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OVERSEAS JOBS ON PAGE 3 PUBLISHED ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024 · VOL. NO. 1 · Issue · No. 74. DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE PVT. LTD. (A unit of Creative Group) · 7 PAGES

IPEPCIL urges Gulf Health Council (GHC) to review outdated specification for pre-medical check up of emigrants related to 'SCARS' on chest X-rays

GCC countries are facing exponentially increasing cases of "Medically UN-FIT" at the last moment of mobilisation process on completion of the entire criteria proceedings, including the visa requiring treatment. arrangements by the Foreign Employers only due to a "Small Scar" on their chest X-rays. Many emigrants are being declared medically UNFIT, denying to proceed for employment solely due to the presence of a "Small Scar" or marks on their chest X-ray results.

"SCARS" on chest X-rays that are not related to the Tuberculosis

of emigrants proceed- post respiratory infecing to Kuwait and other tions, jaundice, post viral infections like Covid-19 or other benign causes like inflammation. In many cases, these "SCARS" are simply residual markers of post-infections and do not indicate an active disease

> In the post-Covid scenario, such cases are common in the world population, but no longer pose a health risk, However, all cold

MUMBAI: Large volume tions, such as pneumonia, despite being otherwise sation (WHO) emphasis-Healthy and FIT for work. "SCAR" from pneumonia, jaundice or common



viral infections related to and fever is often

es thatonly "Active TB cases", 'present a public Health risk, and individuals with residual scarring but no symptoms of tion caused by the virus, active infection should not be unnecessarily treated or restricted from work. WHO encourages Medical practitioners to differentiate between active disease and past infections or other non-TB causes of lung scarring in determining FITNESS for work

"SCARS" do not indicate an ongoing infectious condition but are rather a result of the healing process from inflammaso there is no restriction or advisory suggesting that post-Covid-19 scarring should render someone medically UNFIT for WORK.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Indian Medical Association (IMA) also follow the same approaches of WHO. All such organisations advocate, that, medical decisions should be based on the "Clinical Assessment" of the person, including symptoms and laboratory findings, rather than solely on X-ray "SCARS".

(Cont. on page-7)

Job creation most pressing global issue, says Nirmala Sitharaman

Dubai aviation to add 1.85 lakh iobs

World Health Organisation (WHO) emphasises that only "Active TB cases", 'present a public health risk, and individuals with residual scarring but no symptoms of active infection should not be unnecessarily treated or restricted from work.

these individuals are still treated as a benign finding being denied for Employment opportunities while undergoing the pre-med-(TB) can result from a ical check-up by the GCC variety of other condi- approved panel doctors,

with no impact on fitness unless accompanied by other seriously concerning symptoms.

World Health Organi-

or migration. WHO has acknowledged that Post-Covid-19, residual lung scarring can occur in some people, especially those who are infected. These

WASHINGTON: future strategic direc-Union Finance Minis- tion and help clients ter Nirmala Sithara- create more jobs to man has called job cre- keep pace with evolvation the most pressing ing megatrends."

global issue, the given continued economic headwinds and rapid technological changes that are reshaping the skills needed for youth to enter the job market.

She also

World asked Bank collaborate with \mathbf{to} countries to identify high-priority skilling sectors that generate employment. Nirmala 's remarks came during her intervention at the plenary lunch. World Bank shape its of Finance said.

World Bank has previously conducted several studies on sectoral trends and their potential impact on employ-

> ment, covering areas like "green jobs", jobs after artificial intelligence and shifts due to changing demographics, she said. During

her intervention, the

She emphasised that jobs are the most pressing global issue, given the continued economic headwinds and rapid technological change that are redefining the skills required for youth to enter the job "How should market, the Ministry

finance minister urged World Bank to collaborate with countries in identifying high-priority skilling sectors based on data, analysis and knowledge work, with a focus on generating employment, skill matching, and labour retention.

DUBAI: Over the nex Maktoum, five years, Dubai's aviation industry could add a further 1.85 lakh jobs, according to a new report from Emirates Group and Dubai Airports.

"Our will generate even more skilled jobs and help drive innovation as we mean one in four jobs in

Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and chairman of Dubai Airports.

With the additional 1.85 lakh jobs by 2030, Dubai aviation sector growth plans would employ a combined 8.16 lakh string workforce. That would work with leading tech- Dubai will be tied to avi-



nology partners to develop future solutions to enhance travel experiences and make operations more efficient and secure," said Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al

ation by 2030, up from the current one in five in 2023.

"This would mean that there will be no slowing down on new hiring (Cont. on page-2)



TRAVEL & TOURISM

al



UAE lowers driving age

government lowered the minimum age of driving to 17 and issued a series of new traffic regulations under a federal decree-law. The new law aims at keeping up with the rapid evolution of transportation worldwide.

2

The decree-law has introduced comprehensive regulations that apply to all types of vehicles and their drivers, as well as to pedestrians on the road. Severe penalties will apply for serious offences, in cases such as causing death while driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs,

ABU DHABI: The UAE fleeing accident scenes, crossing roads improperly or driving through flood-prone areas during floods.

> Pedestrians are now banned from crossing roads where the speed limit is over 80 km/h. Those who violate this rule could face civil or criminal penalties. The decree-law also prohibits stopping or placing vehicles on the road or on the curb for repairing or standing in the roadway. Vehicles that are too noisy are restricted and car alarms can only be used to prevent accidents or immediate danger within cities.

Record passenger handling by Mumbai airport

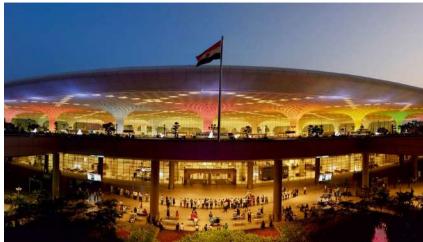
MUMBAI: gle-runway

airport tions with two crossrunways, ing Mumbai Airport, which is also the second busiest airport in the country after Delhi's IGIA, handled a total of

25.33 million passengers in the first-half of the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024.

Passenger traffic at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) grew by a steady 5.3pc year-on-

sin- year at 26.68-million The opera- in the April-Sept peThe Internationtraffic passenger



by 11 rose cent per year-onyear during HIFY25, while domestic passenger traffic witnessed a growth of 3

vious fiscal.

UAE-India airfares flare up on Diwali demand

DUBAI/MUMBAI: Airfares on UAE-India routes are experiencing a "Diwali surge", with even 50pc increases to some destinations over the current week.

UAE's Indian expats planning a quick trip home to Mumbai or New Delhi to celebrate Diwali will be particularly hard hit, with fares already recording sharp rises compared with the off-peak rates they had from mid-September all the way to now.

UAE-India routes usually see marked increase in demand and fare increases during Diwali. But the current week's spikes have hit new highs.

Hoax calls: govt issues advisory to social media platforms

NEW **DELHI:** a spate of hoax bomb (BNSS) to mandatorily threats to multiple air- report certain offenclines, the IT ministry esperceived to be comhas asked social media mitted by any user of platforms to observe their platform includdue diligence obliga- ing those with intent to tions and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation with- rity of India. in the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules. The Centre also asserted that apart from removing or disabling access to such misinformation, social media intermediaries have additional liability under the Bharatiya Nagarik

Amid Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Dubai needs more hotel rooms

DUBAI : Dubai curhas1,51,417rently hotel rooms in 825 hotel establishments and there's "still demand for more rooms," said the chief executive of Dubai Tourism Issam Kazim. The growth potential for more hotel rooms rests "on going

According to real estate consultants Cavendish Maxwell, more than 2,700 new hotel rooms in the first-half of 2024, with a further 10,100 set to come onto the market by the end of 2025.

"In terms of the number of hotels, there's a lot of potential for us to grow, but it is also making sure that we're going to the right locations, because now we have different destinations within the city of Dubai and also cater to different budgets," said Kazim.

Moreover, he explained that Dubai doesn't get only into the luxury segment, as it was perceived were delivered in Dubai in the past. "Today, we know that there amazing three-star hotels as well that can compete with many five-star rooms.

properties around the world," stated Kazim.

DTCM, an entity under the Emirates' Department of Economy and Tourism (DET), said Dubai recorded 10.2million visitors from Jan to July 2024, a 3.7pc increase compared with the same period in 2023. DET said the number of hotel rooms in the fie -star category had witnessed the highest growth in

riod of the current per cent as compared fiscal year, aided by a to the April-Septemhigher growth in the ber period of the preinternational travel,

are the past year, with a 35pc increase in room supply to over 52,000

NEOM announces opening of Sindalah

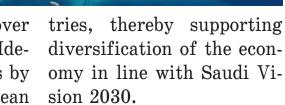
RIYADH: Sindalah, the luxury island destination and first physical showcase of NEOM, has been unveiled by the NEOM Board of Directors. First announced by His Royal Highness Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince and Chairman of the NEOM Board of Directors in December 2022, Sindalah's opening marks an exciting milestone in NEOM's progress.

Transforming Sindalah from idea to reality has been the result of an extensive two-year effort, from a 30,000-strong workforce at its peak across four local contracting partners and up to 60 subcontractors. It marks a significant step in realising the Kingdom's tourism ambitions under Saudi Vision 2030 and reaffirms NEOM's ability to conceive and deliver new and exciting destinations. To celebrate this occasion, Sindalah has welcomed its first wave of invited guests to experience the island's allure.

Located in the glistening azure waters of the Red Sea, five km off the NEOM coastline in northwest Saudi Arabia, Sindalah is a distinctive, luxury resort

destination spread over 8.4lakh squaremetres. Ideally positioned 17 hours by sea from key Mediterranean destinations, Sindalah will serve as NEOM's gateway to the Red Sea, providing easy access for European, Saudi and GCC yacht owners.

Set to welcome up to 2,400 guests per day by 2028, the island will also around generate 3,500jobs, helping to drive the ongoing development of the Kingdom's thriving hospitality and tourism indus-



threaten unity, integrity, sovereignty or secu-

The government, in an advisory, reminded social media intermediaries that they are obligated under IT rules to provide information under their control or possession and assist investigative agencies within stipulated timeline of up to 72 hours.

Dubai aviation to...

(Cont. from page-1) by Dubai airlines and its aviation sector that started from late 2021 after the peak Covid crisis. During this period, fresh intakes on new pilots, cabin crew and ground staff had hit unprecedented levels as travel took off.

Our ambitious plans for Dubai World Central – Al Maktoum In-

ternational Airport and ongoing investour ments to expand capacity at Dubai International will unlock further economic opportunities by supporting the projected demand for air transport"

says Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum. By end 2023, the Dubai aviation sector supported over 630,000 roles.

GULF JOBS & OPPORTUNITIES

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF DIGITALISED ADVERTISEMENTS WITH ONE E-NEWSPAPER CLICK ON THE LINK / WEBSITE BELOW THE REQUIREMENT ADVT TO CONNECT WITH THE RECRUITMENT AGENCY

OIL & GAS MAINTENANCE PROJECT	Urgent requirement fro Kingdom of Sauc
FREE RECRUITMENT	GOOD ENGLISH SPEAKNOG OCCO APPEARANCE PLEASENT PERSONALTY
ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN 20 No's • Experience with hazardous chemicals and materials in Oil & Gas industries.	
Familiarity veth safety and environmental procides in O1 & Gas plants. Knowledge of work permit systems in large-case industries. Understanding of electrical codes and standards (ANSI and BS EN). Familiar with hazardous area classifications (Cone ClassOhvision). Policient in Lock-Out Tag-Out (LOTO) procedures.	EXECUTIVE CHEF INTERNATIONAL CL EXECUTIVE CHEF INTERNATIONAL CL EXECUTIVE CHEF JAPANESE CUISINE NUTRITION CHEFS
MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN 30 No's Maintain different pump types (centrifugal, reciproceting), knowledge of pump parts, and alig	EXECUTIVE WAITERS WAITERS GENERAL CHEFS
techniques (rim and face, laser alignment). • Work with wincus bearings, seals, ocupiling, and inspect V-pulleys and V-beits. • Clean and replace lube of filters. • Maritain hoat oxchangers, including gasket replacement, hydro testing, and tube replaceme • Knowledge of where, gaskets, and langes. • Experience with vessels and oclumin maintenance.	PASTRY CHEFS PASTRY SOUS CHEFS PRESTA
ALL TECHNICIAN SHOULD HAVE • Technical Diploma in respective trade (10 years School + 3 years Diploma), • 07 years relevant and hands-on experience in respective trade, in Oil & Gas/Petrotemics/Fertilizer industry.	STEWARDS FLORISTS DESIGNER TAILORS
They should also be able to communicate in English.	5-10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
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MULTINATIONAL COMPANY - SAUDI ARABIA PIPE FABICATORS : SR 1500+300 +8hrs +OT	FOREX F As on 28th October, 2
SALES ENGINEERS: 2 to 5 yrs exp.in Home appliance sales or Electronics goods	Currency
ELEVATOR TECHNICIAN : Salary negotiable	US Dollar

7000 9000

Buying

84.79

92.70

57.47

0.58

61.92

65.16

9.07

23.32

98.98

110.44

52.11

2.62

11.77

22.89

230.12

12.78

12.81

280.03

20.20

224.33

23.82

5.24

4.30

HOUSE COOK : Arabic food / conti. **RELIABILITY TECHNICIAN OR CONDITION** MONITORING TECHNICIAN : Knowledge of Handling and Operation of Vibration Analyzer instruments i.e AZIMA DLI DCX(4 Channel) and PRUFTECHNIK VIBXPERT 5.46, 6.142, Leonova Infinity, SKF Microlok GX 65&70, TRANSFORMER MANUCATURING COMPANY - DI **MOTOR WINDER (TRANSFOMER) : Must**

have exp in Transformer rewinding TRANSFORMER DESIGNER/ WINDER) : 2 to 3 yrs exp. AUTO CAD DESING EXP. Attractive Salary, Direct and online interview & selection, please report with CV and passport Right candidate should contact with complete testimonials to below address & can send the CVS to : royalrichcvs007@gmail.com

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Malaysian Ringgit

South African Rand

Saudi Arabian Rival

Swedish krona

British Pound

Thai Baht

UAE Dirham

Japanese Yen



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIE

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IPEPCIL - ADVISORY

RIYADH: For many, an ideal wedding vision includes a picturesque setting, elegant attire and timeless romance. However, modern couples are increasingly breaking free from convention, seeking unique and unconventional destinations to celebrate their special day. The latest trend making waves? Underwater weddings. Defying tradition, adventurous couples are now taking the plunge and exchanging vows beneath the ocean's surface.

In one such recent underwater ceremony, Hassan Abu Al-Ola and Yasmine Daftardar sealed their love amidst the stunning coral reefs and marine life of the Red Sea, off Jeddah. The event, one of the first of its kind, was attended by a small group of fellow divers and organised by the local diving group, Saudi Divers, led by Capt Faisal Flemban. The Saudi Divers team provided expert support, supplying necessary gear and orchestrating a surprise underwater celebration.

Notably, the couple are avid divers and that's why they opted for an extraordinary underwater setting to begin their life together.

BEWARE OF UNSCRUPULOUS AGENTS FOR OVERSEAS JOBS

Seeking employment abroad can be an exiting opportunity, but it also comes with risks if the intended job-seekers go through unauthorised agencies / personnel.

Unscrupulous agents / persons may exploit these job-seekers through social media advertisements and channels, leading to financial losses, unsafe working conditions, fraudulent activities or even human trafficking. Therefore, it is crucial to stay informed and CAUTIOUS - among the overseas job aspirants. Job-seekers are advised to protect themselves by following means:

1) Verify credentials of the recruitment agency / persons. Ensure that, the recruitment agency / persons are licensed by the Ministry of External Affairs, OE, PROTECTOR GENERAL OF EMIGRANTS, Government of India.

2) Avoid any upfront payment in case asked for.

3) Seek legal advice through trusted advisors or Regional Protector of Emigrants Offices.

4) Do not enter any dealings with lack of physical office or any credibility of the advertisers without referring their websites.

5) Do not deal with the unscrupulous agencies who are inconsistent or give evasive answers to your questions.

6) Reporting Fraud:

If you suspect that an agent / person is doing fraudulent activities related to overseas recruitment / employment, report it to the nearest POE Office, police station etc. etc; your report can help to prevent others from falling victims to scams.

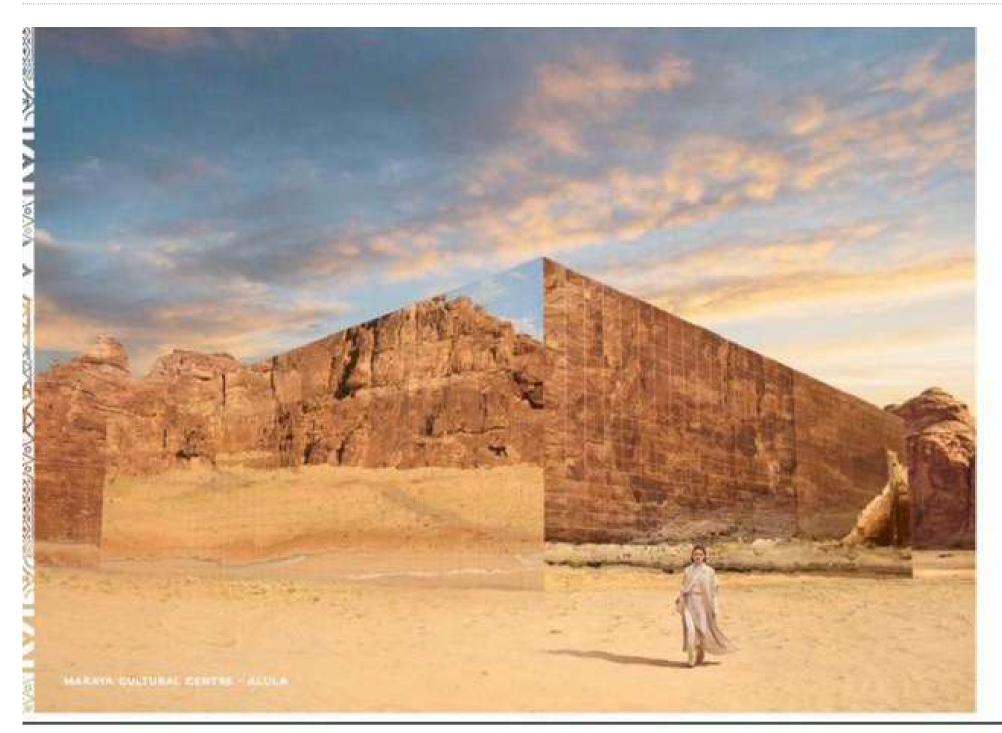
Your safety and well-being are paramount, by staying vigilant and informed, you can avoid falling prey to unscrupulous agents and ensure a secure legitimate path towards overseas employment. - VS Abdulkareem (President, Indian Personnel Export Promotion Council – IPEPCIL).





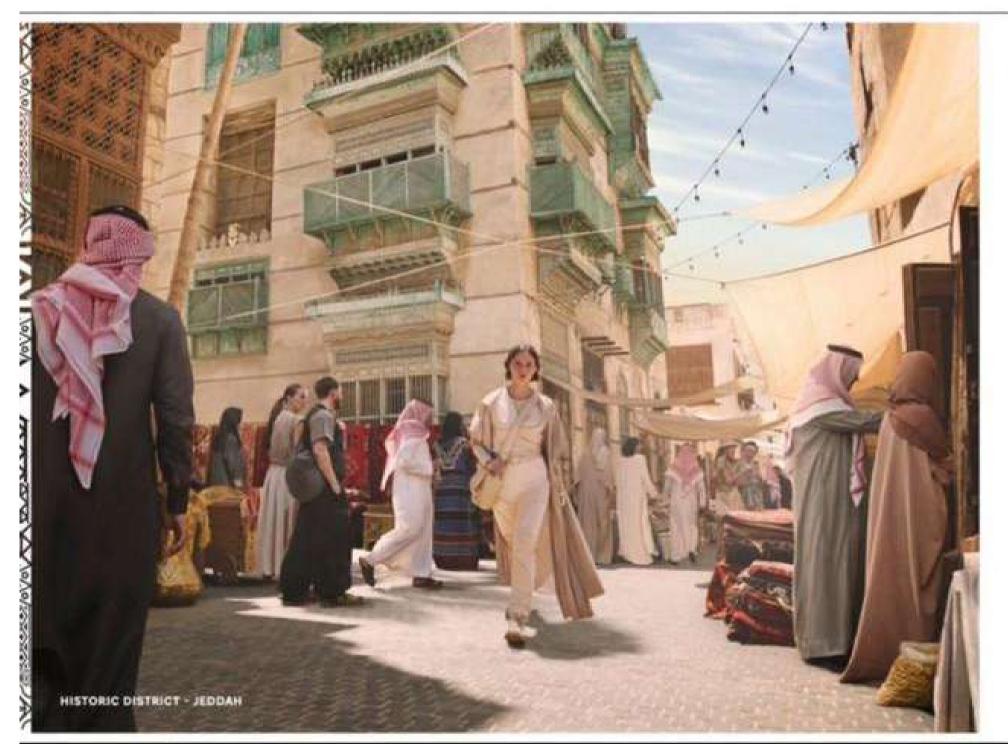
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TRAVEL & TOURISM



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OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



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GULF LAWS

UAE announces severe punishment for hit-and-run

What are the highlights of the new traffic rules announced by the UAE?

6

The UAE government announced several has measures including deterrent penalties — aimed at improving road safety. The new federal decree law on traffic regulations will come into effect on March 29, 2025.Imprisonment and hefty penalties of up to Dh2 lakh were specified for various traffic violations — from jaywalking to driving under the influence of drugs. Here's a list of offences and the changes that were specified in the law:

Jaywalking

Crossing from undesignated areas is among the offences that now come with higher fines. Currently, the violation is punishable by a Dh400 penalty. However, under the new law, jaywalkers could face imprisonment and a fine of Dh5,000 to Dh10.000 — if the offence results in a traffic accident. Higher penalany person who crosses from undesignated areas with a 80kmph speed limit or higher. They will be punished with imprisonment for a period of not than three months less and a fine of not less than Dh10,000 or by one of these two penalties. DRIVING UNDER THE **INFLUENCE OF ALCO-**HOL, DRUGS: Penalties can reach up to Dh2 lakh for violations such as driving under the influence of narcotic substances, psychotropic substances or the like The court shall also impose imprisonment and a fine of not less than Dh30,000. One's driving licence could also be suspended for a period of no less than six months for the first offence; one year the second time and cancellation after third offence. Whoever drives or attempts to drive under the influence of alcoholic beverages shall be punished

by imprisonment and a fine of not less than Dh20,000 and not more than Dh1 lakh or by either of these two penalties. The court shall suspend the violator's driving licence for a period of not less than three months the first time; six months the second time; and cancel-

lation the third time. HIT-AND-RUN CASE: Whoever deliberately commits any of the following actions shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not more than two years and a fine not less than Dh50,000 but not exceeding Dh1 lakh.

Failure to stop (with no valid reason) when a traffic accident occurs, resulting in injuries to people. A vehicle owner who caused a crime or accident and failed to provide information that would reveal the circumstances of the incident or the person responsible FLEEING FROM POLICE **OFFICERS:** Deliberate collision with traffic control authority vehicles, military vehicles or security person-

ties will be imposed on nel vehicles while performing their duties.

one of these two penalties. For example, those who hold a driver's licence are not allowed to ride a motorcycle, which requires a different permit.

In case of repeated offence, the driver shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than three months and a fine of Dh20,000 to Dh1 lakh or by one of these two penalties.

CAUSING DEATH DUE TO NEGLIGENCE: Whoever causes the death of a person on the road shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine of not less than Dh50,000.

The penalty shall be imprisonment for a period of not less than one year and a fine of not less than Dh1 lakh or one of these two penalties, if the offence happens under the following aggravating circumstances:

- * Beating the red light. * Driving a vehicle under the influence of alcoholic beverages, or any narcotic or psychotropic substances.
 - Driving a vehicle with a

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Needs clarity on lease renewals A year ago, I rented an rent includes the use of apartment from a real estate office in one of the residential complexes, and I used all the facilities in the complex, including a swimming pool, gym and parking. Currently, when renewing the lease contract, the real estate office asked me to pay an additional fee for using these facilities and also asked me to pay an amount for renewing the lease contract. My question is: Does the real estate office have the legal right to ask for these requests?

To answer such question, I would advise the questioner the following: As a general rule, Article 11 of the Law No. (26) of 2007 Regulating the Relationship between Landlords and Tenants in the Emirate of Dubai states that the rent includes all facilities unless otherwise agreed upon in the contract: "The leasing.

the property's facilities such as swimming pools, courts, gyms, health club, and car parking lots etc. unless otherwise is agreed upon". Which means that it is not against law if the landlord requests such payments but you have the right to reject. Regarding the amount for renewing the lease contract, it is also agreeable between the parties and the law doesn't prevent the landlord from requesting such service amounts. Moreover, Article 22 of the above-mentioned law provides that unless otherwise provided for by the lease, the lessee shall pay all the duties and taxes due on the use of the property to government bodies and departments, as well as any duties or taxes determined on sub-

Renew driving licence in installments

Can you please explain the new rules on renewing driving lincence in installments?

Starting next week, Dubai residents using Roads and Transport Authority's (RTA) services can

DRIVING WITH Α **UNREC**-SUSPENDED, **OGNISED LICENCE:** A jail term of up to three months was also specified for those caught driving with a suspended licence. A fine of not less than Dh10,000 may be imposed — or either of these two penalties. Anyone who drives a vehicle on UAE roads with a foreign driving licence that is not recognised in the country shall be punished by a fine of Dh2,000 to Dh10,000 for the first offence. There will also be imprisonment for a period of not less than three months and a fine of Dh5,000 to Dh50,000 — or any of these two penalties — for repeated offences. DRIVING WITHOUT A **PROPER LICENCE:** Those caught driving without a licence or using a licence for a different type of vehicle shall be punished by imprisonment of up to three months and a fine of

Dh5,000 to Dh50,000, or by

suspended or cancelled driving licence.

- Driving in a valley during floods.
- Misusing licence plate. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall be punished by imprisonment and/or a fine of not less than Dh20,000:
- Forging or imitating a licence plate or using a forged or licence plate. Distorting, obliterating or altering the data of a licence plate.
- Allowing others to use a licence plate, knowing that it has been obliterated, defaced or altered. Transferring a licence
- plate from one vehicle to another without the approval of the Licensing Authority.

The UAE Government said that the penalties under Federal Decree-Law No. 14 of 2024 On Traffic Regulation "shall not prejudice any more severe penalty stipulated in any other laws".

make payments in installments. The authority has a tie-up with shopping and financial services app Tabby to arrange the installment facility for customers using RTA services across smart kiosks, Meera AlShaikh, director of digital services at Roads and Transport Authority, informed.

"Customers will have the option to choose an easy installment plan of Tabby on smart RTA kiosks when making payments for digital services that are offered by the RTA such as renewal of vehicle licence, driver licence and payment of fines. This service is being rolled out to ensure that RTA payments are accessible to all customers," AlShaikh said.

RTA's kiosks offer a host of services including fine payment, vehicle and driving licence, issuance of certificates and seasonal parking card and others. RTA is one of the first Dubai entities to introduce an installment plan to its customers. The authority has 30 smart kiosks across the emirate.

"Through RTA's Smart Kiosks, a customer can renew their vehicle licence and driving licence and print it immediately. The entire journey takes less than a minute," she added. Over 40,000 global brands and small businesses use Tabby's technology to accelerate growth by offering flexible payments online and in stores. Tabby is active in Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Kuwait. "We expect to see Tabby service starting next week in RTA customer services centres. We are also studying expansion across all digital channels in the near future," AlShaikh said.

TRAVEL & TOURISM

Indian embassy in Kuwait celebrates conferment of classical status to three Indian lauguages

KUWAIT: India's Ambassador to Kuwait DrAdarshSwaikainaugurated the celebrations of the conferment of classical language status by Government of India to three Indian languages, namely Marathi, Bengali and Assamese .Two other languages Pali and Prakrit were also conferred the same status. The presence of Marathi, Bengali and Assamese members of the Indian community is symbolic of the importance the government

Theclassical languages serve as a custodian of Bharat's profound and ancient cultural heritage, embodying the essence of each community's histori-



India's Ambassador to Kuwait DrAdarshSwaika with the participants at the celebrations of conferment of classical language to three Indian languages at the embassy in Kuwait. cal and cultural milestone, ence today at the embassy status by government of DrAdarshSwaika said. to celebrate the confer-India to three Indian lan-"I appreciate your pres- ment of classical language guages, namely Marathi,

Bengali and Assamese earlier this month" the ambassador said.

7

OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

What are the advantages of classical language status? It is not just a significant honour but has also several tangible results, including employment and educational opportunities and cultural preservation. It will create significant employment opportunities, particularly in academic and research fields. The preservation, documentation, and digitisation of ancient texts of these languages will generate jobs in archiving, translation, publishing, and digital media, Dr Swaika remarked.

Bengaluru-Colombo daytime Modi to launch Ayushman flight from October 31 **Bharat scheme**

BENGALURU: SriLankan part from Bengaluru to Co-Airlines is scheduled to launch a new daytime flight between Bengaluru and urday, arriving in Colombo Colombo starting Oct 31, bringing the total weekly operations between the two cities to 10 flights. The new flight timings are ideal for both Indian holidaymakers and business event attendees travelling to Sri Lanka

lombo at 09:40 AM every Thursday, Friday and Satat 11:10 AM. The corresponding return flight, UL 1173, will leave Colombo at 07:20 AM and reach Bengaluru at 08:40 AM, also every Thursday through Saturday.

Aside from the new additions, the airline said it will tween India and the island for short weekend escapes. Flight UL 1174 will de- continue to operate its ex- nation.

isting daily service between Bengaluru and Colombo. It said India is the only country to have nine of its cities featured in SriLankan Airlines' network -- Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, Trichy, Madurai and Bengaluru. Altogether, the airline operates close to 90 flights every week be-

NEW DELHI: Prime obtain a new card. Minister NarendraModi may roll out a signifi- 70 and above who belong cant expansion of the Ayushman Bharat Prad-

Senior citizens aged to families already covered under AB PM-JAY han Mantri Jan Arog- will receive an addition-



IPEPCIL urges Gulf Health Council not to...

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Guide-International including \mathbf{those} lines, from WHO, ICMR and IMA, would typically not restrict such individuals from work unless they exhibit active symptoms of a communicable disease. Clinical judgement and comprehensive medical history are essential in making these determinations, Medical and Health experts has been criticised such practices as outdated, with many arguing that even OLD TB Scars "Pose No risk of contagious, as past infections do not necessarily indicate current Health threats." Therefore, while the WHO encourages TB screening as part of Global Health icy not only causes imefforts, it does not rec- mense personal and fi-

UNFIT for Employment abroad solely based on a small "SCAR" from an **OLD** infections.

Outdated norm

The specifically adopted criteria by the GCC for the PRE-MEDICAL CHECK-UP should be reviewed and modified based on the latest scientific methods instead of the OUTDATED Specific approach as WHO and all other Medical Or-Guidelines ganisations focus on preventing the spread of Active TB rather than excluding individuals with past infections who are No longer contagious.

The three decades over, criteria specification of Pre-Medical Check-up Pol-

ommend deeming someone nancial hardship of the Emigrants' but also deprives the labourmarkets abroad for skilled workers.

> It is important to note that, contemporary medical science has clearly established that minor scar on an X-ray, particularly if it's the result from a non-contagious or resolved condition, does not necessarily indicate a health risk. Many countries including the destination nations in question, no longer consider such findings relevant for disqualifying workers from employment. yet, the out-dated policy continues to be enforced by certain Medical Boards and Panel Doctors, causing undue rejection of Emigrants, says Shri VS.Abdulkareem, President, IPEPCIL.

yaYojana (AB-PMJAY) on Oct 29, providing health coverage to all citizens aged 70 years and above, regardless of their income status. This initiative aims to benefit about six crore senior citizens across 4.5 crore households.

The expanded scheme will offer free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh at any of the 29,648 hospitals empanelled under AB-PM-JAY, including 12,696 private hospitals. To facilitate this, eligible individuals must register on the PMJAY portal or the Ayushman app. Those already holding an Ayushman card will 17 under the Univerneed to reapply and complete their eKYC to

al top-up cover of Rs 5 lakh per year. Others in the same age group will receive coverage up to Rs 5 lakh per year on a family basis.

Additionally, the U-WIN portal, developed to maintain a digital registry of routine immunisations, will also be officially launched on the same day. This platform, a replication of the COVID-19 vaccine management system Co-WIN, is designed to keep a permanent digital record of vaccinations for pregnant women and children from birth to age sal Immunization Programme.