



# OVERSEAS NEWS AND EMPLOYMENT

PASSPORT TO GLOBAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



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## UAE's new Golden Visa for Indian professionals

**DUBAI:** The UAE has made its residency programme more accessible to professionals across sectors. The Gulf nation has introduced a new type of Golden Visa based on nomination, albeit with some conditions, unlike the current practice of investing large amounts in either property or business in the country. The move comes as good news for Indian nationals, who make up one of the largest expat communities in the UAE.

The expanded Golden Visa targets nurses, educators and content creators, broadening the pool beyond the original entrepreneur, investor, student and specialist segments drawn to the South Asian country by its tax advantages, world-class infrastructure and stability. Launched in 2019, the programme was originally tailored for high-net-worth individuals via real estate investment. In 2022, (Cont. on page-2)

## NIT-R portal for NRI, foreign origin students' admission to institutes

**ROURKELA:** To simplify admission of candidates for 105 institutes of the country eligible for both Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) and Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) special categories, the NIT-Rourkela has created a single common portal. The move is aimed at simplifying admission process for foreign-origin and NRI students. As co-ordinating institute for both DASA and CSAB, NIT-R has announced commencement of a common registration process for candidates seeking admission to undergraduate programmes. The institutes include 31 NITs, 26 IIITs, one IIST, three SPAs and 44 technical institutes funded fully or partially by the central or state government for the academic year 2025-26. Students from over 50 countries including NRIs and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs)/Persons of Indian Origins (PIOs) are allowed admission in higher institutions through DASA. On the other hand, CSAB Special is primarily meant for students with Indian citizenship. CSAB-Special conducts supplementary admission rounds held after Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA) to utilise the remaining seats across various centrally funded technical institutes and help prevent wastage. Reliable sources in the NIT-R explained that candidates with NRI status are eligible for admission both under DASA and CSAB-Special categories, while from 2023 onwards the candidates with OCI and PIO status too became eligible to apply in both categories. Previous- (Cont. on page-2)

## Noida airport to open in Nov

**NEW DELHI:** The work at the Noida International Airport in UP's Jewar — which has missed several deadlines since its foundation stone was laid in Nov 2021 — will be completed by Nov this year, UP Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta (Nandi) said. Addressing reporters after a review meeting with the officials of Yamuna Industrial Expressway Development Authority (YIEDA), he said: "Jewar Airport, which was like a genie in the bottle, used to come out and later get inside the bottle during the SP and BSP government. The file was gathering dust. We have worked on it for eight years, and it will now be completely ready by Nov." The minister also said it would be recognised as the fourth-largest airport in the world and the largest airport in Asia. The airport missed its first opening deadline on Sept 29, 2024, which was later pushed to April of this year. Following this, June 30 was announced as the new date for operations. "We have reviewed the progress of the airport and directed officials to fast-track all work," said Nandi. The Noida International Airport is being built in four phases with an investment of Rs. 29,650 crore. The first phase, costing Rs. 10,056 crore, is designed to cater to 12 million passengers annually, and will have one runway and one terminal building.

Once operational, the Puri International Airport will provide direct air connectivity to one of India's most revered spiritual and cultural destinations, boosting tourism, (Cont. on page-2)

## Puri airport clears key hurdles

**NEW DELHI:** The proposed Puri Greenfield International Airport, a flagship infrastructure project of the Government of Odisha, has received a significant boost with a series of key regulatory clearances and milestones. Once operational, the Puri International Airport will provide direct air connectivity to one of India's most revered spiritual and cultural destinations, boosting tourism, (Cont. on page-2)



### INTIMATION NOTICE

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Please note that, our Registered Office (HO) and Corporate/MICE Division will continue to operate from the current HO Registered premises at 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Office 3, KAPADIA CHAMBERS, Next to METRO CINEMA, DHOB TALAO, M.G. ROAD, MUMBAI-400 020  
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# IndiGo targets premium transit passengers

**MUMBAI:** Airline major IndiGo is eyeing a significant share of the transit passenger market between Europe and South-east Asia via Mumbai.

The airline's chief executive Pieter Elbers said: "India's geographical position allows passengers to catch connecting flights beyond India. If you fly from Europe to South-east Asia, connecting in Delhi or Mumbai is a good opportunity."

The airline has launched direct flights from Mumbai to Manchester and Amsterdam, and plans to operate to new destinations like Copenhagen this winter. "Even the potential for point-to-point traffic from Manchester to Mumbai is massive," Elbers told a TV channel.

"This service will help us mitigate seasonal fluctuations." According to Elbers, IndiGo's growth strategy is designed to offer an additional op-



tion for Indian travellers, rather than simply taking away traffic from Middle East carriers and European operators.

"We will take away

some traffic, but I see it as offering an additional option for Indian travellers," said Elbers. "Our product is designed to feel at home for Indians

and offer a taste of India for non-Indians."

He cited that IndiGo's network is designed to cater to the diverse needs of Indian travellers. "Indian travellers are diverse, and our network reflects that diversity," said Elbers adding "We're not just looking at where Indian travellers go, but also new places."

Furthermore, the airline is preparing for expansions with its new Airbus A321XLR aircraft. "We're developing our network... We're preparing for expansions with the XLRs," he said.

At present, IndiGo has a fleet of over 400 aircraft, with which it operates more than 2,200 daily flights. The airline connects over 90 domestic and more than 40 international destinations. It inducted 58 aircraft in 2024 and serviced over 118 million customers in FY25.

## Puri airport clears key hurdles

(Cont. from page-1) employment, and regional economic growth.

Union Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) granted site clearance for the Greenfield airport on Sept 22, 2023. This was followed by the Centre's recent in-principle approval, paving the way for further development. Spanning a total area of 1,164 acres, the project involves minimal forest diversion, only 68 acres fall under the District Level Committee (DLC) and Revenue Forest category.

Forest diversion proposal is currently under active consideration by the Central Ministry. At its meeting held on June 24, 2025, the Advisory Com-

mittee of the MoEF&CC requested additional inputs, including a Wildlife Conservation Plan and mitigation measures for ecologically sensitive species such as Olive Ridley turtles, dolphins, and migratory birds. The conservation plan is being prepared in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India (WII).

Government officials clarified that these steps are part of standard procedures for large-scale infrastructure projects. The Commerce & Transport Department has already initiated the development of mitigation measures in line with the Advisory Committee's recommendations and

will submit the plan to obtain Stage-I clearance. In a significant development, the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) under MoEF&CC has already recommended Environmental Clearance for the project during its meeting held on June 26, 2025.

With these critical milestones achieved, the Odisha Government is expected to finalise mo-

dalities for issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP), transitioning the project into its execution phase. Once operational, the Puri International Airport will provide direct air connectivity to one of India's most revered spiritual and cultural destinations, boosting tourism, employment, and regional economic growth, officials added.

## UAE's new Golden Visa for...

(Cont. from page-1) the minimum property threshold for a 10-year visa was dropped to Dh2 million, opening doors to a broader pool of investors. Immigrants could also get Dubai's Golden Visa by investing a large amount in a business in

the country.

Apart from investors, entrepreneurs and top students, the Golden Visa was expanded to now covers scientists, executives, frontline workers, school teachers, principals, and university faculty, nurses with 15+ years of experience, YouTubers, podcasters and digital creators, accredited e-sports professionals above the age of 25, and

Luxury yacht owners and maritime executives.

Under the "new nomination-based visa policy," Indians can now enjoy the UAE's Golden Visa for life by paying a fee of Dh1 lakh (Rs23.30 lakh), beneficiaries and people involved in the process

revealed. Over 5,000 Indians are expected to apply for the nomination-based visa in three months, they said.

## NIT-R portal for NRI,...

(Cont. from page-1) ly, they were needed to apply in different portals making the process for seat allocation cumbersome and overlapping of applications also created confusion.

Integration of two separate platforms with introduction of a common portal (<https://csab.nic.in>) provides single registration window for two distinct admission schemes and will help reduce administrative burden, ensure clear timelines and simplify document handling or onboarding process, they added.

## Staffing industry urges govt to cut GST to five per cent

**NEW DELHI:** Staffing firms in India have made a pitch for reducing the goods and services tax (GST) on employment services to five per cent from 18pc now and sought industry status for their sector.

The Indian Staffing Federation (ISF) met top officials of the department for the promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT) to discuss is-

sues faced by the sector and to press for these demands. The ISF has said services towards employment must be considered under merit services, arguing that they operated on low margins. It pointed out that gross margin for almost all contract staffing companies varied between two per cent and eight per cent and the net margins were significantly lower than that.

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FOREX RATES		
As on 7th July 2025 (In rupees)		
Currency	BillBuy	BillSell
US Dollar	84.83	85.93
British Pound	115.86	117.47
Euro	99.55	101.64
Japanese Yen	58.73	59.65
Swiss Franc (CHF)	106.44	108.79
Canadian Dollar	62.2	63.59
Australian Dollar	55.55	56.75
Norwegian Krone	8.34	8.59
Swedish Krona	8.78	9.03
New Zealand Dollar	51.24	52.36
Hong Kong Dollar	10.67	11
Kuwaiti Dinar	285.9075	274.7536
Singapore Dollar	66.28	67.78
Saudi Arabian Riyal	22.33	23.03
United Arab Emirates	22.85	23.51

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A promotional banner for Fly Creative Global Holidays. The banner features the company logo on the left, which includes a stylized 'C' with a globe inside, and the text 'Creative Group' below it. The main text reads 'fly creative' in a large, stylized font, with 'Global Holidays' in a red banner below it. To the right of the logo is the text 'Incredible India' in a large, serif font, with a small red dot above the 'i'. Below this is the website 'www.flycreativeglobal.com' and the email 'Email : support@flycreative.in'. On the far right is the IATA Accredited Agent logo, which includes a globe and the text 'IATA Accredited Agent'. Below the IATA logo are four social media icons: a crossed-out 'X', 'in' (Instagram), 'f' (Facebook), and a camera icon (Twitter). The background of the banner is light blue with a white border. The text 'Your Trusted Travel Company Since 1978' is written in red below the main logo.

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## Day 03 Kalpitti Trek or Water Thrills

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- Lagoon walk or beachcombing



Historical Museum

## Day 04 Departure

- Breakfast & transfer to Agatti Airport for return journey



Snorkelling Adventures



# GULF FAQs

## Expired cheque? what UAE law says about your rights?

**I have a cheque issued by someone for a large amount. The cheque is over four years old, and the bank is refusing to accept it because it is more than six months past its date of issuance. What is the appropriate legal procedure I should follow to claim my rights? Do I have the legal right to take immediate action to prevent the cheque**



**issuer from leaving the country?**

You do not have the legal right to take immediate action to ban the

drawer because you have lost the opportunity to use the cheque as an execution document due to the lapse of more than two

years from its due date and the failure to present the cheque to the bank within the required period.

According to Article 670 of the Commercial Transactions Law, claims to recover the cheque amount will not be accepted after two years have passed from the expiry of the presentment period. The following claims shall not be heard, upon denial and absence of a legiti-

mate excuse: Claims for recourse by the cheque bearer against the drawer, endorsers and other obligors to pay the cheque value, if more than two years have passed since the expiry of the presentment period. The legal action to be taken is to file a civil case against the drawer to recover the debt amount stated in the cheque, using the cheque only as evidence. This is based on Article 336 of the Civil Transactions Law, which states that claims arising from a beneficial act shall not be accepted after three years from the date the creditor became aware of their right of reversion and in any case not later than 15 years from when the right arose. The liability to prove your case lies with you. You may rely on an oath as well as any written documents between you and the drawer. The court will make its decision based on the documents submitted.

## Worker who never joined work given Dh110,400 in unpaid wages

**Can you please explain the case where an employee who did not work was awarded Dh 1,10,400 in unpaid wages?**

A company has been ordered to pay a man Dh110,400 in unpaid wages for four months and 18 days by an Abu Dhabi Labour Court (First Instance). The employee was hired but never allowed to begin work. The claimant had filed a lawsuit against the company, demanding payment of his delayed salary from Nov 11, 2024, to April 7, 2025. He claimed that he had signed a fixed-term contract with a basic salary of Dh7,200 and a total monthly package of Dh24,000. However, the company continuously delayed his start date, leaving him waiting without pay.

A representative for the company appeared in court, submitted a legal response and documents, and requested the case be transferred to a relevant division for judgment. The court stated that "it was clear from the wage report, the employ-

ment contract, and the supporting documents submitted through the case management system that the delay in starting work was due to the employer," according to local newspaper Emarat Al Youm. The court emphasised that under Federal Decree-Law No. (33) of 2021 regulating labour relations, employers are obligated to pay wages

on time according to the systems approved by the Ministry of HR and Emiratization. Citing Article 912 of the Civil Transactions Law, the court ruled that wages are a worker's right and cannot be withheld without proof such as a written waiver or legal acknowledgment.

The employer had argued the employee wasn't entitled to his sal-

ary because he "did not report to duty and went on leave." But the court found no evidence of a formal investigation into any absence, determining that the delay in employment was the company's fault. The employee admitted taking eight days off, which were deducted from the total, resulting in a payment for four months and 18 days.

## My leave was denied, what to do?

**I am planning to take a vacation this summer, but my boss is rejecting my leave request, as others on the team have already booked the dates. However, I would like to take my leave and travel. Is this legal?**

It is assumed that the mainland company you are employed with is employing more than 50 employees. In the UAE, it is at the discretion of an employer to determine the annual leave dates of its employees based on operational requirements or in mutual agreement with the employees.

An employer must inform an employee of their annual leave dates (start date and end date) at least one month before the annual leave commences.

This is by Article 29 (4) of Federal Decree Law No. 33 of 2021 on the

Regulation of Employment Relations, which states: "The employee shall use his leave in the year of entitlement. The employer may fix the dates of leave according to the work requirements and in agreement with the employee, or rotate leaves among employees for the smooth progress of work, and shall notify the employee of the date of his leave at least one month before the same."

Furthermore, an employer may not prevent an employee from availing of annual leave that has been carried over for more than two years unless the employee chooses to postpone it or receive a cash allowance instead of the annual leave, according to the HR/internal policies in place at the workplace and applicable regulations. This is by the Article 29 (8) of the UAE

Employment Law: "The employer may not prevent the employee from benefiting from his annual leave accrued for more than two years unless the employee wishes to carry it forward or receive a cash allowance for it, by the regulations in force at the establishment and the Implementing Regulation hereof."

Based on the aforementioned provisions of the UAE Employment Law, your employer may reject a leave request if it overlaps with the pre-approved leave of other employees and affects the smooth functioning of your employer. Therefore, you may discuss the matter with your employer and consider suggesting alternative dates or adjusting the dates of your vacation which are acceptable to you.



## CANADA HIKES FUND NEEDS FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

## Indians must show Rs 14 lakh for living expenses

**OTTAWA:** Canada has increased the fund requirement for foreign students by Canadian \$2000 which will be applicable to all foreign students starting from Sept 1, 2025. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada announced the updated requirement of financial support requirement.

Indian students will need at least CAN \$22,895 (Rs 14 lakh) for living expenses, up from

the current CAN \$20,635.

The new requirement applies to international students studying in all provinces and territories outside Quebec. International students must provide proof that they have these funds as living expenses to support themselves and any accompanying family members in Canada.

Funds required for those applying for a study permit on or after Sept 1, 2025 based on family size

**1 person: CAN \$22,895,  
2 people: CAN \$28,502,  
3 people: CAN \$35,040,  
4 people: CAN \$42,543,  
5 people: CAN \$48,252,  
6 people: CAN \$54,420,  
7 people: CAN \$60,589.**

Each additional family member: CAN \$6,170

This requirement applies only to study permit applications submitted on or after Sept 1, 2025. The current amount—CAN \$20,635—will remain in

effect for all applications submitted before that date.

What documents are accepted as proof of funds:

The IRCC has specified documents that can be used as proof of funds.

Proof of a Canadian bank account in their name, if they have transferred the money to Canada.

A Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) from a participating Ca-

nadian financial institution.

Proof of a student or education loan from a bank.

Bank statements for the past four months.

A bank draft that can be converted to Canadian dollars.

A letter from the person or school that is giving them money.

Proof of funding paid from within Canada, if they have a scholarship or are in a Canadian-funded educational programme.

## Indian embassy to have new service centres across Oman

**MUSCAT:** Effective July 1, 2025, consular, passport and visa services of Indian embassy here are handled by a new service provider, SGIVS Global Services LLC.

Initially, all consular services will continue to be offered from the embassy premises located on Jami'at Al-Dowal Al-Arabiya Street in the Diplomatic Area of Al Khuwair. However, in a move aimed at enhancing accessibility and improving service delivery, SGIVS Global Services LLC will establish 11 new dedicated application centres across the Sultanate.

The upcoming centres are planned for the following locations: Mus-

cat, Salalah, Sohar, Ibri, Sur, Nizwa, Duqm, Ibra, Khasab, Buraimi and Barka. Full operations at these centres are expected to commence by August 15.

The embassy has cautioned applicants to anticipate potential disruptions during this transitional period and urged all individuals seeking services to plan accordingly. For updates and further information, applicants are advised to consult the embassy's official website and its social media platforms.

## Australia's student visa costliest

**SYDNEY:** Australia has once again increased its student visa fee for college/universities, making it the world's costliest.

From July 1, 2025, international students must pay AU\$ 2,000 (around Rs1.12 lakh) to apply, up from AU\$ 1,600 earlier.

Despite the jump, education consultants say Indian students are unlikely to look elsewhere.

**JEDDAH:** Saudi Arabia's hotel occupancy rate rose to 63pc in the first quarter of 2025, up from 60.9pc a year earlier, driven by seasonal events, pilgrimage traffic and growing leisure tourism. The occupancy rate for serviced apartments and other hospitality facilities fell to 50.7pc during the same period, marking a decline of 3.8 percentage points compared with the first quarter of 2024, according to recent data from the General Authority for Statistics.

GASTAT's tourism establishments statistics

also showed that the average daily room rate in hotels stood at SR477 (\$127.2), reflecting a year-on-year decrease of 3.4pc. Meanwhile, the average daily rate in serviced apartments and other hospitality facilities increased by 7.2pc to SR209 during the same period. The Kingdom has set ambitious tourism targets under its Vision 2030 agenda, aiming to attract 150 million visitors annually by the end of the decade. Tourism is central to the nation's broader strategy to diversify its economy beyond oil and

is positioned as a vital contributor to the gross domestic product. To drive this transformation, Saudi Arabia plans to invest over

\$1 trillion in new attractions and infrastructure projects, including the Red Sea initiative and NEOM, a \$500 billion megacity.

## Forex reserves cross \$700bn

**MUMBAI:** The nation's foreign exchange reserves have again inched closer to the record peak of over \$700 billion it had achieved last Sept when it had sniffed at \$705 billion. For the reporting week of June 27, RBI said the reserves increased by US\$ 4.8 billion to \$702.78 billion for the week. The central bank attributed the gains to the rise in foreign currency as-

sets as well as the stable rupee which means that the central bank didn't enter the market too heavily to steady the local unit.

The reserves had peaked to \$704.89 billion to the week to Sept 26, 2024 and since then it has been falling till the last week of Feb this year losing almost \$150 billion as the rupee was under tremendous pressure.

## Crude price may fall below \$60 by 2025-end, says S&amp;P Global

**NEW DELHI:** Crude oil prices are expected to fall below \$60 a barrel by the end of 2025, driven by robust supply and subdued global demand, according to S&P Global.

Premasish Das, executive director of S&P Global Commodity Insights, stated that crude prices are expected to slide by year-end and hover in the \$55-\$60 range. The oil market is currently well-supplied, primarily due to higher output from OPEC+ and weak global demand. Beginning April, OPEC+ decided to unwind its 2.2 million barrels per day production cut on a monthly basis.

This decision initially caused crude to slump to \$60 before recovering to around \$70. The cartel had implemented these cuts in 2022 to support prices. Global oil demand, on the other hand, remains muted, largely due to a slowdown in China, the world's largest oil importer. However, he also cautioned against potential geopolitical risks, including the Iran-Israel conflict and the possibility of OPEC+ reinstating supply cuts.

In such a scenario, oil prices could climb to \$70-\$75, he added. Das noted that India's oil demand is expected to remain robust in the second-half of the year. The country's oil demand growth is anticipated to rise by 1,20,000 barrels per day.

## Saudi hotel occupancy rises to 63pc