conduct

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Council

- Chattisgarh Nursing Council
- Delhi Nursing Council
- Goa Nursing Council
- Gujarat Nursing Council
- Haryana Nurses & Nurse-Midwives Council
- Himachal Pradesh Nurses Registration Council
- Jammu and Kashmir State Paramedical & Nursing Council
- Jharkhand Nurses Registration Council
- Karnataka Nursing Council
- Kerala Nurses & Midwives Council
- Madhya Pradesh Nurses Registration Council
- Maharashtra Nursing Council
- Manipur Nursing Council
- Meghalaya Nursing Council
- Mizoram Nursing Council
- Odisha Nurses & Midwives Registration Council
- Punjab Nurses Registration Council
- Rajasthan Nursing Council
- Tamil Nadu Nurses & Midwives Council
- Tripura Nursing Council
- Uttar Pradesh Nurses & Midwives Council
- Uttarakhand Nurses Midwives Council
- West Bengal Nursing Council
- Telangana State Nurses Midwives Auxiliary Nurse Midwives & Health Visitors Council
- Sikkim Nursing Council
- Nagaland Nursing Council

(To be continued)

## Australia’s new rules for international students

**SYDNEY:** Australia is a popular study-abroad location among international students. Recently, the Australian government has made many changes to the rules governing foreign education and the settlement of immigrants in the country.

The Australian government’s Migration Strategy was released on Dec 11, 2023. The Strategy is designed to further strengthen the integrity and quality of Australia’s international education programmes, better protect international students and sup-

port graduates to achieve their career goals.

From May 10, 2024, the financial requirement that applies to Student and Student Guardian visas will be set at Australian dollars 29,710 (\$19,576) for an individual student. The new financial requirement applies to any visas lodged on or after May 10, 2024. The savings requirements demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your airfare, course fees, and living expenses throughout your stay. This is to lower your chances of

experiencing financial difficulties while studying.

TOEFL iBT is again a valid test for student visa purposes and is accepted by all Australian universities. However, tests taken between July 26, 2023 and May 4, 2024, are not valid. Tests taken before July 26, 2023, remain valid for two years. This significant development provides opportunities for anyone looking to study, work, or relocate to Australia by allowing them to demonstrate their English competence through the TOEFL iBT

test.

From March 23, 2024, the new Genuine Student (GS) requirement has replaced the Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) requirement with a list of targeted questions. The GS requirement is a key part of the student visa application procedure. The new GS requirement replaces the prior 300-word statement with a series of focused questions. These questions tell visa decision-makers about the student and their reasons for seeking to study in Australia.