



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



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## Oman Air celebrating 30 years of successful flights to Mumbai



Consul General of the Consulate General of Oman His Excellency Mahboob Issa Juma Al Raisi with Vice president (sales) Mr Ahmed al Mahrouqi (Right) and Regional Vice President ISC Mr Sunil VA (left) at the function to celebrate 30 years of Oman Air's service to Mumbai at the Taj President Hotel in Mumbai Thursday.



CMD of Flycreative Online Limited Mr VS Abdulkareem receives the best performing recognition from Consul General of the Consulate General of Oman H.E. Mahboob Issa Juma Al Raisi in Mumbai to mark the 30 years of celebrations of Oman Air's operations in Mumbai.

**MUMBAI:** Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, proudly marks 30 years of operations between Muscat and Mumbai. The second Indian destination to be introduced after Thiruvananthapuram in 1993, Mumbai has since grown into a cornerstone of the airline's network with 12 flights per week. Over the last three decades, Oman Air has significantly expanded its footprint across India, strengthening air links that support business, tourism, and community  
(Cont. on page - 2)

## India-UK sign Free Trade Agreement

**LONDON:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday formally signed the long-awaited Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the United Kingdom as he met British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, marking what both countries have described as a turning point in bilateral relations.

The FTA is expected to benefit 99pc Indian exports from tariff and will make it easier for British firms to export whisky, cars and other products to India besides boosting the overall trade basket.

Hours before meeting PM Modi, Starmer called the India trade deal a "Plan for Change in action". In a post on X, Starmer wrote: "A landmark deal with India means jobs, investment and growth here in the UK. It creates thousands of British jobs, unlocks new opportunities for businesses and puts



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with British PM Keir Starmer in London On Thursday.

money in the pockets of working people. Earlier London for a two day visit, where is expected to meet today, PM Modi arrived in King Charles.

### Dubai visa renewal to be linked to traffic fine payments

**DUBAI:** Authorities are piloting a system that links traffic fine payments in Dubai to the process of issuing or renewing residency visas. Under the new system, residents need to settle any outstanding traffic fines before they can complete their visa renewal or issuance process. According to the Director General of the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA), this initiative has been rolled out to encourage residents to follow traffic rules and settle any overdue fines.  
(Cont. on page - 2)

## Sky is not our limit says Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu

**NEW DELHI:** At just 36, the sky is not the limit, it's the next frontier for equity, access and national growth. Ram Mohan Naidu brings more than youth to India's ministry of civil aviation — he brings a generational shift in thinking. For him, "Flying should no longer  
(Cont. on page - 2)



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## Tourism potential

Tourism has long been described as an “industry without pollution”. No wonder, many countries have given industry status to tourism. India has always envied top leading tourist countries such as France, Spain, and the US. These countries consistently rank high in international tourist arrivals, attracting millions of visitors annually. Other prominent destinations include China, Italy, Turkey, Mexico, Thailand, Germany and the UK.

The World Travel and Tourism Council has calculated that tourism generated Rs 13.2-lakh-crore (\$160 billion) or 5.8pc of India’s GDP and supported 32.1 million jobs in 2021. Even though these numbers were lower than the pre-pandemic figures, the country’s economy witnessed a significant growth in 2021 after the massive downturn during 2020. This sector is predicted to grow at an annual rate of 7.8pc to Rs 33.8-lakh-crore (\$400 billion) by 2031 (7.2pc of GDP). India has established itself as the fifth largest global travel healthcare destination with an estimated market size of around \$9 billion in 2019, out of the total global travel healthcare industry of \$44.8 billion(2019). On the medical tourism, 184,298 foreign patients travelled to India to seek treatment in 2024.



Till a few years back, tourism was not a priority sector for the government of India. In this connection, the statement by Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat that India is aiming to align the share of tourism in the country’s GDP to global benchmarks is most welcome.. In other words, the government is targeting to increase the share of tourism to 10pc of the GDP by 2030. “Our vision is to enhance the tourism sector’s contribution to GDP to 10pc by 2030. India is progressing economically and the perception of tourism has changed significantly since Covid-19. We are working with the states towards experiential tourism,” Shekhawat said in his address at the CII Annual Business Summit in New Delhi.

Incidentally, India is resuming issuing tourist visas to the Chinese from July 24, 2025. This move comes as India and China work to repair their ties which took a turn for the south after the 2020 Galwan Valley clash. Citing the Indian embassy in Beijing, news agency Reuters reported that this renewal is set to start from Thursday, July 24, 2025. “From July 24, 2025, Chinese citizens can apply for a tourist visa to visit India. They must first fill out the visa application form online on the web link and print it, and then make an appointment on the web link. Then they must take a passport, visa application form and other related documents to submit an application at the Indian Visa Application Centre,” read the post issued by the Indian embassy.

A vast and diverse country like India offers a wide array of tourist resources, encompassing diverse attractions like historical monuments, natural landscapes, cultural experiences and adventure activities. India has festivals round the year. These include Diwali, Holi, Eid and numerous regional and tribal festivals, offering a glimpse into the country’s rich cultural diversity.

Tourism-related jobs encompass a wide range of roles focused on travel, hospitality and leisure. These include positions in hotels, travel agencies, tour operations, event planning, transportation and more. Specific job titles may include hotel manager, travel agent, tour guide, event co-ordinator, and various roles in cruise ship management or destination marketing. But we have to tap the tourist potential fully and benefit.

### LIPSYNCH

“A traveler without observation is a bird without wings.” — *Moslih Eddin Saadi*

## Oman Air celebrating 30 years of successful flights to Mumbai

(Cont. from page-1) ties between the two countries. Currently, the airline operates 168 flights per week between Muscat and 10 cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Lucknow, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, Calicut and Goa.

Speaking on the occasion, Sunil VA, Regional Vice President for the Indian Subcontinent at Oman Air, said: “This anniversary is more than a celebration of flights, it’s a celebration of friendship and trust. India has been one of our most important markets, and Mumbai holds a special place in our network. As we continue to evolve as a premium global carrier and a proud oneworld member, we remain committed to elevating our relationship with India and offering exceptional, world-class travel experiences to our guests.”

The milestone comes at an exciting time for Oman Air with its recent entry into the oneworldR alliance. With access to a network of over 900 destinations worldwide, the airline is now better positioned than ever to offer its Indian guests’ greater global connectivity, streamlined travel

## Dubai visa renewal...

(Cont. from page-1) The system does not prevent visa renewal process altogether, but prompts individuals to settle dues either in full or through instalment plans before completing their residency transactions.

“The goal is not to restrict people,” said Lt Gen Mohammed Ahmed Al Marri, Director General of the GDRFA in Dubai.

“It’s about reminding residents to pay their fines. The system allows for flexibility depending on each case.”

Authorities involved in the initiative stated that they have reviewed thousands of cases before launching the pilot, not-



el benefits, and enhanced service. Meanwhile, Oman Air, which recently won Best Food & Beverage and Best Cabin Service in the Middle East at the Apex 2025 Awards, continues to deliver a guest-centric journey that blends authentic Omani hospitality with world-class service standards.

### About Oman Air

Oman Air (WY) began operations in 1993. Initially founded to serve important domestic routes, it has since undergone rapid growth and is today recognised as a major international carrier connecting cities around the world to Oman’s stunning

nature, rich heritage and welcoming culture. The award-winning airline has been instrumental in transforming Muscat into one of the Middle East’s most desirable travel destinations, while supporting adjacent commercial, industrial and tourism activities. With a young and modern fleet including, among others, fuel-efficient Boeing 737 and 787 Dreamliner aircraft, which feature luxuriously appointed interiors, Oman Air is renowned for its exceptional products and services, both in the air and on the ground, and for the signature Omani hospitality it offers to every guest throughout their journey.

## Sky is not our limit...

(Cont. from page-1) be a luxury. It must become a way of life for every Indian,” he asserts with quiet resolve. His vision is clear — make flying affordable, accessible and inclusive. That means reducing airfares, building better re-



ing that the system has been designed to be user-friendly. Residents who approach the relevant departments for visa services will be guided through the payment process, and in many cases, allowed to pay in instalments. At this stage, the system is still in the pilot phase and has not been applied across the board. For instance, it does not apply at Dubai airport’s GDRFA centre.

This is not the first time authorities have explored linking outstanding fines with government services. Back in 2014, the Ministry of the Interior stated that visas of individuals with outstanding traffic fines would not be renewed.

regional connectivity, and transforming airports into national assets that serve not only metros but India’s growing Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Under Naidu’s stewardship, schemes like UDAN are not mere connectivity plans — they are vehicles of dignity and inclusion. He wants small-town India to fly high, not just metaphorically, but literally — with 350 to 400 operational airports envisioned by 2047.

Naidu’s approach is deeply rooted in practicality: Drive aviation-led growth through infrastructure. Double down on domestic manufacturing and MRO (Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul) capabilities. Make India a serious player in the global aerospace ecosystem.



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Swiss Franc (CHF)	107.91	110.23
Canadian Dollar	62.89	64.31
Australian Dollar	56.22	57.45
Norwegian Krone	8.44	8.69
Swedish Krona	8.94	9.2
New Zealand Dollar	51.38	52.52
Hong Kong Dollar	10.8	11.13
Kuwaiti Dinar	288.883	277.7363
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Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.6	23.31
United Arab Emirates	23.14	23.81

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Arrival at Agatti Airport, transfer to the hotel. Enjoy a welcome drink, check-in, lunch, and relax on the beach or explore the island.



### Day 2 Agatti – Water Sports & Sightseeing

Enjoy water activities followed by island sightseeing – visit the jetty, desalination plant, Lagoon Beach, and Archaeological Museum.



### Day 3 Kalpitti Island Excursion

Morning boat trip to Kalpitti Island and return. Overnight at Agatti.



### Day 4 Agatti to Bangaram

After breakfast, transfer to Bangaram by speedboat (1 hour). Welcome drink and check-in at resort.



### Day 5 Bangaram – Water Sports & Optional Island Tour

Indulge in water sports. Optional day trip to Thinnakara & Parali Islands (INR 1200 extra per person).



### Day 6 Departure

Transfer to Agatti by boat (45 mins) and board flight to Cochin.

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# GULF FAQs

## Who pays penalties if car ownership is not transferred?

**I sold my car to a friend for Dh10,000, but we did not complete the ownership transfer. Subsequently, I began receiving messages about traffic fines incurred on the vehicle. I asked my friend to pay the fines, but he refused. Due to the car's poor condition, I ended up selling it for just Dh1,500 to cover some of the fines. However, I have recently discovered that there are still outstanding fines totalling Dh12,000 registered against the car. My friend continues to refuse any responsibility for these penalties. From a legal standpoint, what options are available to me in this situation?**

In the UAE, until the concerned authority formally transfers the vehicle's ownership in the name of a new owner, a registered (current) owner remains legally liable for all obligations against the vehicle, including but not limited to traffic violations. This is in accordance with Article 22 (1) of the Federal Decree-Law No. (14) of 2024 On Traffic Regulation.

"Any transfer of ownership of a vehicle shall be registered with the Licensing Authority through the means approved by it. The owner of the vehicle in whose name the Vehicle Licence is registered shall remain liable for the obligations arising from the use of the vehicle until the Vehicle Licence is registered in the name of the new owner in accordance with the procedures followed by the Licensing Authority in this regard."

Furthermore, from the perspective of traffic enforcement and administrative liability, the fines incurred during your friend's use of the vehicle are as-

sociated with the vehicle, which makes you liable to pay as the registered owner.

In addition, it is assumed that you and your friend entered into a contract for the sale of the vehicle. In light of this contractual relationship and given that your friend took possession of the vehicle and used the

vehicle after entering into a sale contract, he may be held liable to you for the traffic fines incurred during that period. This liability arises notwithstanding the absence of formal ownership transfer, as the existence of a binding contract may give rise to enforceable legal obligations between the parties to a con-

tract under UAE civil law.

In the UAE, if a contract is entered into between all parties named in a contract, it is a legal obligation of each party to perform their respective obligations in accordance with the provisions of the contract. This is by Article 246 (1) of the Federal Law No. (5) of 1985 On the Civil Transactions Law of the UAE, which states: "1. The contract shall be implemented, according to the provisions contained therein and, in a manner, consistent with the requirements of good faith."

Anyone who causes harm to another is liable to

compensate for that harm. This is in accordance with Article 282 of the UAE Civil Code, "Any harm done to another shall render the actor, even though not a discerning person, liable to make good the harm."

You may consider filing a claim against your friend for the financial losses you incurred as a direct result of his failure to meet his obligations under the sale contract, particularly relating to his use of the vehicle and the resulting fines. By the aforesaid provision of the law, you remain liable for the outstanding traffic fines to be paid to the concerned authority as the vehicle continues to be registered in your name.



## Who will replace faulty products?

**How do product guarantees/warranties work in the UAE? I bought a laptop recently. It broke down multiple times. And each time, the seller just repaired it and gave it back. However, it is obvious that the product is defective and needs to be replaced. How do I make the seller replace it?**

In the UAE, when a seller of a product enters into a deal or contract with a customer, they are obligated to provide a customer with an invoice that includes specific details like the seller's contact information, the date of the transaction, description of the item or service, quantity, price, warranty information, and more. Additionally, if there's a warranty, it needs to be provided either with the invoice or separately. This is in accordance with Article 6 of the Cabinet Resolution No. 66 of 2023 Concerning the Executive Regulation of Federal Law

no 15 of 2020 on consumer protection.

Also, if a product is purchased within the period of warranty then the seller is required to fulfil the warranty terms, provide necessary spare parts and maintenance, replace faulty goods or refund their value within a set timeframe. This is outlined in Article 10 (1) of the Federal Law No. 15 of 2020 On Consumer Protection.

"The supplier shall implement all warranties, provide the required spare parts and maintenance, replace the good, or refund its monetary value, and commit to after-sales service as regards the sold goods, within the specified time limit."

The term warranty is defined as: "A written or implicit declaration from the provider or the representative thereof that the commodity or the service of the warranty is free from defects or flaws and complies with the standard specifications and that they

undertake to repair any flaw or defect occurring to the commodity, re-provide the service or replace the commodity within a specific period." This is in accordance with Article 1 of the UAE Consumer Protection Law.

Additionally, as the laptop had multiple breakdowns not result from your action, then it is assumed that the product is defective. In case a malfunction is detected in a product, a supplier shall repair or replace the same. This is provided under Article 12 of the UAE Consumer Protection Law. "In the event that a malfunction is found in the good or service, the supplier shall repair or replace the same, return the good and refund its price, or re-perform the service without charge, in accordance with what is specified by the implementing regulation of this law."

The term malfunction is defined as "everything that affects the good after its production or the service

after its provision, which may lead to harm the consumer or deprive him in whole or in part of benefiting therefrom, provided that the malfunction has not resulted from the action of the consumer." This is provided under Article 1 of the UAE Consumer Protection Law.

The provider must adhere to the warranty for the service provided for a reasonable period, determined by either the nature of the service or the agreed duration with the consumer, whichever is longer. Failure to meet this obligation gives the consumer certain options: they can either receive a full refund if the service wasn't provided or was unsuccessful, a partial refund if they partly benefited from the service, or request the provider to redo the service correctly as per the contract in accordance with Article 13 of the Cabinet Resolution no. 66 of 2023 Concerning the Executive Regulation of Feral Law no. 15 of 2020 .



## Emirates announces 17,300 job openings

**DUBAI:** Dubai's Emirates Group has announced that it will recruit 17,300 people in the current financial year, equivalent to the population of a mid-sized town, across various entities, including Emirates Airline and dnata.

It stated that hundreds of recruits are required across various roles, in-

cluding cabin crew, pilots, engineers, commercial and sales teams, customer service, ground handling, catering, IT, HR and finance. Since 2022, the Group has onboarded more than 41,000 talented professionals, including nearly 27,000 in various operational roles, and now has a workforce of 121,000. The Group

said it would host more than 2,100 open days and other talent acquisition events in 150 cities to recruit the best pilots, IT professionals, engineers, and talent for cabin crew roles. This also includes Dubai-based events to engage UAE national students and graduates.

Dnata alone is looking to hire more than 4,000

cargo, catering and ground handling specialists. "We're seeking world-class talent to fuel our bold ambition, redefine the future of aviation, and continue our commitment and culture of innovation and excellence. This is an opportunity for skilled and talented professionals to play a stellar role in our future, our

strategy, and our growth story," said Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman and Chief Executive, Emirates Airline & Group.

Being a top talent magnet and an employer of choice, Emirates Group said it received more than 3.7 million applications for roles spanning all its brands.

## H-1B visa lottery system may be cancelled

**WASHINGTON:** The Trump administration plans to significantly alter the current H-1B visa selection process. The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) have sent the White House a proposal for a revised H-1B visa selection procedure. The

current lottery system may be cancelled.

The notice filed with the US Office of Management and Budget's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) seeks statutory review of a proposed rule titled "Weighted Selection Process for Registrants and Petitioners Seeking To File Cap-Subject H-1B Pe-

titions."

It appears that the selection of H-1B candidates would be based on their skills, experience level, and salary. A similar proposal in 2021 was floated during Trump's first Presidency but was shelved by Biden's administration.

The 2021 H-1B visa proposal was—"USCIS will rank

and select the petitions received on the basis of the highest Occupational Employment Statistics wage level that the proffered wage equals or exceeds for the relevant Standard Oc-

cupational Classification code in the area of intended employment, beginning with OES wage level IV and proceeding in descending order with OES wage levels III, II, and I."

## Abu Dhabi sees 13pc rise in air passengers

**JEDDAH:** Abu Dhabi Airports (the company) handled more than 15.8 million passengers in the first-half of 2025, up 13.1pc from the previous six months, despite regional airspace disruptions.

Zayed International Airport, the UAE's second-largest air base and a key international hub connected to over 120 passenger destinations, played a

central role in the surge. It recorded 15.5 million passengers by the end of June — a 13.2pc year-on-year increase, according to the UAE's official news agency WAM.

The government-owned operator showed resilience, maintaining steady growth in both passenger traffic and flight movements despite regional disruptions

## Indians lost over Rs 22,845cr to cybercriminals in 2024

**NEW DELHI:** The money Indian citizens lost to cybercriminals jumped 206pc in a year to Rs 22,845.73 crore in 2024, minister of state for home affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar told the Lok Sabha.

Kumar said that data from the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCCRP) and the Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System (CFCFRMS), managed by the Indian Cyber-crime Coordination Centre (I4C), showed that total financial losses due to cyber fraud across the country in 2024 was Rs 22,845.73 crore.

The figure was Rs 7,465.18 crore in 2023, the previous year. A total of 36,37,288 incidents of financial cyber fraud were recorded on the NCCRP and the CFCFRMS in 2024, compared to 24,42,978 such incidents the previous year.

A total of 10,29,026 cybercrimes were reported on the NCCRP in 2022, marking a 127.44pc rise from the year before. In 2023, a total of 15,96,493 incidents were recorded, a 55.15pc increase, while 2024 saw 22,68,346 cases, reflecting a 42.08pc rise. The CFCFRMS, launched in 2021, "facilitates immediate reporting of financial frauds to prevent criminals from siphoning off funds," Kumar noted.

He added that the CFCFRMS has saved over Rs 5,489 crore across more than 17.82 lakh complaints reported so far. Detailing government action against cybercriminals, the minister said that over 9.42 lakh SIM cards and 2,63,348 IMEIs have been blocked by the Centre. A Suspect Registry for tracking cybercriminals' identifiers was launched by I4C on 10 Sept 2024, in collaboration with banks and

financial institutions. So far, over 11 lakh suspect identifiers from banks and 24 lakh layer-1 mule accounts have been shared with participating entities, saving more than Rs 4,631 crore, he said.

## NRI lady doctor found dead in her Abu Dhabi apartment

**ABU DHABI:** A 54-year-old Indian doctor was found dead at her residence in Abu Dhabi. Social workers have said Dr Dhanalakshmi, who was a dentist at Lifecare Hospital in Mussafah, was well-known within both the medical and expatriate communities for her social work. "We just heard about the incident and we are deeply saddened by her death," said Abdullah Kamampalam, a social worker based with Sharjah Indian Association. "We have not received any information regarding the cause of the death yet."



The hospital has confirmed that Dr Dhanalakshmi, a native of Talappu, Kannur, was found dead in her home in Musaffah. Friends who didn't hear from her in two days alerted authorities after she failed to report for work on Monday. Lifecare Hospital issued a condolence

message, describing her as "a valued member of our team and a constant source of positivity," highlighting her roles as a 'gifted writer, compelling orator and a truly versatile individual.'

Social workers who knew Dr Dhanalakshmi said she was always available to people in need, offering both time and support to individuals in distress. Many described her as a dedicated professional who went beyond her clinical duties to advocate for public health, often volunteering for community awareness sessions.