



OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: TUESDAY, 10 MARCH, 2026 • VOL. NO. 3 • Issue No. 9 • DIV. OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 6 PAGES

IPEPCIL calls for rationalisation of emigration clearance to facilitate overseas employment mobility faster

MUMBAI: IPEPCIL, the apex body representing Licensed Recruitment Agencies, has urged the Govt. of India, MEA-OE-PGE to further simplify and rationalise the Emigration Clearance (EC) procedures to ECR countries, under the framework of the Emigration Act-1983 administered by the Protector General of Emigrants through

the "eMigrate" system.

IPEPCIL welcomed the government's continued efforts to improve transparency and worker protection, but highlighted that, practical challenges remain in the EC process, particularly on the FE Registration through the reviewed rationalisation norms, due to repeated verification requirements

and requests for additional documentation related to Foreign Employers (FE) even after the employment visa has been issued by the destination countries after all due diligence and eligibility criteria of the host country norms.

IPEPCIL President VS Abdulkareem says that, a valid employment visa issued by the destination

country already confirms the verification of the foreign employer as per their strict norms of eligibility criteria, as such visas are granted only after thorough scrutiny by the host country authorities, therefore, IPEPCIL recommends that, emigration clearance should be granted primarily on the basis of a valid employment visa along-

with an undertaking from the licensed RAs registered under the emigration framework.

This approach would help avoid unnecessary delays, repeated document submissions, and re-verification processes that currently slow down worker mobilisation.

Recruitment agent- (Cont. on page - 2)

MEA-OE holds workshop in Delhi to streamline overseas employment and strengthen recruitment practices

NEW DELHI: The Overseas Employment (OE) and Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) Division of the Ministry of External Affairs organised a workshop on "Training and Capacity Building for Recruiting Agents" at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan in New Delhi on March 6. The event was inaugurated by Secretary (CPV & OIA) Supriya Ranganathan and aimed at strengthening stakeholder engagement and improving the efficiency of India's overseas employment system.

IPEPCIL, Mumbai officials together with the RA (Cont. on page - 2)

Surinder Bhagat (IFS), joint secretary (Overseas employment & Protector General of Emigrants - MEA - govt of India) addressing the workshop on "Training and capacity building for recruiting Agents" in Delhi.



Surinder Bhagat felicitating Supriya Ranganathan, Secretary (CPV&OIA) at the workshop.



Sandeep Kapoor, President of Delhi Association and a section of RA participants



Qreshi Athar Salim, Working Executive Secretary of IPEPCIL and Ajaz Mohammed, media spokesperson of IPEPCIL at the workshop.

Lulu operates chartered flights to ferry food articles to UAE

DUBAI: Retail major Lulu Group has launched special air cargo operations from India and other key global markets to ensure a steady flow of food products into the war-hit UAE, which is its largest market and more air cargoes are planned in the coming days.

Fresh food supplies were flown into the UAE on special chartered cargo flight as the retailer stepped up efforts to keep



Lulu group chairman, Yusuffali MA

store shelves stocked, the company said in a statement. The first cargo freighter flight was operated by Etihad Airways, Abu Dhabi, ferrying a

shipment of about 80,000 kg of fresh produce from India to Abu Dhabi. The retailer is planning more air cargo shipments in the coming days as part of efforts to maintain stock levels across its UAE stores.

Earlier this week, Lulu had transported around 80 tonne of meat from New Delhi, while additional consignments are being arranged from Mumbai and Bengaluru (Cont. on page - 2)

India-West Asia airfares continue to skyrocket

MUMBAI: Airfares between India and West Asia have surged dramatically in recent days, with ticket prices on several routes rising three to four times their usual levels as airlines grapple with the cascading impact of the escalating conflict in the region. The sharp spike in fares reflects a combination of factors, including steep war-risk insurance premiums, rising aviation turbine fuel costs and significant operational disruptions affecting flight

routes and schedules.

Travel industry executives say fares on key routes connecting Indian cities with major Gulf hubs have risen sharply since tensions in the region intensified. Routes linking cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Kochi and Hyderabad with destinations including Dubai, Doha, Abu Dhabi and Muscat have seen some of the steepest increases, particularly on last-minute bookings. In many cases, (Cont. on page - 2)

NEW YORK: Oil prices crossed \$100 per barrel for the first time in more than three-and-a-half year as the Iran war escalates and hinders production and shipping in West Asia.

The price for a barrel of Brent crude, the international standard, was at \$120t after trading resumed on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, up 16.5pc from its Friday closing price of \$92.69.

West Texas Intermediate, the light, sweet crude oil produced in the US

Crude oil prices surpass \$100 a barrel as Iran war intensifies

was selling for about US\$ 106.22 a barrel. That is 16.9pc higher than it closed Friday at \$90.90.

Both could rise or fall as market trading continued. The increases followed the US crude price jumping by 36pc and Brent crude rising by 28pc last week. Oil prices have surged as the war, now in its second week, ensnared countries



gas from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Iran.

Iraq, Kuwait and the UAE have cut their oil production as storage tanks fill due to the reduced ability to export crude. Iran, Israel and the US also have attacked oil and gas facilities since the war started, exacerbating supply concerns. The last time US crude futures traded above \$100 per barrel was June 30, 2022, when the price reached \$105.76. For Brent, it was July 29, 2022, when the price hit \$104 per barrel.

and places that are critical to the production and movement of oil and gas from the Persian Gulf.

Roughly 15 million barrels of crude oil -- about 20pc of the world's oil -- typically are shipped every day through the Strait of

Hormuz, according to independent research firm Rystad Energy. The threat of Iranian missile and drone attacks has all but stopped tankers from travelling through the strait, which is bordered in the north by Iran, carry oil and

MEA-OE holds workshop...

(Cont. from page - 1) stakeholders across the country participated in the workshop.

The workshop focused on recent reforms introduced to streamline the Emigration Clearance (EC) process and addressed emerging challenges in overseas recruitment. Sessions covered key issues such as illegal recruitment in cyberspace, updated documentation

requirements, revised workflows for EC applications and new standard operating procedures for rationalisation cases. Officials emphasised the importance of fair recruitment practices, regulatory compliance and operational efficiency to ensure safer and more transparent overseas employment opportunities for Indian workers International mobility.

India-West Asia airfares skyrocket

(Cont. from page - 1) economy class tickets that previously cost a few hundred dollars have jumped to several times their normal levels, reflecting the sudden strain on airline operations.

The immediate trigger behind the price surge is the sharp rise in war-risk insurance premia charged to airlines operating in or near conflict zones. Insurers have reassessed the risks associated with flying over or near parts of West Asia following escalating military tensions and security threats in the region. As a result, airlines are now paying significantly higher insurance costs for aircraft operating on these routes, a burden that is quickly being passed on to passengers through higher fares.

At the same time, aviation turbine fuel prices have climbed in response to volatility in global energy markets. The conflict has heightened concerns about disruptions to oil

shipments from the Gulf, pushing up crude prices and, by extension, jet fuel costs. Fuel typically accounts for a large portion of airline operating expenses, and any sustained increase can quickly translate into higher ticket prices, especially on international routes.

Operational challenges have added further pressure. Several airlines have been forced to reroute flights to avoid airspace considered unsafe due to the conflict. These longer flight paths increase fuel consumption and extend travel times, while also complicating scheduling for airlines that must adjust aircraft rotations and crew assignments. In some cases, airlines have reduced flight frequencies or temporarily suspended certain services, tightening seat availability and driving fares higher.

The impact is particularly significant for India because of the heavy passenger traffic between the

country and West Asia. Millions of Indian workers live in Gulf countries and rely on regular air connectivity to travel for work, family visits and emergencies. The region is also a major transit hub for long-haul flights connecting India with Europe and North America, meaning disruptions there can ripple across broader international travel networks.

Lulu operates chartered flights...

(Cont. from page - 1) ru, as well as other global sourcing markets including Melbourne. The dedicated cargo flights allow large volumes of perishable goods to reach the Arab country, which has closed its airspace following attacks from the neighbouring Iran that's being rained of bombs and missiles by the US and Israel since last Saturday, helping maintain steady supplies of fresh produce.

"Our priority is to ensure that families across the UAE continue to have

IPEPCIL calls for rationalisation...

(Cont. from page - 1) ity of the employer, employment contract and job terms can ensure compliance while significantly simplifying the process, Abdulkareem said.

IPEPCIL, further stated that, any employment-related disputes arising after the mobilisation of workers fall under the jurisdiction of the labour laws of the destination country, so making excessive pre-departure documentation redundant in many cases.

By adopting a visa-based EC approval system supported by RA accountability, the government can effectively:

Reduce delays in worker deployment.

Minimise unnecessary bureaucratic procedures.

Prevent repeated verification of already validated employers.

Strengthen responsibility and compliance among licensed recruitment agencies.

Eliminate opportunities for procedural delays and irregular practices.

IPEPCI, expressed confidence that such rationalisation would strengthen the integrity, efficiency and transparency of EC process and improve India's overseas mobility for employment ecosystem, benefitting both migrant workers and the regulated stakeholder network.

access to fresh food and essential products without any concern," Yusufali MA, Lulu group chairman was quoted as saying in a statement. Yusufali, the richest NRI in the Gulf, also reassured UAE residents that the group has a strong global sourcing and logistics network to ensure uninterrupted supplies and stable prices. The UAE, heavily dependent on imports for its food supplies, has felt the impact more acutely than many other nations. Chartered flights, arranged by Lulu Group,

serve as a direct solution to ensure the continuous importation of essential food products. These flights are strategically scheduled to bring in high-demand and perishable items that are often delayed in traditional shipping channels. By relying on chartered air travel, Lulu Group ensures that these essential goods arrive at their destination in optimal condition, offering a significant advantage over standard cargo transport, which can be subject to delays and complications.

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF DIGITALISED ADVERTISEMENTS WITH ONE E-NEWSPAPER

TAP ON THE YELLOW BANNER BELOW THE ADVERTISEMENT TO CONNECT WITH ADVERTISERS

FOREX RATES

As on 9th March 2026 (In rupees)

Currency	Bill Buy	Bill Sell
US Dollar	91.03	92.22
British Pound	121.72	123.43
Euro	105.43	107.66
Japanese Yen	57.81	58.74
Swiss Franc (CHF)	116.17	118.7
Canadian Dollar	66.35	67.84
Australian Dollar	63.88	65.28
Norwegian Krone	9.31	9.59
Swedish Krona	9.77	10.05
New Zealand Dollar	53.5	54.7
Hong Kong Dollar	11.49	11.84
Kuwaiti Dinar	296.6	307.29
Singapore Dollar	70.96	72.54
Saudi Arabian Riyal	23.93	24.7
U A E Dirham	24.52	25.23

flyCreative
Online LIMITED

VISA

JAPAN

- Expert visa guidance & documentation support
- Tourist & short-term visit visas
- Transparent process with professional handling
- Trusted support from application to approval

8657743449 | 8657931714 | visa@flycreative.in | junaid.shaikh@flycreative.in | www.flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in

flyCreative
Online LIMITED

SOUTH COASTAL KARNATAKA TEMPLE TOUR 7N 8D
Mangalore • Udupi • Murudeshwar • Gokarna • Honnavar • Dharmasthala • Kukke Subrahmanya

Day 1: Mangalore Arrival
Day 2: Mangalore – Udupi
Day 3: Udupi – Kollur – Murudeshwar
Day 4: Murudeshwar – Gokarna
Day 5: Gokarna – Honnavar
Day 6: Gokarna – Dharmasthala
Day 7: Dharmasthala – Kukke – Mangalore
Day 8: Departure

CONTACT : 8828800804 | 9152110170 | 9207740605 | 8828800805
022-22077955/56/57 | SOUTH@FLYCREATIVE.IN | WWW.FLYCREATIVE.IN

www.flycreative.in

one
WILL BE A
RELIABLE INTERFACE
BETWEEN
JOB PROVIDERS
AND JOB SEEKERS

Indian investors continue to power Dubai's property boom

DUBAI: Indian investors are once again emerging as the dominant force behind Dubai's booming real estate market, reinforcing the Emirate's status as one of the most attractive overseas property destinations for Indian capital despite rising geopolitical tensions in the Gulf.

Even as escalating tensions involving Iran and parts of the MidEast raise questions about regional stability, Dubai's property sector continues to draw strong interest from Indian buyers, who account for the largest share of foreign property investments in the emirate.

Analysts say the continued inflow of Indian capi-

tal — from high-net-worth individuals, business families and diaspora professionals — has become a crucial pillar sustaining Dubai's record-breaking property cycle. According to a research note by property consultancy Anarock Group, Indian nationals account for roughly 20 to 22pc of all foreign property purchases in Dubai, making them the largest overseas investor group in the market.

The scale of Indian participation reflects a combination of financial returns, geographical proximity and long-standing economic ties between India and the UAE. Attractive rental yields, strong cap-

ital appreciation and the stability of the UAE dirham — which is pegged to the US dollar — continue to make Dubai one of the most compelling global property markets for Indian investors. Industry estimates cited by Anarock suggest Indian investors purchased Dh35 billion to Dh40 billion worth of residential properties annually in recent years, highlighting the scale of capital flowing into the emirate from India.

Dubai's property market entered the current period of geopolitical uncertain-



volumes crossed 2.7 lakh deals, reflecting deep investor participation and strong liquidity across the market.

Residential real estate has been the primary engine of this expansion. Nearly two lakh residential transactions worth about Dh538 billion were recorded during the year.

"Transaction volumes crossing 2.7 lakh deals clearly reflect strong investor participation and deep liquidity in the market," said Dr Prashant Thakur, executive director and head of Research and Advisory at Anarock Group.

"Residential real estate has been the main growth engine, and since 2021 housing prices in Dubai have risen roughly 60 to 75pc, making it one of the strongest housing cycles globally in the post-pandemic period."

ty after completing one of the strongest growth cycles in its history. According to Dubai Land Department data analysed by Anarock and other industry consultancies, total real estate transactions reached Dh917 billion (\$250 billion) in 2025, the highest value ever recorded in the emirate. Transaction

Incredible India
Accredited Agent

www.flycreativeglobal.com
Email: support@flycreative.in

www.flycreative.in



A Destination Management Division of FlyCreative Online Limited.

Ramadan Special Dubai Holiday

Experience the Magic of Dubai During Ramadan

TRAVEL PERIOD
01 June – 31 Aug
2026
VALID FOR RAMADAN & SUMMER TRAVEL

EXCLUSIVE 4 NIGHTS DUBAI PACKAGE

PACKAGE INCLUSIONS :

- 4 Nights stay in a 4★ Hotel with Daily Breakfast
- Return Dubai Airport Transfers (T1 / T2 / T3 – Private Basis)
- Half Day Dubai City Tour
- Burj Khalifa Visit – 124th Floor (Non-Prime Time)
- Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo Entry
- Dubai Marina Dhow Cruise with Buffet Dinner
- Desert Safari with BBQ Dinner
- 5% VAT Included

INR 26500/- PP

On double sharing basis

TERMS & CONDITIONS :

- Tours & transfers on SIC basis unless specified
- Airport transfers on private basis
- Tourism Dirham Fee payable directly at hotel
- Rooms & rates subject to availability

*Terms and conditions apply



98333 96453
93230 27987



tours@flycreative.in
ankita.chauhan@flycreative.in



www.flycreativeglobal.com

GULF FAQs

My insurance company is unhelpful, tell me what to do?

I have a medical condition that needs certain urgent procedures. Although my doctor has deemed these procedures essential, some of them are being rejected by the insurance company. How can I address this legally?

In Dubai, the provisions of the Dubai health insurance law and the administrative resolution are applicable. An insurance company is required to pay for health benefits, cover emergency treatment from out-of-network providers until the beneficiary's life is no longer at risk and ensure the beneficiary can access all rights granted under the health insurance policy. This is in accordance with Article 13 (1) (2) and (3) of Dubai Health Insurance Law No. 11 of 2013.

"An insurance company must: 1. Pay the cost of health benefits; 2. Pay the cost of the health benefits provided by a health ser-

vice provider that is not part of the health service provider network in an emergency case until the beneficiary's life is no longer threatened; 3. Allow the beneficiary to obtain, by all means available, all his rights as determined in the health insurance policy;" The insurance company must pay for the insured person's medical treatment as per the policy. This is in accordance with Article 20 of the Dubai Health Insurance Law.

"Without prejudice to his right to have recourse against the entity legally responsible for payment of the cost of health benefits, the coverage provider will bear the cost of the health benefits provided to a beneficiary in accordance with the health insurance policy." Furthermore, the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) is to create a system for resolving disputes related to health insurance, requiring parties to utilise

this system before seeking judicial or arbitral remedies. This is in accordance with Article 21 of the Dubai Health Insurance Law.

"The DHA may establish a system for the settlement of disputes arising out of health insurance, and may make it mandatory for health insurance parties, prior to recourse to the courts or arbitration." In addition, when filing a complaint with Dubai Health Insurance Corporation (DHIC), affiliated to



the DHA, the complaint must include the personal details of the person mak-

ing the complaint, clearly describe the issue and what the complainant is requesting, be accompanied by all supporting documents, be written in Arabic, or both Arabic and English, follow any additional requirements set by the DHIC. This is in accordance with Article 28 (b) of the Administrative Resolution No. (78) of 2022 Issuing the Implementing Bylaw of Law No. (11) of 2013 Concerning Health Insurance in the Emirate of

it regarding the health services covered by the health insurance system or health insurance policies.

b) A complaint filed with the DHIC must:

1. contain the personal details of the complainant; 2. contain the details of the complaint, including a clear and precise description of the complainant's requests;

3. be accompanied by all the documents that support the complaint; 4. be written in Arabic or in both the Arabic and English languages; and 5. meet any other requirements prescribed by the DHIC." Based on the aforementioned legal provisions, if your insurance company has refused to cover essential medical procedures prescribed by your doctor, which are covered in your insurance policy, you may first submit a written complaint to the insurer along with the medical documentation.

Dubai.

"a) The DHIC will consider the complaints filed with

Taxing foreign income of NRIs

I am an NRI and can you please explain reports that my residential status will impact on my foreign income?

NRIs returning to India must carefully evaluate their residential status, as prolonged presence in the country may trigger taxation of worldwide income.

Planning in the transition year is essential to avoid tax surprises. They must review advance tax obligations, as global income becoming taxable could create liability under Sections 234B and 234C of the Income-tax Act for non-payment.

Proper disclosure of foreign assets and income becomes critical once resident status is triggered. Failure to comply may invite scrutiny under the Income-tax Act as well

as implications under the Black Money Act.

An individual qualifies as a resident in India if he is present in India for 182 days or more during the relevant financial year. He may also qualify as a resident if present in India for 60 days or more in the relevant financial year and 365 days or more in aggregate during the four preceding financial years. However, relaxations apply to Indian citizens and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) visiting India, where the 60-day threshold is extended to 120 days for those with total income above Rs 15 lakh.

Further, an Indian citizen whose total income exceeds Rs 15 lakh (other than foreign income), and who is not liable to tax in any other country is

deemed to be a resident in India.

Once qualifying as a resident, a further classification is required to determine whether the person is a Resident and Ordinarily Resident (ROR) or a Resident but Not Ordinarily Resident (RNOR). RNOR status is particularly relevant for returning NRIs, as it provides transitional tax relief.

A citizen or a PIO is an RNOR if total income excluding income from foreign sources exceeds Rs 15 lakh and who has been in India cumulatively for 120 days or more but less than 182 days during the tax year.

The scope of taxation varies across these categories. An ROR is taxable in India on global income. In contrast, an RNOR and

a Non-Resident (NR) are taxable in India only in respect of income that is received in India, accrues or arises in India. "Returning NRIs should track their day-count carefully each financial year to anticipate when foreign income becomes taxable and plan compliance accordingly," says a tax consultant.

Returning NRIs should review foreign investments, bank accounts and income sources early, ensuring FEMA-compliant conversion of NRE/FCNR accounts to resident accounts upon status change to maintain tax exemptions. They must maintain records of foreign tax payments for potential credit claims, estimating total tax liability, including on newly taxable foreign income. Upon becoming

resident in India, NRE and NRO accounts must be re-designated as resident accounts in accordance with FEMA regulations.

NRIs returning to India must choose their Income Tax Return (ITR) form based on their residential status and the nature of income earned. Where foreign income is taxable in India, it must be converted into Indian currency in accordance with rules. If tax has been paid abroad on the same income, the taxpayer can claim Foreign Tax Credit (FTC) under Section 90 (where a DTAA exists) or Section 91 (where no treaty exists).

Proper reporting, correct currency conversion and timely FTC compliance are essential to avoid double taxation and processing delays.

Govt rolls out relief for exporters as West Asia war continues

NEW DELHI: The government has rolled out a series of relief measures for exporters as the ongoing West Asia conflict disrupts global shipping routes, pushes up freight and insurance costs and threatens the price competitiveness of Indian goods in overseas markets.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has extended the export obligation (EO) period for specified Advance Authorisations and Export Promo-



tion Capital Goods (EPCG) authorisations expiring between March 1 and May 31, 2026, automatically up to August 31, 2026,

without payment of the composition fee.

The measures have been taken in view of the prevailing geo-political devel-

opments affecting international shipping routes and global supply chains and to facilitate exporters, the public notice from DGFT said.

Exporters had been demanding the extension to help them meet their obligations, already grappling with high US tariffs and now facing challenges from the West Asian crisis triggered by the joint attack of the US and Israel on Iran, which has disrupted shipping movements.

Separately, the commerce ministry has assured exporters that full benefits under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme will be restored from April 1, according to the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). The government had halved RoDTEP rates for most sectors — barring agriculture and processed food products — from Feb 23.

“The current 50 pc RoDTEP rates are applicable only up to March 31, 2026. The full restoration of RoDTEP rates will take effect from April 1,” FIEO president SC Ralhan said.

Meanwhile, the Union shipping ministry has issued a standard operating procedure (SoP) asking ports to facilitate exporters during the crisis. Ports may consider requests for reduction, waiver or remission of charges, including vessel charges and storage rent, on a case-by-case basis.

Each port will appoint a nodal officer as a single-point contact to address issues within 24–72 hours. Ports have also been advised to hold periodic meetings with stakeholders, permit temporary storage of West Asia-bound cargo as transshipment cargo, prioritise perishable shipments, facilitate return of export cargo from the region and coordinate closely with agencies such as Customs and DGFT.

SBI on hiring spree: fresh recruitments cross 18,000 this fiscal, women 28pc

MUMBAI: At a time when most other banks, especially those in the private sector, are cutting hiring and instead deploying more technology tools, especially artificial intelligence, the nation’s largest lender State Bank of India is on hiring mode. The bank has inducted close to 5,800 junior associates in the current quarter and a total over 18,000 so far this fiscal. Moreover, the bank, which handles a fifth of the

industry-wide assets and liabilities, will be adding at least 16,000 new hands every year over the course of the next five years.

Since FY24, it had a net addition of more than 16,000 from 2,32,296. Of the total workforce, 28pc are women. The 2.48 lakh workforce includes close to 1.1 lakh officers, nearly 95,000 associates and over 31,620 support staff.

“The induction of the fresh talent pool (of 18,000

recruits this fiscal so far out of over nine lakh applicants) underscores our sustained commitment to strengthening frontline capabilities and elevating customer experience nationwide at the branch level,” said chairman Challa Sreenivasulu Setty.

“As we chart our path to doubling our total business to Rs 200 trillion over the next five to six years, we intend to onboard around 16,000 employees annually to power this growth journey. By building a future-ready, digitally-skilled workforce, we reaffirm our commitment to delivering superior, technology-led

banking experience with trust and consistency,” he added.

It may be noted that call-centre automation was the first wave of tech adoption by banks. The second leg got regulatory acceleration when RBI had last August issued a document allowing banks to adopt AI in their internal workflows. Industry sources said the banking industry is showing increasing confidence in AI.

SBI said its latest induction of 5,783 junior associates came after the preliminary exams conducted last Sept which was attended by close to 9.1 lakh aspirants.

Indo-Arab Society condoles death of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

MUMBAI: The Indo-Arab Society expresses its profound condolences on the passing away of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

“As an organisation dedicated to fostering cultural, social and civilisational ties between India and the Arab world, we view with great concern the escalating conflict in West Asia. The loss of a major regional figure at such a critical juncture is a moment of deep solemnity for the entire region”, said Dr. Mohammed Ali Patanakar President, the Indo-Arab Society.

“We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the people of Iran during this period of national mourning. Our thoughts are also with the families of the many civilians who have been affected by the ongoing hostilities. In this hour of heightened tension and transition, the Indo-Arab Society reaffirms its commitment to the principles of peace, diplomacy and the preservation of human life. We earnestly hope for a swift de-escalation of the war and a return to the path of dialogue, ensuring the stability and prosperity of the people across the Middle East” said Dr Patanakar.

Airbus opens new tech centre in Bengaluru

BENGALURU: Airbus has opened a new technology centre in Bengaluru to strengthen engineering capability, digital innovation and technical expertise in support of its global aircraft programmes and the aviation maintenance sector.

The Airbus India Technology Centre is one of the OEM’s largest engineering and digital centres outside Europe, spanning 880,000 sq ft with the capacity to host around 5,000 employees. It will bring together engineering, digital transfor-

mation, customer services and procurement functions under one roof, creating a collaborative hub that supports Airbus’ global operations while reinforcing its long-term “Make in India” commitment.

Jürgen Westermeier, president and MD of Airbus India and South Asia, says the centre will allow the company to “expand engineering and innovation capabilities while strengthening customer services and procurement operations.” Engineers at

the centre will contribute to the entire life cycle of Airbus aircraft and helicopter programmes, supporting activities ranging from design and development to fleet maintenance, upgrades and performance optimisation. Their work is increasingly tied to advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, cybersecurity and digital engineering platforms, which are becoming essential tools for modern aircraft maintenance and fleet management.