



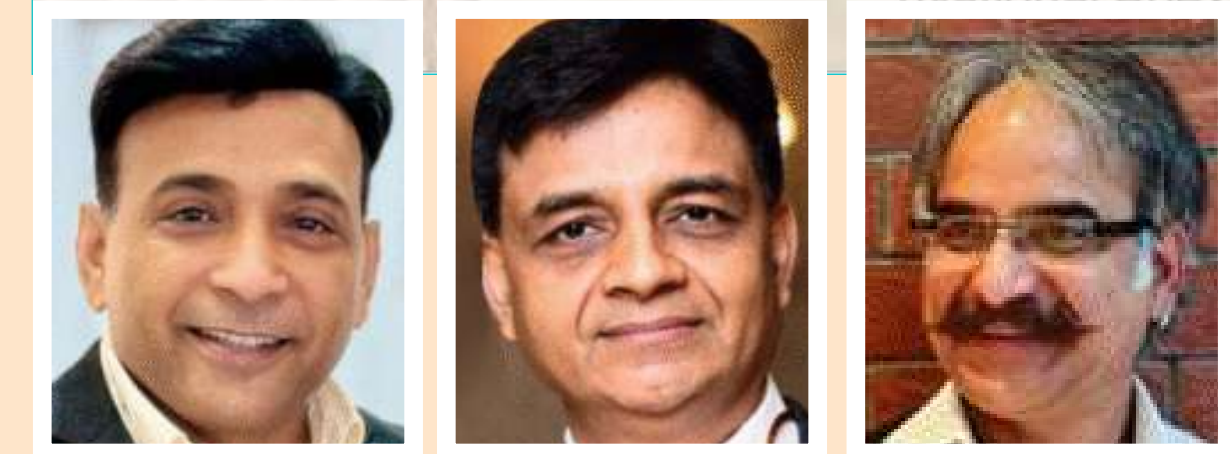
# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

## PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 • VOL. NO. 2 • Issue No. 28 DIV OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 7 PAGES

# Ravi Gosain elected as IATO President, Rajnish Kaistha Senior Vice President



**Ravi Gosain** **Rajnish Kaistha** **Sanjay Razdan**

**NEW DELHI :** The Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) has concluded its much-awaited elections, resulting in a resounding win for Ravi Gosain, who has been elected as the new President. The elections witnessed an intense contest between two prominent teams, with Gosain and his panel securing a clear majority.

In a highly anticipated and closely watched election, the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) has announced its new leadership team for the 2025-27 term. With a strong voter turnout

(Cont. on page-7)

**NEW IATO OFFICE BEARERS (2025 -27):**  
President: Ravi Gosain, Sr. Vice President: Rajnish Kaistha, Vice President: Sanjay Razdan, Hon Secretary: Sunil Mishra, Hon Treasurer: Deepak Kumar Bhatnagar, Hon Joint Secretary: Viney Tyagi.

## Charting future of Indian aviation

**Voice Of Influence**

*Kapil Kaul*



KapilKaul, the CEO of CAPA India, remains a pivotal voice in the Indian aviation sector. Reflecting on the industry's rapid transformation, he emphasised the critical juncture it now faces:

"Indian aviation is at a critical inflection point. The opportunities ahead have the potential to impact generations. India must decide whether it aims for a transformative, aspirational vision or a more conservative, linear path of

growth."

**A Vision for Growth**

On the growth potential of the Indian market, Kaul shared an optimistic outlook:

"Domestic airport passenger numbers could rise from 307 million in FY24 to 600-700 million by FY30, while international traffic could increase from just under 70 million passengers to 140-160 million over the same period."

**AI's Transformation**

Discussing the challenges of Air India's merger, Kaul stressed the complexity of integrating multiple carriers:

"We should not underestimate the complexities involved

(Cont. on page-2)



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

## PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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# Foreign investors infuse Rs 14,167cr in Indian equities in May despite war tension

**MUMBAI:** Foreign investors continue to show confidence in the country's equity market, infusing Rs 14,167 crore so far this month, largely driven by favourable global cues and robust domestic fundamentals.

Notably, this inflow has come despite the military tensions between India and Pakistan. This positive momentum follows a net investment of Rs 4,223 crore in April, marking the first inflow after three months, data with the depositories showed. Prior to this, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) had pulled out Rs 3,973 crore in March, Rs 34,574 crore in Feb and a substantial

Rs 78,027 crore in Jan.

According to the data with the depositories, FPIs made a net investment of Rs 14,167 crore in equities in this month (till May 9). The latest flow has helped narrow the outflow to Rs 98,184 crore in 2025 so far.

Going ahead, global macros (declining dollar, slowing US and Chinese economy) and domestic macros (high GDP growth and declining inflation and interest rates) will facilitate increasing FPI inflow into the Indian equity, VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments, said. However, debt inflows are likely to remain very



low, he added.

India's equity markets witnessed a sharp resurgence in FPI activ-

ity in April, signalling a marked reversal from the outflow seen earlier this year. The momen-

tum continued in May too. This renewed momentum was underpinned by a blend of favourable global cues and robust domestic fundamentals that bolstered investor confidence, Himanshu Srivastava,

Associate director - Manager Research, Morningstar Investment, said.

## Arrival of Umrah pilgrims to start on June 11

**MAKKAH:** Foreign pilgrims' arrival for the next Umrah season will start on Zil-Hijjah 15, corresponding to June 11, 2025, according to the official Umrah calendar announced by the Ministry of Haj and Umrah for the year 1447. The calendar consists of all the relevant information such as key dates for visa is-

suance, agreements with foreign agents and deadlines for entry and departure for the pilgrims coming from outside the Kingdom.

According to the ministry, visa issuance for Umrah will commence on 14 Zil-Hijah 1446, corresponding to June 10, 2025, followed by the official start of pilgrim arrivals on 15 Zil-Hijah 1446. Contracts with foreign agents to define services for pilgrims must

and Umrah Services Forum 2025. The calendar also includes important cut-off dates. The final deadline to issue Umrah visas is 1 Shawwal 1447, corresponding to March 20, 2026, while the last date for pilgrims to enter the Kingdom is 15 Shawwal 1447, corresponding to April 3, 2026. Pilgrims must depart by 1 Zil-Qada 1447 (April 18, 2026).

Additionally, the ministry noted that the acceptance of external agent

### TN distributes enhanced Haj subsidy of Rs 25,000

**CHENNAI:** Chief Minister M K Stalin launched the distribution of enhanced Haj subsidies for first-time pilgrims at the secretariat. To mark the launch of the distribu-

tion, he handed over cheques for Rs 25,000 each to 10 beneficiaries. The subsidy, with a total allocation of Rs 14.12 crore, will be extended to 5,650 eligible

(Cont. on page-7)

## Charting future of Indian aviation

(Cont. from page-1) in the making of a new Air India. It's a merger of different airlines, each with distinct business models, operating structures, and professional cultures. The core airline itself, Air India, was underinvested for two decades in terms of people, product, and technology. It required almost creating a new Air India from the ground up."

The Path to Global Hub Status: Kaul also highlighted the potential for India to become a major global aviation hub:

"There is a real opportunity for two to three Indian airports to emerge as leading global hubs, in co-operation with Air India and IndiGo, making them as attractive and competitive as the likes of Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Singapore or Hong Kong. Together,

Air India and IndiGo's complementary business models can capture both premium and price-sensitive travellers, leveraging India's strategic geography to connect passengers globally."

Addressing Operational Challenges: However, Kaul cautioned against the significant operational challenges facing the industry:

"The shortage of pilots, AMEs, cabin crew, flight dispatchers, and other critical personnel is far more severe than currently understood. The introduction of new FDTL (Flight Duty Time Limitations) guidelines and poaching by Middle Eastern carriers are likely to further strain this critical talent pool."

He also emphasised the need for efficiency at India's airports: "The productivity of single and

dual runway airports needs to be increased to meet international benchmarks."

Additionally, Kaul stressed the importance of structural reforms in air navigation services:

"Corporatisation of ANS (air navigation services currently managed by the Airports Authority of India) is essential to address airspace bottlenecks and improve operational efficiency."

### Financial Realities

Looking at the financial outlook, Kaul projected a challenging fiscal year:

"Indian airlines are expected to post wider industry-wide losses in fiscal 2025 as rising costs outstrip growing demand. CAPA India estimates losses for the year ending March 2025 at between \$400 million and \$600 million."



be finalised by 29 Zil-Qada 1446, corresponding to May 27, 2025.

Preparations for the new Umrah season began on March 25 with the launch of the external agent qualification service via the "Nusuk" platform and the "Umrah Path" system. Agreements between Umrah companies and external agents started signing on April 14 during the Haj

qualification requests will stop by 1 Sha'ban 1447 (January 20, 2026), which is also the deadline for approving their contracts with Umrah companies.

The timeline is part of the ministry's strategic planning to ensure a smooth and well-organised Umrah season, enhancing services for pilgrims from around the world.



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## Saudi launches largest Haj plan

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia has officially launched its largest and most comprehensive operational plan to date for the Haj pilgrimage season of 1446 AH (2025), underscoring its commitment to enhancing the experience of millions of pilgrims who visit Islam's holiest sites each year.

The plan, unveiled by the General Presidency for the Affairs of the Grand Holy Mosque and the Prophet's Holy Mosque, features 120 initiatives and 10 smart tracks designed to enrich the digital experience of worshippers.

It also includes 50 scientific and intellectual programmes and deploys more than 2,000 trained Saudi staff to support the anticipated influx of pilgrims. Additionally, the plan enhances seven specialised enrichment tracks aimed at communicating the moderate message of Haj to the world in multiple languages.

In his address during the launch, Sheikh Dr Abdulrahman Al Sudais, President of Religious Affairs, emphasised that Saudi Arabia had mobilised all resources to serve the visitors of the Two Holy Mosques. He highlighted the Kingdom's focus on providing a dis-

tinguished pilgrimage experience through digital transformation and artificial intelligence. Dr Al Sudais noted that the 1446 AH Haj operational plan centers on digital and smart transformation, including communication with visitors in various languages.

He further stated that the moderate message of the Haj will be showcased through interactive, multilingual digital platforms, reflecting the objectives of Sharia and promoting balanced Islamic values.

The plan is built around three main pillars: honouring the sanctity of time by affirming the spiritual significance and global message of Haj, enhancing the sacred status of the holy sites and glorifying the holiness of the place.

A key objective is to disseminate the guidance of the Two Holy Mosques globally by offering a deeply spiritual experience rooted in quality, excellence, and innovation.

This is to be delivered within a structured, institutional framework that supports the message of moderation and communicates its impact in multiple languages around the world.

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Euro	95.19	97.26
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Swiss Franc (CHF)	101.85	104.11
Canadian Dollar	60.72	62.11
Australian Dollar	54.2	55.4
Norwegian Krone	8.06	8.31
Swedish Krona	8.66	8.92
New Zealand Dollar	49.78	50.92
Hong Kong Dollar	10.78	11.12
Kuwaiti Dinar	282.8786	272.3121
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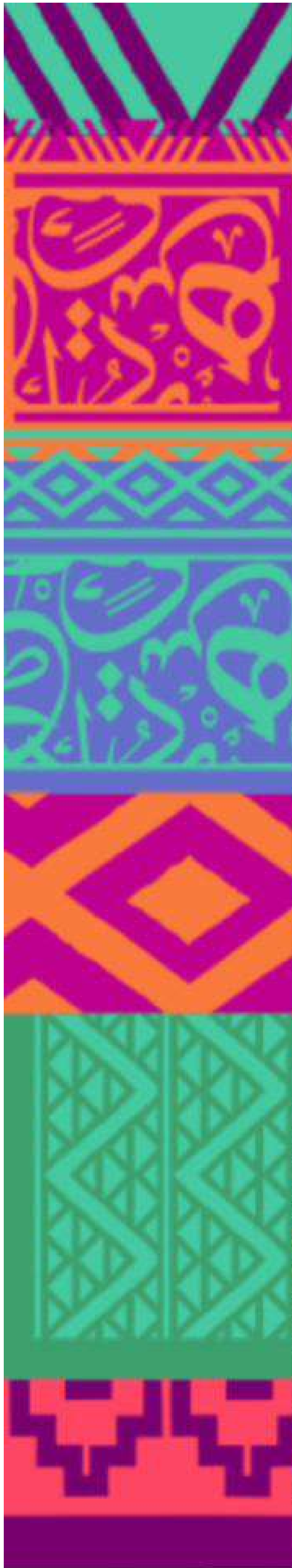


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**Andhra Pradesh :** Andhra Pradesh is famous for its rich cultural heritage, stunning temples, and picturesque landscapes

**Karnataka :** Karnataka is famous for temples, majestic architecture, and princely vibe.





# GULF FAQs

## How to legally close down an LLC in UAE

**We are partners in a limited liability company (LLC). We would like to know how to legally close a company and whether this must be done before the competent court?**

If the partners agree to dissolve the company, there is no need to file a case before the competent court. The partners' agreement shall include the method of liquidation or nominate a liquidator provided that the liquidator is not currently an auditor of the company or has already audited its accounts within the five years preceding the appointment. The terms provided for in the Memorandum of Association or Statute of the Company shall be followed in the company dissolution. Otherwise, the provi-

sions of the Commercial Companies Law shall apply to the liquidation of the company.

The liquidator shall, according to Article 318 of the Commercial law, enter the decision of his appointment and the agreement of the partners, or the decision issued by the general as-

sembly concerning the method of liquidation or the judgment issued for such purpose in the commercial register. The liquidator shall, prepare an inventory of all the assets and liabilities of the company.

The managers or the chairman of the board shall provide the liquida-

tor with the books, documents and accounts of the company. The liquidator shall notify all the creditors by registered letters with acknowledgment of receipt of the commencement of the liquidation, inviting the creditors to submit their claims. The notice shall be published in two local

daily newspapers; one of them in Arabic. The assets of the company resulting from liquidation shall be divided among all the partners upon payment of the debts. Each partner, upon division, shall obtain an amount equal to his share in the capital, and the balance shall be divided among the partners pro rata to their shares in the profits.

If a partner fails to appear to collect his share, the liquidator shall deposit such share in the treasury of the competent court. If the net funds of the company are not sufficient to pay the shares of the partners in full, the loss shall be distributed among them in accordance with the prescribed rate for the distribution of losses.



## Record Dh100 million divorce case settled for expat couple

**can you please give details of the recent record Dh100 million divorce case settlement?**

In a landmark case, the Abu Dhabi Civil Family Court has finalised a no-fault divorce between a foreign couple, resulting in a record-breaking financial settlement exceeding Dh100 million (\$27 million). The couple, previously married in the UK, filed for a no-fault divorce before the Abu Dhabi Civil Family Court. The Abu Dhabi Civil Marriage Law No 14 of 2021 allows civil, non-religious resolutions for expats in matters of marriage, divorce, wills and inheritance. The divorce was granted in under three weeks during a single court session.

It is the largest reported divorce settlement of its kind in the Gulf region and highlights Abu Dhabi's status as a leading international legal centre. And the couple reached a financial set-

tlement through the court, in co-ordination with a UK-based family law firm. The case confirms the growing international confidence in the country's legal system, the couple's decision to choose the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department was based on the distinguished reputation of the local courts and the legislative and proce-

dural developments they are witnessing.

The Abu Dhabi Civil Family Court is the only Family Court in the region where proceedings are conducted bilingually in English and Arabic. Its procedures are conducted by a specialised legal team, including lawyers from Britain, to prepare the case, ensuring that foreign litigants

can fully understand and navigate the process with transparency and legal certainty. This case reflects a broader trend of high-net-worth individuals turning to Abu Dhabi for efficient and equitable handling of complex family disputes, reinforcing the emirate's emergence as a world-class legal hub for expatriates.

This development re-

flects the Emirate's commitment to building a world-class legal and judicial framework for expatriates family matters, comparable to those in the best international practices like the UK, US and Scandinavian countries — further enhancing Abu Dhabi's attractiveness as a destination for residence, work and investment.

## Employer cannot ask for leave security money

**I have been working as an office boy in a labour supply company since May 2022. Having severe knee and backbone pain, I asked the manager for a 30-day emergency leave. In turn, he asked me to provide a Dh1,000 security voucher to two persons working with us. Having refused and submitted my resignation, the manager asked me to pay Dh2,000 in compensation or rather stay till the end of my three-year visa period which**

**is due to finish by June this year. Though I have submitted my resignation, the company took no action. Is the employer legally entitled to ask money from his employees against any emergency leave? Do I have to pay any compensation to the employer for submitting my resignation before completing my three-year contract? How may I resign without paying any money to the company?**

There is no provision in

the labour law which entitles an employer to ask money from his employees against leave. But for claiming sick leave, you should have completed three months in the service after your probation period. Regarding your resignation, you have not mentioned the date of your resignation. If you have completed three months after your probation period you have the right to claim sick leave. Similarly you have also not mentioned whether

your contract is limited or unlimited. If it is limited, you are required to complete three years of service and if it is unlimited, you are required to complete one year of service before submitting resignation. In any case the management of your company may ask for compensation for loss caused by your resignation. They may also impose a ban on you. Therefore, you may withdraw your resignation if the management permits so.



# India-UAE airfares skyrocket

**DUBAI:** Airfares from India (and also Pakistan) have seen a massive increase as UAE residents stuck in their home countries reschedule their return dates following the ceasefire between the two neighbours.

Travel agents in the UAE said they are witnessing a lot of enquiries and demands from the UAE residents who went to India and Pakistan for holidays before the military escalation and want to return early, fearing flights may be suspended again if the situation escalates.

Following the ceasefire initiated by US President Trump, Pakistan and India have reopened air-



ports and announced the resumption of flights.

Pakistani national Ijaz Khan, a businessman in the UAE, has been stuck in his home country due to the war. "I'm trying to move ahead my return to the UAE during this ceasefire. I'm trying to arrange my return as

soon as possible because I don't know what the situation will be with regard to commercial flights," said Khan.

**UAE-India one-way fare at Dh3900**

One-way airfare from Delhi to Dubai for Monday flight on a full-fledged carrier reached

Rs44,670 (Dh1,920) due to the closure of airports in the Indian Punjab during military escalation, resulting in a large number of residents opting to fly from Delhi airport. However, the one-way airfare dropped steadily and reach just around Dh910 for Friday.

Meanwhile, Delhi-Abu Dhabi airfares stood at Rs51,600 (Dh2,230) for Monday and Rs90,300 (Dh3,900) for Tuesday. Airfare on a budget carrier on Delhi-Sharjah flights ranged between Dh1,360 and Dh1,180 over the next few days due to high demand.

Similarly, for Monday, Lahore to Dubai airfare

on UAE carriers touched as high as nearly Pak Rs700,000 (Dh9,100) but dropped to around Rs390,000 (Dh5,100) for Friday. A local carrier website showed seats on Lahore-Abu Dhabi almost sold out till Wednesday due to heavy passenger traffic with airfares reaching Rs540,000 (Dh7,050).

Meanwhile, one-way airfares on Pakistani airlines reached around Dh2,350 for Monday and Tuesday. Hundreds of flights from Pakistan were cancelled over the past few days due to the closure of airspace. This has created a massive backlog for the airlines to deal with.

## NRI deposits in Kerala banks to hit Rs 3trillion

**KOCHI:** Kerala is on the verge of crossing a major financial milestone --- deposits from non-resident Indians (NRIs) in its banks are likely to cross Rs 3 trillion in the Jan-March 2025 quarter (data yet to be released), if the last year's trend continued.

As of Dec 31, 2024, NR (non-resident) deposits stood at Rs 2,86,063 crore -- up nearly Rs 24,000 crore from the year before. This marks

a 9.4pc increase year-on-year.

NR deposits are foreign currency accounts maintained by NRIs, different from personal remittances sent to families. Even so, a large part of remittances ends up in these accounts, driven by interest rates and currency exchange benefits. It has been a steady climb. Kerala crossed the Rs 1-trillion mark in NR deposits back in Dec 2014. It doubled that figure by

March 2020. And in the last five years alone, deposits have grown by another Rs 1 trillion.

One key driver has been the weakening of rupee. Over the past five years, the Indian currency has depreciated from Rs 75.71 per US dollar to Rs 85.45 -- a 13pc drop. This adds more value to every dollar sent home, boosting deposits.

Remittances have also made a strong post-pandemic recovery, with a 19-20pc increase. Kerala accounted for 19.7pc of all remittances to India in 2023-24, second only to Maharashtra at 20.5pc. In 2020-21, Kerala's share dipped to 10.2pc while Maharashtra surged ahead to 35.2pc. But Kerala has since closed much of the gap.

India received \$118.7 billion in remittances in 2023-24 -- more than double the \$55.6 billion recorded in 2010-11. Kerala alone accounted for \$23.39 billion. The US is now the top source (27.7pc), followed by the UAE (19.2pc). Back in 2016-17, the UAE led with 26.9pc. Grouping the UAE with other

Gulf countries -- Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain -- takes their combined share to 37.9pc.

According to K V Joseph of the International Institute of Migration and Development, remittances from the Gulf may fall in the coming years, while inflows from the US, UK and Canada could rise. Gulf countries, he noted, have limited space for skilled workers. Larger

countries like the US offer more opportunities, though policy changes -- especially in the US -- remain a concern.

Dr Divya Balan, assistant professor of international studies at FLAME University, Pune, sees a more complex picture. While students and skilled workers are increasingly heading West, she believes the Gulf will remain important for many Malayalis.

## TN distributes enhanced...

(Cont. from page-2) time Haj pilgrims across the state through the Tamil Nadu State Haj Committee.

In what is being called **Ravi Gosain elected...**

(Cont. from page-1) a clear mandate, the members of IATO have elected a team of experienced professionals to lead the association into its next term.

The newly elected team has received a strong mandate from IATO's diverse and growing membership base, signaling confidence in their vision and leadership for the future of India's tourism sector.

a first-of-its-kind initiative, the state government has raised the subsidy amount for first-time Haj pilgrims to Rs 25,000 each for the year 2024-25, following the CM's recommendation. This enhancement, aimed at easing the financial burden on pilgrims, was officially announced earlier this year.

Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, Minister for Minority Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare S M Nasar, Chief Secretary N Muruganandam and TN Haj Committee chairman and MLA P Abdul Samad were present at the event.

## UAE hails truce between India and Pakistan

**ABU DHABI:** HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, welcomed the announcement of a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, expressing his hope that this step would contribute to enhancing security and stability in the South Asia region.

Sheikh Abdullah commended the efforts made by US President Donald Trump in this regard and appreciated the efforts of both countries in reaching this agreement. Sheikh Abdullah expressed his

confidence in the commitment and wisdom of both nations to uphold a permanent ceasefire, in a way that benefits both countries and the region as a whole.

Sheikh Abdullah also emphasised the strong historical ties that bind the UAE with both India and Pakistan.

He further stressed that diplomacy and dialogue are the best means to build bridges of trust and establish a lasting peace that fulfills the aspirations of the two friendly peoples for stability.