



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



MUMBAI: TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025 • VOL. NO. 2 • Issue No. 40 DIV OF FLYCREATIVE ONLINE LIMITED (A unit of Creative Group) • 7 PAGES

## YOGA DAY CELEBRATED IN KUWAIT



**India's Ambassador in Kuwait Dr Adarsh Swaika with VIP guests at the Yoga Day function.**  
(Top) A view of the Yoga session.

**KUWAIT CITY:** The embassy of India in Kuwait organised a Mega Yoga Session to commemorate the International Day of Yoga at the Boulevard Cricket Ground, Salmiya Kuwait City, on June 21. The event was organised under the auspices of Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Ministry of Ayush

and in collaboration with Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). This year marks the 11th International Day of Yoga, with the theme "Yoga for One Earth, One Health." This theme echoes a vital truth about the interconnectedness of health, sustainability  
(Cont. on page-2)

## Gulf NRIs rushing to send money home

**DUBAI:** The Indian rupee is still firmly locked in at close to 23.5 against the dirham, with Indian expats in the UAE starting to hit the "remit" button on their

apps right through the last two days. The rupee had started the week at 23.34 levels.

It was always certain that the rupee softening back to 23.5 levels would trigger a spike in rupee remittance volumes from the UAE to India. Even though, June remittance levels tend to be historically low because many Indian expats in the UAE would typically have additional expenses such as airline ticket booking for summer breaks and all the related expenses when they back in the home country.

Unlike in the past, NRIs are not waiting to see if next week brings more drops for the rupee. Instead, the sentiment is have cash, will send now.

Indian rupee weakens on RBI "jumbo" cut - best time for NRIs to send money? "Last Thursday (June 19) was one of the bests in recent weeks for AED-INR remittances," said a currency exchange  
(Cont. on page-2)

## Crude oil prices hit five-month high

**NEW YORK:** Market participants expect further price gains amid mounting fears that an Iranian retaliation may include a closure of the Strait of Hormuz, through which roughly a fifth of global crude supply flows

Oil prices jumped on Monday to their highest since Janas the US' weekend move to join Israel in attacking Iran's nuclear facilities stoked supply worries.

Brent crude futures was up \$1.92 or 2.49pc at \$78.93 a barrel as of 0117 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate crude advanced \$1.89 or 2.56pc to  
(Cont. on page-2)



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## YOGA DAY CELEBRATED IN KUWAIT

(Cont. from page-1) and the environment—aligning with India's "One Earth, One Family, One Future" vision highlighted during its G20 presidency. Addressing the gathering, Ambassador DrAdarshSwaiakaemphasised on the importance of Yoga in daily life and thanked the participants for joining the IDY celebrations. Hussain Al Musallam, Director General of OCA during his remarks mentioned that Yoga is a recognised sports discipline under OCA. The session was graced by Padma Shri Acharya HR Nagendra, founder

of Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana-Samsthana and Padma Shri SheikhaShaikhaA J Sabah, a member of the royal family, who is instrumental in promoting Yoga in Kuwait and the region. As part of the celebrations a common Yoga Protocol was conducted.

More than 1500 people from all walks of society participated in the event which included foreign diplomats, children from schools and colleges, members of the Indian community and yoga enthusiasts. Recognising its universal appeal, on Dec 11, 2014, the UN

proclaimed June 21 as the International Day of Yoga. The draft resolution establishing the International Day of Yoga was proposed by India which was co-sponsored by Kuwait at UN and was endorsed by a record 175 member states.

Prime Minister Modi first introduced the proposal in his address during the opening of the 69th session of the General Assembly on Sept 27, 2014.

The date of June 21 was chosen as it is the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.

## HARARE CELEBRATES YOGA DAY



Indian embassy in Harare (Zimbabwe) celebrated the 11th International Yoga Day in a grand scale. Many Indian community members as well as local residents participated wholeheartedly. Ambassador Brahmakumar led the session.

## Gulf NRIs rushing to send money home

(Cont. from page-1) house official. "There was some concern when the rupee strengthened – but it was only a slight one from 23.5 to 23.46." Also, there is a sentiment that the rupee might go back to 23.3/23.4 levels by end of the month. "Wherever spare funds

are available, Indian expats in the UAE and Gulf have been sending money home since Thursday," said a senior official at a currency exchange house. "If the levels stay the same - or even drops further - by July, that's a double win for them." Next week, the industry expects more

rupee-linked remittances. But does it make sense to wait for better exchange rates next week? Industry sources are not so certain. The major reason is the dollar continues to show weakness even with a full-scale Israel-Iran war going on. In the past, any geopolitical event would

have seen investors rush into the dollar as a safe haven to hold on to. (These days, it's only gold that's living up to the safe haven status.) Will these factors drive the rupee in coming months?

\*Recovery in FII (foreign institutional investor) inflows post withdrawal of reciprocal tariffs by the US and positive trade deals by the US with other countries.

♦Expected increase in India's defence production is leading to increases

in exports and a reduction in import dependency, which shall have a positive impact on the trade deficit and current account deficit.

♦India's optimistic growth outlook post India-UK trade deal along with growing optimism over US-India trade deal.

♦Easing Inflation below RBI's target of four per cent leading to more room for rate cuts by RBI.

♦RBI's intervention to contain excessive volatility.

## Indian businessman gifts custom pink Rolls-Royce for one-year-old daughter

**DUBAI:** An Indian businessman living in Dubai stunned social media after he gifted a custom pink Rolls-Royce to his one-year-old daughter for Father's Day. In a video shared on Instagram, Satish Sanpal, founder of ANAX Developments, was seen gifting his one-year-old daughter Isabella Sanpal the keys to the luxury car along with his wife Tabinda Sanpal.

The car's was custom-made in England for the one-year-old. The video showed the bright metallic pink car's all-pink luxury interiors. The car's nameplate read "Congratulations, Isabella," while a



Little Isbella with her parents and the car.

small note on the floor revealed that the car was custom-made in England for the toddler and imported to the UAE for the occasion. The car seats were also monogrammed with the little girl's initials.

In the clip, the family is seen arriving in their Rolls-Royce to pick up the custom gift for the toddler.

The excited toddler is entertained by dance and music before she receives the keys to her car and sits in it for the first time. "Satish Sanpal just won Father's Day. He gifted a custom-built Rolls-Royce in Dubai just for his precious baby girl, Isabella Satish Sanpal. Such a Dubai Dad move," the caption read.

## Crude oil prices hit...

(Cont. from page-1) \$75.73.

Both contracts jumped by more than three per cent earlier in the session to \$81.40 and \$78.40, respectively, touching five-month highs before giving up some gains.

The rise in prices came after US President Trump said he had "obliterated" Iran's main nuclear sites in strikes over the weekend, joining an Israeli assault in an escalation of conflict in the MidEast as Tehran vowed to defend itself.

Market participants expect further price gains

amid mounting fears that an Iranian retaliation may include a closure of the Strait of Hormuz, through which roughly a fifth of global crude supply flows.

Iran's Press TV reported that the Iranian parliament had approved a measure to close the strait. Iran has in the past threatened to close the strait but has never followed through on the move.



"The risks of damage to oil infrastructure ... have multiplied," said Sparta Commodities senior analyst June Goh.



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**FOREX RATES**

As on 23rd June 2025 (In rupees)





Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	86.16	87.28
British Pound	115.58	117.23
Euro	98.73	100.8
Japanese Yen	58.73	59.65
Swiss Franc (CHF)	104.91	107.22
Canadian Dollar	62.31	63.72
Australian Dollar	54.94	56.16
Norwegian Krone	8.4	8.65
Swedish Krona	8.79	9.04
New Zealand Dollar	50.73	51.86
Hong Kong Dollar	10.84	11.17
Kuwaiti Dinar	289.286	278.3124
Singapore Dollar	66.46	67.96
Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.66	23.38
United Arab Emirates	23.22	23.88

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# GULF FAQs

## Buy and sell property from your home

**Can you please explain the new scheme in Dubai enabling buying property from home itself ?**

Now, buy and sell property from your home as new initiative launches. Senior citizens and people of determination in Dubai can now sell and buy property from the comfort of their homes. Under the Barwa initiative launched by the Dubai Land Department (DLD), in partnership with the Community Development Authority (CDA), officials from the DLD will drive to the homes of senior citizens and people of determination and carry out all property transactions — buying, selling and management — upon their request.

"Instead of these people visiting us, we will go to them. So all the services provided by the Land Department will be

mobilised to their places, wherever they are. The main reason for this initiative is in line with the UAE's decision to mark 2025 as a "Year of Community'," said Hessa bint Essa Buhumaid, director-general of the CDA in Dubai.

"We remain committed to expanding this partnership to firmly establish a comprehensive, community-focused approach that empowers all segments of society to live with dignity, well-being, and stability," she added. A statement issued by the Dubai Media Office said that the "Barwa" programme provides a comprehensive suite of digital, on-site, and advisory services specifically designed to meet the needs of senior citizens and people of determination.

It added that a personal assistant will be assigned with each benefi-

ciary to follow up on their transactions and provide continuous support. The digital services pillar features a platform, which enables seamless remote property management and is equipped with accessibility technologies tailored for people with disabilities. It also includes a real-time digital support service available through the call centre to assist beneficiaries promptly and effectively.

Within the financial and real estate advisory pillar, specialised teams will offer personalised guidance on property investment strategies and achieving sustainable returns. Khalid Al Shaibani, director of the Rental Affairs Department at DLD, said this initiative is designed to provide specialised real estate services tailored for senior citizens and people of determination whereby dedicated mobile teams

will go to their homes and provide full services to them.

In addition, property management services will also be provided to the two categories.

"The initiative covers sales, rentals and managing their properties. It is a complete package," he said, adding that there is no fee for these services. However, there will be special rates for them.

In the first phase, this service has been rolled out for UAE citizens.

"It doesn't mean that we will stop here. We will keep growing to include other nationalities in the future," he added. The Barwa programme is more than a service initiative; it is designed to simplify property management, protect their real estate rights, and deliver tailored services that promote peace of mind, independence,

and an enhanced quality of life, in line with the "Hand in Hand" theme of the "Year of Community," reinforcing our dedication to inclusion and social cohesion," said Eng. Marwan Ahmed Bin Ghalita, director-general of DLD. The institutional framework of the programme is reinforced through the government partnership pillar, where the "Registry of Honoured Citizens" facilitates seamless data and information exchange between DLD and the CDA.

Four co-operation agreements were signed with Harbour Real Estate, On Plan Real Estate, Al Ruwad Real Estate, and SBK Real Estate. The service trustee centres Afnan and Al Tabou will also participate in the programme, offering dedicated support to senior citizens and people of determination.

## Beware of car buying scams, Abu Dhabi Police warn

**The Abu Dhabi police have issued a warning about car buying scams. Can you please explain the details to help all, particularly the NRIs?**

Saw a good deal online? Beware of car buying scams, Abu Dhabi Police warn all. Heavily discounted sale advertisements on social media can be tempting, but these attractive deals often mask fraudulent schemes. Abu Dhabi Police on Monday warned the public about potential fraud in car buying and selling transactions, especially those taking place through social media platforms.

Authorities are urging individuals to ensure that they have received



full financial payment or a legitimate financial receipt before completing any car deals.

Reports indicate that fraudulent transactions are on the rise. Scammers provide fake financial receipts, allowing for immediate possession of the goods but postponing the actual payments. These fraudulent schemes are often

presented with tempting offers at unusually low prices, luring victims into making hasty decisions.

Authorities emphasised the importance of verifying the legitimacy of sellers and ensuring that all financial transactions go through authorised channels to avoid falling victim to scams. The police advised individuals to be cautious

and to avoid rushing into purchases, particularly when deals seem too good to be true.

Abu Dhabi police also called on owners of warehouses, construction sites and individual properties to prioritise security measures to protect their assets. In an official appeal, owners are advised to hire security personnel and deploy modern surveillance technologies, such as up-to-date security cameras, to ensure the safety of their properties.

The force emphasised the crucial role of the community in preventing crime and enhancing public safety. They highlighted that residents are vital partners in the successful imple-

mentation of its strategy and vision to make Abu Dhabi a global leader in maintaining safety and security.

The UAE Capital has been ranked first on the world's safest cities list in 2025, the ninth consecutive year it has topped the list since 2017, according to online database Numbeo. Topping the list of 382 global cities in the 2025 standings, Abu Dhabi has held Numbeo's title of the world's safest city for almost a decade.

The ranking reflects the emirate's efforts to develop pioneering security plans, strategies and initiatives and enhance quality of life for citizens, residents and visitors.



# Now, fewer Air India flights to Europe, N America till July 15

**NEW DELHI:** Air India has temporarily suspended its Amritsar-London (Gatwick) and Goa (Mopa)-London (Gatwick) routes until July 15, 2025, as part of a wider reduction in international flights operated by its Boeing 787 and 777 fleet. The airline has also paused its Delhi-Nairobi route until June 30, aligning with this strategic adjustment.

Air India has reduced frequency of its flights from Delhi to Toronto, Vancouver, San Francisco, Chicago and Washington. Further, it has cut back on key European destinations from Delhi, Bengaluru and Amritsar. Flights to Tokyo, Seoul and Australia have also been impacted.

"These reductions came into force on June 21 and will last until at least July 15, 2025. The reductions arise from the decision to voluntarily undertake enhanced pre-flight safety checks, as well as accommodate additional flight durations arising from airspace closures in the MidEast.

The objective is to restore schedule stability and minimising last-minute inconvenience to passengers," the airline said in a statement.

Air India said that it has decided to reduce its international services on widebody aircraft by 15pc for the next few weeks. The airline stated that due to geopolitical



**Air India CEO Campbell Wilson**

tensions in the MidEast, night curfews in the airspace of several European and East Asian countries, ongoing enhanced safety inspections and a cautious operational approach adopted by engineering staff and pilots, its international operations have faced disruptions over the past six days—leading to a total

of 83 cancellations.

Air India CEO Campbell Wilson, in a message to flyers said that as a confidence-building measure, the airline has elected to continue enhanced pre-flight safety checks on its Boeing 787 fleet and as an added measure, its Boeing 777 aircraft for the time being.

## UAE unified visa big boost to tourism

**ABU DHABI:** Economy Minister Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri will soon open the doors for travellers to all six GCC nations. Instead of dealing with separate visas for each country, visitors can now enter any of these nations with a single approval. This sweeping policy change promises to simplify travel across the region, offering a seamless experience for tourists looking to explore multiple destinations.

Much like the Schengen system that covers Europe, the GCC's new visa system could usher in an era of easier

cross-border travel and stronger regional ties. This visa isn't just a convenience—it's set to become a game-changer for tourism in the Gulf. With 68.1 million visitors flocking to the GCC in 2023 alone, the region is on a robust growth path. Tourism revenues surged to a record \$110.4 billion, marking an impressive 42.8pc increase compared with pre-pandemic levels in 2019.

### Boost to tourism

The impact of this visa extends far beyond tourism. The Gulf economies, already benefiting from a sharp rise in tourism revenues, stand to gain

even more as the region becomes an attractive multi-destination hub. By facilitating more tourist traffic, the unified visa will help boost hospitality, retail and cultural sectors in each country.

This strategic move could also spark further investments in the region's infrastructure and services, making the GCC a must-visit destination for travellers worldwide. Let's take a closer look at the numbers. According to the Statistical Center for the Co-operation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf, the GCC's tourism sector has seen remarkable

growth. In 2023, the region hosted 68.1 million visitors, a solid indicator of the appeal of these diverse countries. The region generated an astonishing \$110.4 billion in tourism revenue—up a massive 42.8pc compared with the pre-pandemic era in 2019. These figures illustrate not just the GCC's appeal but also its potential for further expansion with the introduction of a unified tourist visa.

It's a win-win situation for tourists. They get to experience more and countries across the GCC stand to benefit from increased visitor numbers.

## Husband's signature not necessary for woman to get passport: HC

**CHENNAI:** The Madras High Court has held that it is not necessary for a woman to get the permission of her husband and take his signature before applying for a passport before the authority.

Justice N Anand Venkatesh gave the ruling in a recent order while disposing of a petition filed by Revathy. She sought a direction to the authorities to issue a fresh passport without insisting signature from her husband in a time bound manner.

The case of the petitioner was that she got married in 2023 and

that there was a matrimonial dispute between the parties which resulted in her husband filing a petition before a local court, seeking for the dissolution of the marriage. This petition was pending. The petitioner, applied for a passport in April this year before the Regional Passport Office (RPO) in the city.

It was not processed and when enquired, the petitioner was informed that she must obtain the signature of her husband in Form-J and only thereafter, the application will be processed by RPO. The RPO also took into

consideration the pending dispute between the petitioner and her husband before the Court. It was under these circumstances, she filed the present petition.

In his order, the judge said that in the considered view of this court, the application submitted by the petitioner seeking a passport has to be processed independently. "It is not necessary for a wife to get the permission of her husband and take his signature before applying for a passport before the authority", the judge added.

He said this insistence

made by the RPO shows the mindset of society in treating women who were married as if they were chattel belonging to the husband. It was quite shocking that the passport office was insisting for the permission of the husband and his signature in a particular form in order to process the application submitted by the petitioner for the passport.

Already the relationship between the petitioner and her husband was in doldrums and the RPO was expecting the petitioner to get the signature of the husband.

Virtually, the RPO was insisting the petitioner to fulfil an impossibility, the judge added.

The judge said the petitioner after marriage does not lose her individuality and a wife can always apply for a passport without the permission or signature of the husband in any form. "The practice of insisting for permission from the husband to apply for a passport, does not augur well for a society which is moving towards woman emancipation. This practice is nothing short of male supremacism", the judge added.