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PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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EMITT HELD IN ISTANBUL

VS Abdulkareem, CMD of Fly-Creative Online Limited, had a meaningful discussion at the East Mediterranean International Tourism & Travel Exhibition (EMITT) at Istanbul with global Destination Management Companies network under the global representation network of DMCs, exchanged insites in strengthening collaborative networks, fostering co-operation and building a unified global DMC group to drive sustainable growth and enhance tourism across worldwide destinations.



EMITT is held annually in Istanbul, a major trade show bringing together tour operators, travel agencies and hotels from around the globe. It serves as a major platform for both inbound and



outbound tourists, particularly for the Mediterranean, Eurasian and Balkan regions.

Time-tested India - Iran relations

India and Iran share a millennia-long history of interactions. The contemporary relationship draws upon the strength of these historical and civilisational ties and continues to grow further marked by high-level

el exchanges, commercial and connectivity co-operation, cultural and robust people-to-people ties. HH Ali Hosseini Khomeini is the supreme leader of Iran.

The visit of the then

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to Iran and the signing of the Tehran Declaration in April 2001, followed by the visit of HE President Seyyed Mohammad Khatami and the signing of the New Delhi

Declaration in 2003 deepened the India-Iran co-operation. The bilateral relations were further boosted by the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Iran in May 2016. During the vis-

it, a joint statement titled "Civilizational Connect, Contemporary Context" was issued and 12 MOUs/Agreements were signed. Later, Modi met HH President Masoud Pezeshkian (Cont. on page - 2)

Yusuff Ali reappointed board member of Abu Dhabi Chamber

ABU DHABI: Yusuff Ali MA, chairman and managing director of Lulu Group, has been reappointed to the Board of Directors of the Abu Dhabi Chamber after a decision by



Lulu Group chief Yusuff Ali

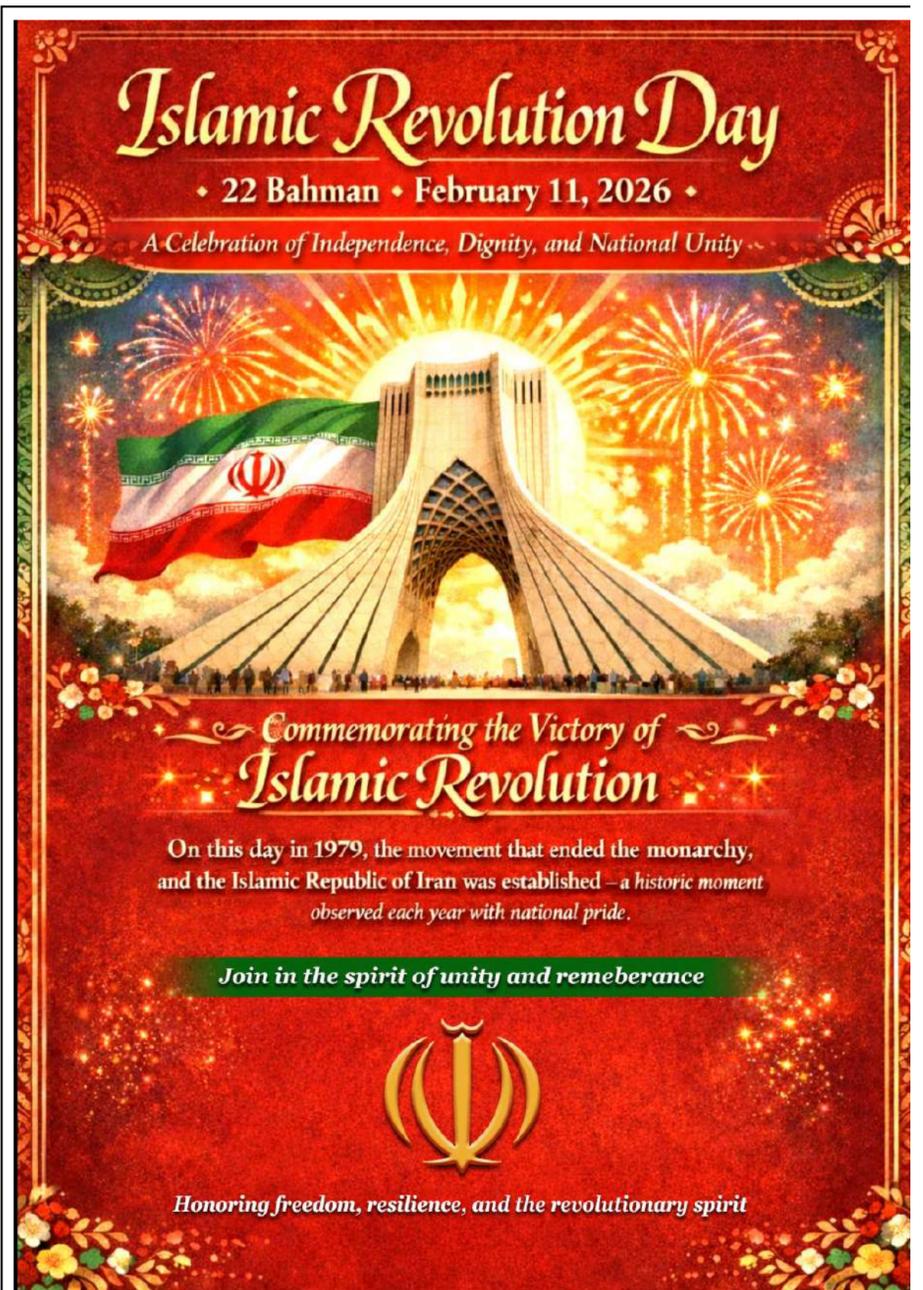
the Abu Dhabi Executive Council.

The Abu Dhabi Executive Council issued a resolution to appoint the UAE billionaire as a member of the board of the chamber.

"On this occasion, Abu Dhabi Chamber extends its best wishes for success in his new role and for meaningful contributions toward enhancing the role and impact of the private sector in the Emirate,

while supporting the achievement of Abu Dhabi's economic aspirations," the Chamber said in a statement. Yusuff Ali was ranked the richest Indian in the UAE, with an estimated wealth of \$5.8 billion. This is the second time Yusuff Ali has been appointed as a board member through resolution. He became the board member of Abu Dhabi Chamber three times through elections.

Lulu Group has a workforce of over 75,000 from 46 different nations, with operations across the UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Egypt, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, China, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Turkey, Spain, Italy, the UK, the US and India. His company operates a huge chain of shopping malls, hypermarkets, and a money and remittances exchange firm. Lulu Retail posted a net profit of \$36 million for the third quarter of 2025, an increase of 24pc year-on-year.



Time-tested India - Iran relations

(Cont. from page - 1)
on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia in Oct 2024 where the two leaders discussed ways to further strengthen the bilateral relations. There have been two Parliamentary speaker-level visits between India and Iran.

India and Iran are important trade partners. India has been among Iran's

five largest trade partners in recent years. Major Indian exports to Iran include rice, tea, sugar, pharma, manmade staple fibres, electrical machinery, artificial jewellery etc. Major Indian imports from Iran includes saturated methanol, petroleum bitumen, apples, liquified propane, dry dates, inorganic/organic chemicals, almonds etc.

The bilateral agreement between India and Iran gives India the right to develop two berths of the Chabahar port as agreed in 2015 and allows them to be operated for 10 years by India Ports Global, a joint venture between Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Kandla Port Trust, in partnership with Iran's Aria Banader.



Air India resumes Delhi-Shanghai flights

NEW DELHI: Air India on Sunday resumed its non-stop flights between Delhi and Shanghai after nearly six years and inducted

its first made-for-Air India Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner with completely redesigned interiors on the (Cont. on page - 6)



Oman Air developing low-cost travel model

MUSCAT: Oman Air is developing a low-cost travel model aimed at offering more affordable fares to a wider segment of passengers, alongside efforts to strengthen domestic and regional connectivity, according to Said Al Maawali, Minister of Transport.

Speaking on the sidelines of recent developments in the aviation sector, the minister said the national carrier is exploring new routes and services as part of this strategy, including potential flights to Al Jabal Al Akhdar and Masirah Island, as well as possible connections from Salalah to Abha and other nearby destinations. He added that these initiatives are expected to take clearer shape by the end of the year.

Al Maawali also announced that Oman has reached an agreement

with the company holding the jet fuel supply concession, paving the way for a unified jet fuel supply arrangement across all airports in the Sultanate. The move is expected to enhance operational efficiency and support the broader development of the aviation sector.

No selfies or photos of tourists without consent: Goa police

PANAJI: Goa police have started a stricter enforcement drive on the state's beaches, warning that people found taking selfies or photographs of tourists—Indian or foreign -- without consent, can be detained under preventive action.

The decision has been taken in view of a series of complaints and viral clips showing visitors, particularly foreign women, being pressured for selfies or filmed without their consent.



As part of the initiative, police on Friday detained two male tourists from Tamil Nadu at Baga beach in North Goa for allegedly clicking pictures of tourists and harassing them. The action has

been taken under Section 170 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which allows detention without a warrant in certain cases. As per the police, the focus is on non-consensual photography and forced selfies, especially instances where tourists' privacy is invaded or women are harassed. A senior police officer told a TV channel that in recent days, videos circulated online allegedly showed (Cont. on page - 6)

M&M investment to create 6000 jobs

MUMBAI: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said the investment of Rs 15,000 crore by Mahindra & Mahindra in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar and Nashik will create multiple jobs with as many as 6000 people to get employment in the three-wheeler industry.

Mahindra & Mahindra, a company in the automobile sector, will invest Rs 15,000 crore in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar and Nashik. This will create

many jobs. Significant investment has been made in the auto sector through this programme. About 10,000 people will get indirect employment in the three-wheeler industry and 6000 people will get direct employment, Fadnavis said while addressing the media at the event.

The company plans to set up its largest-ever man-

ufacturing plant for cars and tractors in Nagpur. The company is set to invest Rs 15,000 crore over the next 10 years to build this facility. The announcement was made at the "Advantage Vidarbha" event in Maharashtra. "The state-of-the-art facility will be developed across an area of 1500 acres in Vidarbha, complemented by a

150-acre supplier park in Sambhajinagar," Mahindra Group said. The automotive facility will support Mahindra Auto's next-generation platforms. Fadnavis also said the investment is a "strong endorsement of the state's robust industrial ecosystem." He added that the project will help the Vidarbha region grow faster.

India, Malaysia to focus more on semiconductors

PUTRAJAYA: India and Malaysia have pledged to deepen their semiconductor partnership as the Indian Ocean neighbours ramp up trade and security links during a visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Modi touched down in Malaysia on Saturday, his first visit in more than a decade, where he inked

a number of agreements with Malaysian counterpart Anwar Ibrahim, including deals on renewable energy, health care and artificial intelligence.

"Along with AI and digital technologies, we will advance our partnership in semiconductors, health and food security," Modi said. "This meeting and

these exchanges are very vital, very strategic and critical to advance and enhance relations between India and Malaysia," Anwar added at a news conference in Malaysia's administrative capital Putrajaya.

Malaysia ranks sixth in worldwide exports of (Cont. on page - 6)

NRI wins Rs 49 crore in Abu Dhabi Big Ticket draw

ABU DHABI: An Indian expatriate hailing from coastal Karnataka has won the grand prize in Abu Dhabi's popular Big Ticket raffle draw, taking home Dh20 million — About Rs 49 crore — in a windfall that has sparked celebrations in his hometown.

The winner, identified as 33 year-old Shanthanu Shettigar from Udupi district, secured the jackpot during the live draw held in Abu Dhabi earlier this week.

Shettigar, who is currently based in Muscat, works in the retail sector.

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HVAC Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Engineering (Mechanical or HVAC related) with min 10 years' of experience in a similar role, specifically within a petrochemical site. He should be proficient in OPERCOM® methodology and ICAPS® software and strong understanding of EPCC contract management and execution.

Process System Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Engineering (Chemical, Process Systems) with min 10 years' of experience in a similar role within the Oil & Gas sector. He should be an expert in engineering and configuration development for DCS, ESD, F&G, PLC and have a deep understanding of PCS and instrumentation activities and practical experience with EPCC contract management.

Telecom Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Telecommunications Engineering with min 10 years' of experience in a similar role specifically within the Oil & Gas industry. He should be mastery of OPERCOM® methodology and ICAPS® software and have a knowledge of EPCC contract management and execution.

Handover/ICAPS/Punch Commissioning Clerk
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Operational Start-up Operator
The applicants should be Diploma or ITI in Chemical, Mechanical, Process Engineering with min 3 years experience in petrochemical or oil & gas operations. He should be strong understanding of P&IDs, process flow diagrams and safety and familiar with DCS/PLC systems and field instrumentation.

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Piping Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be a BE in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent with 10+ years' operational experience specifically in Piping Commissioning or Construction within the Petrochemical or Oil & Gas sector, hands-on experience with ICAPS, Deep understanding of OPERCOM with troubleshooting, strong team spirit, and the ability to manage complex interfaces.

Rotating Equipment Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be a BE in Mechanical Engineering with min 10 years' of experience in a similar commissioning role within the petrochemical industry. He should be proficiency in OPERCOM® methodology and ICAPS® Software and strong understanding of EPCC contract management and execution.

Static Equipment Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent with min 10 years' of experience in static equipment commissioning within the petrochemical industry and deep knowledge of OPERCOM® and ICAPS® is essential. He should be Familiarity with EPCC contract management and execution.

Electrical Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Electrical Engineering or equivalent with min 10 years' of experience as an Electrical Commissioning Engineer, with a specific focus on High Voltage (240 kV) systems within the Oil & Gas sector. He must be Proficiency in OPERCOM® and ICAPS® is highly preferred and understanding of EPCC contract management and execution.

Instrument/Analyzer Commissioning Specialist
The applicants should be BE in Instrumentation Engineering with min 10 years' of experience in a similar role within an Oil & Gas refinery environment. He should be mastery of OPERCOM® methodology and ICAPS® Software and good knowledge of managing EPCC contracts and contractor deliverables.

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H-1B visa has lost relevance, says Goyal

NEW DELHI: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said the H-1B visa had lost much of its relevance after the Covid-19 pandemic. "Global businesses no longer depend on moving large numbers of Indian engineers to the US," he said.

Speaking during separate discussions on US-India trade issues with NDTV and CNBC, Goyal said the world of work had changed and Indian companies were no longer pressing the government to negotiate for more H-1B visas.

"The H-1B visa story had gradually deteriorated into a lottery. So if I needed two H-1B visas, I would calculate that one out of seven are going to get it. I would apply for 15 and hope to get two out of those. Gradually, the process had gone down to

that level, post-Covid," he said, describing how firms coped with uncertainty in the programme.

What is the H-1B visa and why Indians dominate? The H-1B visa is a temporary US work visa for highly skilled professionals, allowing American firms to employ foreign nationals in specialised roles. Indians have historically been the biggest beneficiaries, accounting for more than 70pc of approvals in recent years.

Asked whether tighter US restrictions on the H-1B programme had featured in trade talks, Goyal said the issue had not been discussed with his American counterparts.

"I have not heard any company, absolutely any company, come to me and ask me to talk to the US or try to negotiate for more

H-1B visas. The world has changed today," he said.

Why Indian industry is not worried? He added that conversations with Indian industry suggested little anxiety about the recent tightening of the visa regime. "I had discussed with our Indian industry, and they really do not seem to be perturbed at all about the restrictions on H-1B. They are very confident that wherever they require it, they will get it," Goyal said.

"In fact, some people also told me it will actually become better, because a lot of the fringe applications will go out, and really serious players will now be looking for entry of their people into the US to serve high-tech products and high-tech requirements," he said.

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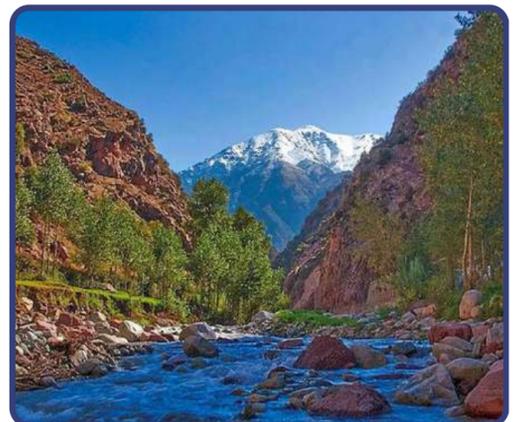
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GULF FAQs

I am visiting UAE, can I drive?

I plan to visit UAE. My question is can I drive a rental car there?

If you are visiting the UAE and plan to drive, it is important to understand the rules around foreign driving licences, car rentals, insurance and security deposits. While visitors from certain countries can drive using their home licence, others must obtain an International Driving Permit (IDP) before renting a car. This guide explains who can legally drive in the UAE, when an IDP is required, the minimum age to rent a car, and what to expect when renting a vehicle.

Avoiding Dh43,000 in traffic fines: Here's how UAE car rentals help tourists. Can tourists use their home country's driving licence? Yes. Visitors from selected countries can legally drive in the UAE using a



valid home country driving licence, provided they are visiting on a tourist or visit visa. The UAE recognises driving licences from more than 30 countries, including the UK, US, Canada, Germany, France, Japan and South Korea. If your licence is from one of these

approved countries, you do not need to apply for a UAE driving licence or obtain an IDP during your stay. A complete and updated list of recognised countries is available on the UAE Ministry of Interior website.

Visitors holding a valid driving licence issued by a Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) country can also drive in the UAE without additional permits. Licences from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman are accepted. GCC nationals can drive during visits using their home licence. However, expatriates from GCC countries who become UAE residents must apply for or exchange their licence for a UAE driving licence. If your

home country's licence is not recognised by the UAE, you must carry a valid International Driving Permit (IDP) along with your original driving licence. In most cases, the licence must have been held for at least 12 months. Because rental policies can vary, it is recommended to confirm requirements directly with your chosen car rental company before travelling.

The minimum legal age to rent a car in the UAE is 21. However, some rental companies, particularly those offering luxury or high-performance vehicles, may require drivers to be 25 or older. Age requirements depend on the vehicle category and company policy.

How can a housemaid file case against her employer in the UAE?

I am a housemaid. I would like to know what procedures I should follow to file a case and claim my rights from my employer. Do I need to pay any court fees?

To claim your rights, you must first file a complaint with the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization (MOHRE). The ministry will take the necessary steps to try to settle the dispute amicably between you and your employer.

If the dispute is not resolved:

*If the value of your claim is less than Dh50,000, the ministry has the authority to issue a decision on the matter.

*If the value of your claim exceeds Dh50,000, the ministry will refer the dispute to the competent court for judgment.

Importantly, lawsuits filed by domestic workers are exempt from all judicial fees at every stage of litigation, meaning you do not need to pay court costs. These cases are also

treated as urgent. This is based on Article 23 of Federal Decree-Law No. (9) of 2022 on Domestic Workers, which states that:

*The ministry shall take appropriate measures to settle disputes amicably.

*If no settlement is reached, the dispute will be referred to the competent court.

*The ministry may decide disputes where the claim does not exceed AED 50,000.

Either party may challenge the ministry's decision before the court within 15 working days of being notified.

The court must schedule a hearing within three working days, and the case must be decided within 30 working days. The court's ruling in such cases is final.

In addition, Article 26(3) confirms that: "Lawsuits filed by workers under this Decree-Law shall be exempt from all judicial fees at all stages of litigation and their consideration shall be urgent."

Can an employer appeal against labour court ruling?

I worked for a company as a driver for five years. I filed a case against the company requesting rights amounting to Dh45,000. The court decided that the company shall pay me Dh40,000. The company appealed the decision, and the court decided that they shall pay me Dh35,000. My questions: Is the company liable to appeal the First Instance Court judgment? What should I do to challenge the appeal decision?

The company is not liable to appeal the First Instance Court judgment because the value of your case is less than Dh50,000, which is the quorum required to file

an appeal according to Article (29) of the Civil Procedures Law No. 42 of 2022, which mentions that "Judgments rendered by the First Instance Tribunal shall be conclusive if the value of the case does not exceed Dh50,000. To challenge the appeal decision, you may file an application to the Attorney General, requesting him to challenge the decision and providing your reasons for this request. Article (176) of the same law states that:

"The Attorney General may challenge by way of cassation, either on his own or based on a request of the Minister of Justice or the Head of the Local Judicial Body, as the case may be, accompanied by the grounds

for challenge, the final judgments, regardless of the issuing courts thereof, in the event that the judgment is based on the violation, misapplication or incorrect application of the law in the following instances:

- a) Judgments which the law does not permit the litigants to challenge;
- b) Judgments in respect of which the litigants have missed the time limit for challenge, have waived the challenge or have filed a challenge that is dismissed by the court as inadmissible.

The Attorney General shall file the challenge based on a statement of challenge to be signed by him, within one year following the date on which the judgment is rendered."

Indians in UK most financially successful migrant group

LONDON: The Indian community has emerged as the most economically successful migrant group in the UK with generations of Indians playing a key role in shaping the coun-

try's economic strength, public services and global influence, according to a new report by Aston University and Here & Now 365, a UK's multicultural advertising agency.

Drawing on economic and labour market data, the report positions the Indian community at the forefront among migrant groups in the UK.

It highlighted high lev-

els of employment, strong educational attainment and a deep-rooted culture of entrepreneurship within the community. The report also noted that professionals of Indian origin form a significant share of the UK's technology and IT ecosystem, an industry in which Britain ranks second globally, behind only the US and China.

It stated: "The Indian diaspora is woven into the UK's growth story. Indian-led enterprises, research initiatives and professional networks are generating employment, boosting skills development and fostering knowledge exchange in communities across the nation."

The report highlighted that successive generations of Indians have contributed not only to economic growth but also to the strengthening of public services and the UK's global standing. It traces this impact through four major waves of Indian migration since India's independence, together forming a story of resilience, adaptation and long-term con-

tribution spanning more than seven decades.

The first wave began in the period following the Second World War, when Britain faced severe labour shortages. Indian migrants stepped in to fill critical gaps, working across manufacturing, transport and public services.

Their efforts were instrumental in stabilising a nation recovering from war and in laying the early foundations of what later became the National Health Service. The second wave followed a major disruption in the early 1970s, when the expulsion of Asians from East Africa under the regime of Idi Amin forced thousands of families of Indian origin to seek refuge in the UK. Many arrived with business experience and entrepreneurial instincts.

The fourth and most recent wave has been shaped by the post-Brexit and post-Covid environment. The report highlighted the strategic importance of Indian talent in addressing critical skills shortages, particularly in healthcare.

'We can buy \$500bn worth goods from US'

NEW DELHI: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said India would have no problem in purchasing goods worth US\$500 billion from the US over the next five years, terming it a very conservative number, given that India's growing economy will generate a demand of about \$2 trillion.

"We are going to need aircraft. We are going to need engines for aircraft. We are going to need spare parts. We already have \$50 billion worth of orders on Boeing alone for aircraft. We have orders for engines," he added.

At present, he said, India could source imports worth about \$300 billion from the US that it currently buys from other countries. "We are even today

importing \$300 billion of goods that can be imported from the US. We are importing from all over the world. That is going to grow up to two trillion in the next five years... I told my counterparts that look, I can assure you that there is demand in India, but you have to be competitive," Goyal said.

India and the US have announced that they have finalised the framework for the first phase of the bilateral trade agreement. According to a joint statement, India has expressed its intention to purchase \$500 billion of US energy products, aircraft and aircraft parts precious metals, technology products and coking coal over the next five years.

The commerce minister

said big tech firms have announced large investments in India and, therefore, "my sense is that we will see 10 gigawatts of data centres" in the country, and for that India will need equipment, which the US can supply. Further, he said the country requires cooking coal for the steel industries. "India is already importing about 17-18 billion tonnes of cooking coal. When we reach 300 billion, which is a stated target and expansion is going on at break-neck speed in the steel industry. We'll need \$30 billion dollars per year for cooking coal alone. And all of these products I'm mentioning are already being imported since the Congress time, since the UPA was in power. Nothing new," he said.

The demand for these goods is increasing in the world's fastest-growing large economy, he added. "There's a growth of demand and consumption of all of these products.

No selfies or photos of...

(**Cont. from page - 2**) some visitors "coaxing and forcing" foreign women for selfies on beaches. The officer stated that the police will take strict action and anyone found clicking photos without consent and infringing privacy can face preventive detention for up to 24 hours.

Officials have cited repeated incidents and the reputational harm such behaviour can cause to a tourist-heavy state. An anonymous officer said that such cases "reflects poorly" on Goa's image if

India, Malaysia to focus...

(**Cont. from page - 2**) semiconductors, while the sector contributes around 25pc of gross domestic product, according to Malaysian government fig-

ures. India's foreign ministry said the Southeast Asian nation had a "very strong semiconductor ecosystem". "They have almost 30 to 40 years of experience in those areas," the ministry added in a statement ahead of Modi's arrival. "Our companies are... interested in collaborating with Malaysia," it said, including in research and development and building manufacturing and testing plants. Last year India exported \$7.32bn in goods, mainly in engineering and petroleum products, said the India Brand Equity Foundation. Imports from Malaysia amounted to \$12.54bn, mainly minerals, vegetable oil and electrical machinery and equipment.

Air India resumes...

(**Cont. from page - 2**) Mumbai-Frankfurt route.

The airline will operate four weekly flights between Delhi and Shanghai, with departures from Delhi around noon and return flights leaving Shanghai late at night.

On the Mumbai-Frankfurt sector, daily services will continue with departures from Mumbai in the afternoon and return flights arriving the following morning.

The Delhi-Shanghai service, operated as flight AI352, departed Indira Gandhi International Airport shortly after noon, restoring a direct air link between the Indian capital and one of Asia's most important business and cultural centres. Operat-

ed four times a week using a Boeing 787-8 aircraft, the route reconnects India with mainland China amid rising demand from business travellers, families and tourists.

Campbell Wilson, MD, Air India, said: "The resumption of our Delhi-Shanghai services is more than a route launch. It is a bridge between two great, ancient civilisations and modern economic powerhouses.

At Air India, we are happy to reconnect one of the world's most vital air corridors, enabling travellers to pursue opportunities in business, trade, healthcare, education and culture with the comfort and warm Indian hospitality that define Air India."