



Foreign Minister S Jaishankar met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan at the Munich Security Conference.

SC asks Centre to grant permanent commission to women army officers

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday ruled that women should be granted permanent commission in the Indian army and the judgment of Delhi High Court in 2010 should be implemented.

The judgment read out by Justice DY Chandrachud criticised the central government for not following Delhi High court order and said, "Centre waited for nine years before coming out with a notification in 2019 allowing permanent commission to women in eight streams. The Centre's

policy decision of 2019 recognises that physiological features has no role in allowing permanent commissions to women officers."

"Women in the army is an evolutionary process and soldiers must have the physical capability to do one's role," the court said adding that permanent commission will apply to all women officers in the army in service, irrespective of their years of service. The court also noted that the arguments presented by the Centre were contrary to its own policy of 2019 on

extending permanent commission options for women and termed the submission by Centre as disturbing and bench said:

"Despite policy decision, the Centre submitted a note to the Supreme Court which perpetuates sex stereotypes. Arguments by the Centre founded on physical strength of men and women and grounds of motherhood, family etc violates equality."

"Physiological features of women have no link to their rights. The mindset must change," the court ob-

UAE to extend maternity, paternity leave

ABU DHABI: The UAE will extend maternity and paternity leave to encourage more women to stay in work after having children, a top government official said.

Mona Al Marri, vice president of the UAE Gender Balance Council, told a TV channel that policies to allow flexible working hours and part-time work are also being drawn up. "We succeeded in increasing the maternity leave from two to three months and that's a big step," she said, referring to an amendment made to Dubai government's HR Management Law in 2017. "A woman employee gets three months' paid leave, followed by three months' half-pay leave and then another three months of unpaid leave. As a package, it's

nine months."

She said the council was studying legislation from Scandinavian countries – regarded as global leaders in gender equality – to provide inspiration for local laws. "We want to have longer maternity leave and are pushing for more days to be added... to take care of newborns," said Al Marri, speaking at the Global Women's Forum in Dubai. But to achieve true gender equality paternity leave also had to be extended, she said.

"Right now, [paternity leave] is only three days. We are pushing for longer paternity leave so that a father can spend more time with his baby," Al Marri said it was not just a matter of importing legislation from abroad; rather the laws had

to be customised to suit the UAE. We want to have longer maternity leave and are pushing for more days to be added. "We don't just bring a good model and try to enforce it here. It should be a home-grown initiative." Federal statistics showed a significant drop-off in women's participation in the workplace once they hit their 30s. A report in 2017 showed 67pc of foreign residents and 58pc of women were employed in the 25 to 29 age group. That fell steadily through the thirties and was 56pc for residents and 43pc of Emiratis in the 45 to 49 age group. The figures continue to drop to retirement, demonstrating how many women never return to work. Al Marri did not give an expected

timeline for the extension of maternity and paternity leave, saying that it would not happen this year and would "take time". "Hopefully, it won't be long given the speed at which the UAE government works but we need to evaluate all aspects before these policies are implemented."

The UAE has taken great strides to encourage the retention of female staff in the workplace. On-site childcare centres have allowed parents to bring their children into the office and ensure they are cared for while they work. "We started this in 2006," Al Marri said. "Any government department that has more than 50 employees with children less than four years should provide a nursery for children.

Moody's cuts India growth projection to 5.4pc

NEW DELHI: Moody's Investors Service has slashed India's growth forecast to 5.4pc for 2020 from 6.6pc projected earlier on slower-than-expected economic recovery.

In its update on Global Macro Outlook, Moody's said India's economy had decelerated rapidly over the last two years and expected economic recovery to begin in the current quarter. "We expect any recovery to be slower than we had previously expected. Accordingly, we have revised our growth forecasts to 5.4pc for 2020 and 5.8pc for 2021, down from our previous projections of 6.6pc and 6.7pc respectively," Moody's said.

The growth projections are based on calendar year and as per its estimates, India has clocked a GDP growth of five per cent in 2019. With a weak economy and depressed credit growth reinforcing each other, Moody's said: "it is difficult to envi-

sion a quick turnaround of either, even if economic deceleration may have troughed".

On the fiscal front, it said the Union Budget 2020 did not contain a significant stimulus to address the demand slump. "As similar policies in other countries have shown, tax cuts are unlikely to translate into higher consumer and business spending when risk aversion is high," it said. Moody's said it expected additional easing by the RBI. However, if the recent rise in CPI inflation, mainly as a result of higher food prices, is seen to have second-round effects, this would make it more challenging for the central bank to cut interest rates further, it added. With regard to global growth, Moody's said the coronavirus outbreak had diminished optimism about prospects of an incipient stabilisation of global growth this year.

BR Shetty resigns from NMC Health

DUBAI: BR Shetty, the founder and co-chairman of



BR Shetty

NMC Health, has resigned. Shetty stepped down with immediate effect, along with chief investment officer Hani Buttikhi and board member Abdulrahman Basaddiq, the company said on Monday. On Friday, NMC had said that vice-chairman Khalifa Butti Omeir bin Yousef was stepping down from the board. His resignation came after UK regulators this week said they were looking into the company after news that founder and chairman BR Shetty had inaccurately disclosed the size of his stake in the business.

Trump to meet Indian industrialists

NEW DELHI: US President Donald Trump will meet executives of large Indian companies with interests in the US as he looks to drum up investments during his visit to New Delhi this month.

Executives of some of the companies expected to attend the meeting include Reliance Industries, diversified group Tata Sons and auto sector companies such as Bharat Forge and Mahindra.

President Trump is scheduled to make his first visit as president to India on Feb 24-25 during which he will travel to Prime Minister Modi's home state of Gujarat followed by talks in New Delhi. The two countries are trying to sign a trade deal during

his visit. On Feb 25, a meeting is being planned between President Trump and Indian executives, especially those focusing on job creation and manufacturing in the US.

The meeting, which will be held in Delhi, is unlikely to include executives of US companies. Creating new jobs and boosting manufacturing is critical for Trump in his re-election bid later this year. US factory activity rebounded in Jan but only after it contracted for five straight months. "President is keen on acknowledging Indian companies which are focusing on manufacturing in the US," said a Washington-based source aware of the plans. US is a key mar-

ket for several Indian firms.

Mahindra last year had said it will invest another \$1 billion in the US and was committed to creating American jobs, while Bharat Forge has announced plans to invest \$56 million to set up a new plant in North Carolina. The \$100-billion Tata Group says it is one of the largest Indian-headquartered multinationals in North America, with 13 companies and more than 35,000 employees. The CII and US-India trade groups have suggested several Indian executives for the Trump meeting and the US embassy in New Delhi was reviewing that, one source said, adding the final list was yet to be finalised.

DP World to delist from Nasdaq Dubai

DUBAI: DP World will now be a 100pc owned by Port and Free Zone World, which in turn is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dubai World. DP World's parent company Port and Free Zone World has offered to acquire the 19.55pc of DP World's shares traded on Nasdaq Dubai, returning the company to private ownership.

According to a statement released by the company, the move will enable DP World to focus on its medium-to-long-term strategy of "transforming from a global port operator to an infrastructure-led (Contd. on page 2)

Saudi, UAE slowly moving to non-oil GDP

DUBAI: The UAE and Saudi Arabia will lead the gradual pick-up in GDP growth led by non-oil economic activity, according to Economics team at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (ADCB).

ADCB economists see aggregate real non-oil GDP growth strengthening to 2.6pc in 2020, up from an estimated 2.1pc in 2019 and two per cent in 2018.

"We see Saudi Arabia and UAE as largely driving the acceleration in non-oil GDP growth in 2020, despite being at different stages in their economic cycles. Saudi Arabia should ben-

efit from building momentum with its investment programme, whilst UAE is forecast to get a boost from hosting Expo 2020," said Monica Malik, chief economist of ADCB. While there is some pick-up in investment activity in Oman, Kuwait is expected to see stronger manufacturing activity with new refining capacity coming onstream. In the case of Bahrain, GCC support for investments will remain a key support to economic activity.

Within the GCC, Saudi Arabia is at an early stage in its multi-year diversifica-

tion programme, with much of the funds in place for the first phases of the investment plans.

"We believe the investment programme will take time to build traction, with most of the rise in Saudi project awards in 2019 linked to hydrocarbon projects. We also expect to see a pick-up in investment activity in the UAE in 2020 – there are signs of momentum building in Abu Dhabi, despite a fall in project awards in 2019," said Thirumalai Nagesh, an economist at ADCB. During the current year, Dubai is expected to

see greater implementation of projects to finalise infrastructure in Dubai in the first-half of 2020 ahead of Expo 2020, both direct and indirect. Stronger project awards are expected in Abu Dhabi in 2020.

Personal spending

Analysts expect to see the potential for a meaningful pick-up in private consumption in the UAE with Dubai hosting Expo 2020, albeit temporary. This should lead to a rise short-term employment and visitor numbers linked to the event in 2H2020. The ability to raise (Contd. on page 2)

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Vice President Venkaiah Naidu delivering the lecture on "Leadership and Good Governance in Indian Context" at IIM, in Ranchi.

Karnataka bags Rs72,000cr investment proposals

HUBBALLI : Rs 72,000 crore investment proposals were received at the Invest Karnataka meet here for the states northern region. "About 50 foreign and domestic firms have proposed to invest Rs 72,000 crore in the northwest and northern regions of the state and a dozen companies signed agreements with us," state Industries Department Secretary Gaurav Gupta said.

Rajesh Exports, Bengaluru-based group, signed an agreement to set up a manufacturing unit at Dharwad to rollout electric vehicles and make lithium-ion batteries.

"Rajesh Exports proposes to invest about Rs 50,000 crore for manufacturing electric cars and lithium-ion batteries for the domestic and overseas markets. It will generate about 10,000 jobs," said Gupta.

Similarly, Sonali Power has signed a pact with the state nodal agency (Udyog Mitra) to set up a solar power plant at Davangere at a cost of Rs 4,800 crore, which will generate 2,100 direct jobs. Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa claimed several firms had come forward to collectively invest Rs 1-lakh-crore since

the BJP government came into being in July 2019.

"Many Indian and foreign firms will sign agreements with the state government at the three-day Global Investors meet in Bengaluru on Nov 3-5," Yediyurappa said at the Invest Karnataka meet. Noting that Karnataka was rich in natural and human resources, especially in high-tech and skilled workforce, Yediyurappa said investment opportunities were plenty in aerospace, automobiles, machine tools, electric vehicles and bio-technology besides information technology.

"About 40 global firms expressed interest to invest in the state at a roadshow held at Davos, Switzerland, on the margins of the World Economic Forum (WEF) meet on Jan 23," he said. Under the new industrial policy, the state government will set up clusters to make toys at Koppal, textiles in Bellari, solar equipment at Kalaburagi and farm machinery at Bidar. "We are committed to make North Karnataka a power house of industries for the region's development, with Hubballi-Dharwad as the growth hub," Yediyurappa said.

US-Indian takes over as Chief Judge of Court of Appeals

WASHINGTON: Judge Padmanabhan Srikanth "Sri" Srinivasan, the first South Asian American federal judge in the US Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia—the nation's second highest court — has created history once again.

Judge Merrick Garland, the Chief Judge of this influential court on completing his seven year term, formally stepped down and passed on the gavel to Srinivasan, making him the first South Asian American to lead a powerful federal circuit court.

In 2016, Garland's nomination to the Supreme Court by President Barack Obama was blocked by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, denying Garland even a hearing even though he had gone through a grueling vetting process. Srinivasan, who was also on Obama's shortlist for the Supreme Court, according to the Washington Post, "shares Garland's moderate style in his rulings and in his demeanor in questioning lawyers who argue before the court." It said that Srinivasan "is similarly well-liked by colleagues and is viewed as slow to talk but quick to

listen on a court known for its collegiality."

Of the nine sitting Supreme Court justices, four are alumni on the US Court

it did not envisage any "additional judicial authority on a court where judges sit on panels of three." Ascension to the post was based on age

which he has served on for the past three decades. The Chandigarh-born, Lawrence, Kansas-raised Srinivasan, who migrated to the US with



US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit Judge Sri Srinivasan (extreme left) with from left: Chief Judge Merrick B. Garland, Judge A Raymond Randolph and Georgetown Law Dean William Treanor.

of Appeals for the DC Circuit, including Brett Kavanaugh, who was replaced by Neomi Jehangir Rao, both President Trump's nominees. The Washington Post while acknowledging that "the title of chief judge comes with a higher profile and administrative headaches"

and years of service on the bench. Srinivasan will turn 53 on Feb. 23.

In announcing the end of Garland's tenure as Chief Judge and the ascension of Srinivasan to this position, the Court said that "Judge Garland will continue as an active member of the court,"

his parents and two sisters at age four was nominated by President Obama on June 11, 2012, nearly 10 months after the president appointed him Principal Deputy Solicitor General, replacing yet another trailblazing Indian American, Neal Kumar Katyal.

Saudisation in pharma sector

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia will initiate Saudisation of pharmacy sector in July in two phases, according to an order issued by Labour Minister Ahmed Al-Rajhi. Stating that the Saudisation drive will be conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Al-Rajhi said: "In the first phase, 20pc of the employees in the profession will be Saudised by July 22 while the second phase aims to Saudise 30pc of the staff as of July 11, 2021.

The Saudisation drive will be applicable to entities where the number of expatriate workers in the pharmacy profession exceeds five or more. However, pharmacists working as "pharmaceutical product marketing specialist" in pharmaceutical companies, as well as drug agents, distributors, and employees in factories will be exempted.

According to Saudi Gazette, for those exempted, Saudisation decision has already been issued by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority in Nov 2018. The health agreement aims to Saudise 40,000 jobs in the private health sector restricting them for Saudi nationals only. Those firms violating the Saudisation of those jobs will be penalised.

UAE announces ninth case of coronavirus

DUBAI: UAE's health ministry has announced a new case of coronavirus. The patient is a 37-year old Chinese man and is in stable condition.

This brings the total number of cases reported in the UAE to 9 — out of which three cases recovered. Out of the remaining six cases, one person is Indian and another is Filipino while the rest are Chi-

epidemiological monitoring mechanism and taking all the necessary precautions to ensure that highly efficient preventive measures, including check-ups and observation of the people who have been in contact with patients — in accordance with the highest global practices. It urged the public to follow the preventive procedures and to read



Thermal scanner used to detect corona cases.

nese nationals. The authorities had said earlier that all cases were stable while one was in intensive care. The recovered cases include a 73-year old grandmother, a 41-year old father and his eight-year-old son — all of whom hail from China.

The ministry said it in coordination with health and other concerned authorities in the country, it has been following a very effective

the awareness instructions, available on its website and the official websites of health authorities in the UAE. "The public are also advised to adopt protective health behaviours to avoid infectious diseases, including washing hands with soap and clean water, and covering the mouth when coughing or sneezing to stop the spread of germs and viruses," the statement said.

Trump to nominate Saritha to US District Court for NY

NEW YORK: President Trump has announced his intent to nominate Saritha Komatireddy, currently deputy chief of general crimes in the US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York, to serve as Judge on the US District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Upon graduation from law school, Komatireddy served as a law clerk to then Judge Brett Kavanaugh of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Komatireddy earned her BA, cum laude, from Harvard University and her JD, magna

cum laude, from Harvard Law School where she served on the Harvard Law Review. She has also served as



Saritha Komatireddy Acting Deputy Chief of International Narcotics and Money Laundering (June

2018 - Jan 2019) and as the Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Coordinator (2016-2019) for the US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. Komatireddy is a Lecturer in Law at Columbia Law School and previously taught at George Washington University Law School. Komatireddy also previously served as Counsel to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, and was in private practice at Washington-based Kellogg, Hansen, Todd, Figel & Frederick, PLLC.

Over 240 expat workers deported from Oman

MUSCAT: The ministry of manpower, represented by an inspection team in Muscat governorate, has deported 246 workers accused of violating labour laws. A statement issued online by the ministry said: "The ministry, represented by the inspection team in Muscat during the period Feb 09 - 15, 2020, deported 246 violating workforce who were arrested during inspection campaigns to implement the provisions of the labour laws in order to regulate the labour market." The ministry affirmed the need to adhere to the law and the ministerial decisions implemented.

NRI who tried to save wife from fire dies

ABU DHABI: An NRI, who suffered more than 90pc burns while trying to save his wife from fire, died in Abu Dhabi. Anil Ninan (32) hailed from Kerala and lived with his family in Umm Al Quwain. The accident happened last Monday following a fire that broke out in their apartment.

It is suspected that the fire was caused by a short circuit from the electric box placed in the corridor. "The couple was rushed to the Sheikh Khalifa General Hospital in Umm al Quwain. They were later shifted to Mafraq Hospital in Abu Dhabi for critical care," Rev Sojan Thomas, vicar of St Thomas Mar Thoma Church in Ras

Al Khaimah, had earlier told a TV channel. "We do not know the exact details. But

who knew the couple for more than a year. "This is a difficult time for us. His wife



Anil Ninan with his wife Neenu and their four-year-old son.

Neenu first caught fire while she was in the corridor. Anil, who was in the bedroom, ran to his wife and was trying to save her when the flames spread to him," said the vicar,

Neenu is still recovering at the hospital. She is safe. But, all of us are shocked at his death," said a close relative. The Kerala couple has a four-year-old son.

Saudi, UAE slowly moving to non-oil...

(Contd. from page 1) government spending — a key driver of domestic demand in the GCC. "We expect to see some increase in gov-

ernment spending on wages and salaries, albeit at a moderate rate than over the past two years. This is also the case for Saudi Arabia and

Kuwait, where higher government spending was a key driver behind the recent pick-up in personal and domestic consumption," said Malik. Falling real estate values are expected to remain a drag on sentiment in the UAE.

Corona impact

The UAE being more connected to global developments, coronavirus outbreak in China is expected to have some spillover effect on the economy. ADCB Economists have reduced UAE's real non-oil GDP growth forecast for 2020 GDP by 0.1 percentage point, until they have a better indication of the

impact of the coronavirus globally and domestically. This downward adjustment reflects the likely fall in Chinese tourist numbers in early 2020 — a time that tends to see more visitors from China. Trade, tourism and logistics are key non-oil sectors, while others such as retail, hospitality and real estate also rely on external demand.

"We have made a modest cut to our real non-oil GDP growth forecast for the UAE to reflect the coronavirus, though still see an overall acceleration in growth in 2020 with the hosting of Expo," said Malik.

DP World to delist from Nasdaq...

(Contd. from page 1) end-to-end logistics provider". Upon successful offer acceptance, DP World will be 100pc owned by Port and Free Zone World, which in turn is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dubai World.

The board of directors of Port and Free Zone World and the independent directors

of DP World have reached agreement on a cash offer for the shares, which the independent directors deem to be fair and reasonable. Each DP World share will be acquired at \$16.75, representing a 29pc premium on the market closing price of \$13.00.

DP World remains financially strong, with a healthy

balance sheet and a consistent track record of delivering profitability. In recent years, the company has made a series of acquisitions as part of its strategy to become the world's leading end-to-end logistics provider, including Unifeeder, P&O Ferries, Continental Warehousing and Topaz Energy & Marine.

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➤ IFM PROJECT MANAGER: Engineering Bachelor degree in Mechanical / Electrical or Facility Management. Minimum 07 years of exp. in FM/MEP project management. Knowledge in P&L. Age: Min. 35 years to max. 42 years.

Urgently Required for **UAE**

➤ CHEMICAL MATERIAL HANDLER: Who is familiar with different types of chemical, its behaviours and counter actions if stored together. Personnel working for Petrochemical, Refineries and such chemical dealers are the most suitable candidates. The candidate should have Diploma or ITI in Chemical and have hands-on working and handling experience with chemicals as explained above. (Engineers NOT required for this position). The ideal candidate should have chemical material storage experience and able to identify and separate different type of chemical materials used at offshore and refinery operation.

➤ MATERIALSMAN (with Drilling Materials Experience): Skilled Trades person with an Industrial Trade certificate, Diploma. Minimum Basic knowledge of planning and scheduling fundamentals, tools and systems used. Working knowledge of any of the CMMS systems such as Oracle, SAP, Maximo etc. Advanced level skills using Microsoft Office Applications such as MS Outlook, MS Excel, MS Word, MS PowerPoint. Speak, read and write English.

➤ WAREHOUSE CLERK (Onshore Chemical Section): Skilled Trades person with an Industrial Trade certificate, Diploma. Minimum Basic knowledge of handling chemicals, tools and systems used. Working knowledge of any of the CMMS systems such as Oracle, SAP, Maximo etc. Advanced level skills using Microsoft Office Applications such as MS Outlook, MS Excel, MS Word. Speak, read and write English.

➤ HEAVY DUTY FORKLIFT OPERATORS (Upto 10 ton): UAE Forklift Operator Certification for client base for a long term basis. Personnel would be working under client PTW system and are to have all the client safety inductions in place prior to reporting work site, hence knowledge of English language is must to pass/clear the trainings (read and write).

CATALOGUING TECHNICAL ASSISTANT
PLANNING ENGINEER PLANT OPERATOR
PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR

Contact / Apply with Original Passport, CV & all relevant documents

AIMS INTERNATIONAL
REGN. NO. B-0350/MUM/PER/1000+5/33341992

GB 1, Boman House, 2, Homji Street, Nr. Fort Market, Mumbai - 01.

Tel: 2261 6874 / 2261 7788 • Mob: 9821836388 / 9029581001

E-mail : aimsjobsresum@gmail.com

REQUIRED FOR SAUDI ARABIA

Attractive Salary + Free Food / Allowance & Accom. VISA READY IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE

- MACHINE OPERATOR - PIPES - EXTRUDER
- MACHINE OPERATOR - for SML department - Min. 2 yrs. Exp.
- COOK FOR CHAIRMAN - Exp. in Continental / Arabic / Western.
- DUCTING FABRICATION & INSTALLATION - 3 yrs. Exp. in fabrication & HVAC GI sheet metal ducts.
- PATHOLOGIST SPECIALIST - MBBS / Dip. - Min 3yrs. Exp. in Gulf.
- BOB CAT OPERATOR
- COOK FOR ROYAL FAMILY - Exp. in Arabic & Indian
- MECHANICAL ENGINEER - MAINTENANCE - Deg. 5 yrs Exp. in Maintenance of designing & products.
- MAINTENANCE TECHS (Sattish Machines) for Optics.
- FRAME FITTING TECHNICIAN FOR OPTICS

REQUIRED FOR A LEADING GROUP OF COS IN DOHA-QATAR

- PETROL MECHANICS - Min. 4 yrs. Gulf Exp.
- AUTO (CAR) AC TECHNICIANS - Min. 4 yrs. Gulf Exp
- PLC DESIGN ENGRS - 5 yrs. Exp. in SIEMENS system
- PLC DESIGN PROGRAMMERS - 5 yrs Exp. SCHNEIDER system.

REQUIRED FOR OMAN

- BARISTA - Minimum 2 years' experience in Cafe / Ice cream outlets.
- DIESEL & HYDRAULIC MECHANICS - 3 yrs. Gulf Exp.
- HEAVY DRIVER - KSA License Holder
- MECHANICAL TECHNICIANS - Exp in Maintenance for waste water treatment plants.
- ELECTRICAL TECHNICIANS - Exp. in maintenance for waste water treatment plants
- LABORATORY TECHNICIANS - Exp in analyze waste water samples
- SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT OPERATORS - Exp. in sewage treatment plants & operate machine
- WELDING TECHNS - Exp. in pipe & metals welding
- PLUMBER Exp. in lines and extension
- HEAVY TRUCK DRIVERS

Please meet in person with your original PP & Certificates.

A. G. ENTERPRISES
Regn. No. B-0378/MUM/PART/1000+5/21811984

B-8 3rd Flr., Everest Bldg, Tardeo Road, (Nr. Mumbai Central Station - West) Mumbai - 34

Tel: +91 22 66621037 / 38 (M) 9320069266 / 980786901 / 902786903 / 989696446

Email : career@ag-enterprises.com website : www.ag-enterprises.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR SAUDI ARABIA

- Project Managers - 4 Nos.: Degree in Mechanical Engineering, experience 10 to 15 years in pipeline project.
- Safety Officers - 30 Nos.: Diploma with 3 years gulf exp. holding NEBOSHIGC 1,2,3.
- Heavy Duty Drivers - 30 Nos.: Valid original Saudi license
- Heavy Equipment Operators - 10 Nos.: with Saudi valid licence.
- Structural Steel Fabricators & Mig Welders (3G) - 5 Nos.: 4 to 5 years Gulf experience
- Vibration Tech. / Analyst / Engineers - 50 Nos.: CAT 2 Certificate
- Hydraulic Hose Mobile Service Van Tech Driver - 10 Nos.
- Hydraulic Sales Engineers - 25 Nos.
- RTI Technicians - 20 Nos.: (For Abu Dhabi) - PCN Certified.
- Engineers - B.E. Fresh/1-2 years Experience.
- QC Supervisor. Safety Trainer / Officer / Supervisor 30 Nos.

Shawarma Maker - Waiter (Arabic Speaking) (FOR OMAN)
DX / Chiller Plant Technicians (FOR KUWAIT)

Apply to: **PAMA INTERNATIONAL**
Near Marol Fire Station, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059.

Tel.: 022-25855845 / 46 / 29208859 / 60
M: 9619797472 / 7736239130 • E: pamathane@gmail.com

REGN. NO. B-0136/MUM/PER/1000+5/387042011

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR OMAN

- DIESEL MECHANIC
- CIVIL DRAUGHTSMAN (Revit & Gup exp. reqd.)
- SCAFFOLDING SUPERVISOR / INSPECTOR / DESIGNER / FOREMAN
- PDM ENGINEER / TECHNICIAN

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR OMAN

CLIENT INTERVIEW ON SATURDAY, 29th FEB. 2020

Anuptech, R-42nd, TTC Industrial Area, Rabale, Navi Mumbai

- SCAFFOLDER
- MASON

LARGE QUANTITY ATTRACTIVE SALARY

Walk-in with your CV, Passport, certificates & Photo

ARYA INTERNATIONAL
Regn. No. B-0410/MUM/PER/1000+5/68072012

Office No. 18 & 19, Mermal-2, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614. Tel: 022 41273322

Mob.: 7400143754 / 7400143755

Web : www.aryainternational.com

FREE RECRUITMENT UAE

For OFFSHORE PROJECTS IN UAE

SHORTLISTING IN PROGRESS

Short-listed candidates will be interviewed in Mumbai shortly

- PIPELINE PIGGING ENGRS. & SUPERVISORS
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERS & SUPERVISORS (PIPELINE/PIPING) PIGGING TECHNICIANS
- CERTIFIED RIGGERS GRE FABRICATORS
- CERTIFIED MECHANICAL FITTERS
- HOT BOLTING/TORQUING FITTERS
- GRE BONDERS/LAMINATORS
- STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
- 6G ARGON/ARC WELDERS

Candidates with Overseas experience & minimum 5 years experience in similar field can apply.

Meridian Management
Krishna Niwas, 1st Flr., 281, SBS Rd, Fort Mumbai - 1

Tel.: +91 22-2269 5613/15

Mob.: 9884667088 / 9321140495

Email : hr@meridianmanagement.in

Regd. No. B-0126/MUM/PART/1000+5/4622796

CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY requires the following for their Zirku Island project in Abu Dhabi on immediate basis :

UAE

SELECTIONS IN PROGRESS ON 18th, 19th & 20th FEBRUARY 2020

- CRANE OPERATORS - ALL TERRAIN
- CRAWLER CRANE OPERATORS
- EXCAVATOR OPERATORS
- JCB OPERATORS
- MOBILE CRANE OPERATORS
- SHOVEL/LOADER OPERATORS
- TOWER CRANE OPERATORS (3rd party certified)
- GIGGERS (3rd party certified)

All operators must hold original valid UAE license

EX-CCC & Candidates having Overseas exp. & Age below 45 years will be considered. All Candidates to report with CV's, Certificates Passport & Photos:

Indman Consultants
An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Agency

41-B, Excel Building, 1st Floor, Road No. 2, Azad Nagar, Off Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053

Regn. No. B-0438/MUM/PER/1000+5/5268/1999

Required For SAUDI ARABIA

Attractive Salary + Free Food / Allowance & Accom. VISA READY IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE

- MACHINE OPERATOR - PIPES - EXTRUDER
- MACHINE OPERATOR - for SML department - Min. 2 yrs. Exp.
- COOK FOR CHAIRMAN - Exp. in Continental / Arabic / Western.
- DUCTING FABRICATION & INSTALLATION - 3 yrs. Exp. in fabrication & HVAC GI sheet metal ducts.
- PATHOLOGIST SPECIALIST - MBBS / Dip. - Min 3yrs. Exp. in Gulf.
- BOB CAT OPERATOR
- COOK FOR ROYAL FAMILY - Exp. in Arabic & Indian
- MECHANICAL ENGINEER - MAINTENANCE - Deg. 5 yrs Exp. in Maintenance of designing & products.
- MAINTENANCE TECHS (Sattish Machines) for Optics.
- FRAME FITTING TECHNICIAN FOR OPTICS

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- PLC DESIGN ENGRS - 5 yrs. Exp. in SIEMENS system
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- MECHANICAL TECHNICIANS - Exp in Maintenance for waste water treatment plants.
- ELECTRICAL TECHNICIANS - Exp. in maintenance for waste water treatment plants
- LABORATORY TECHNICIANS - Exp in analyze waste water samples
- SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT OPERATORS - Exp. in sewage treatment plants & operate machine
- WELDING TECHNS - Exp. in pipe & metals welding
- PLUMBER Exp. in lines and extension
- HEAVY TRUCK DRIVERS

Please meet in person with your original PP & Certificates.

A. G. ENTERPRISES
Regn. No. B-0378/MUM/PART/1000+5/21811984

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Tel: +91 22 66621037 / 38 (M) 9320069266 / 980786901 / 902786903 / 989696446

Email : career@ag-enterprises.com website : www.ag-enterprises.com

URGENTLY WANTED FOR SAUDI ARABIA

FORKLIFT OPERATOR
FOR SAUDI AIR CARGO-JEDDAH, GCC License Holder

WEB DEVELOPER (DOT NET)
DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (EXP 3+ YEARS)

CIVIL ENGINEER
(Minimum 3 yrs exp. in Road Construction, Gulf Return)

- BOOM PUMP OPERATOR
- ASPHALT PLANT OPERATOR
- ASPHALT PLANT MECHANIC
- CRUSHER PLANT OPERATOR
- PAVER MACHINE OPERATOR
- HYDRAULIC MECHANIC
- J.C.B OPERATOR

Contact immediately with Passport, Photo & updated CV's to:

HANA INTERNATIONAL
Off. No. 9006, Ozore Biz Centre, 9th Floor, 252 / 254, Next to Maharashtra College, Bellas Road, Mumbai - 400 008. Tel: 022 23092913 / 23082958

Email: mohi@hanaintl.in Regn. No. B-0222/MUM/PER/1000+5/461991

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR A LEADING FACILITY MANAGEMENT COMPANY

INTERVIEW SOON IN MUMBAI & DELHI

- CHILLER TECHNICIAN: Capable of handling independent works related to maintenance of Central AC systems especially in Chiller eqpt., trouble shooting of Chillers etc.
- A C TECHNICIAN: Capable of handling independent works related to maintenance of Package and Split Units etc.
- ELECTRICIANS
- PLUMBERS

VACANCY IN LARGE NOS.

Basic English speaking candidates holding original ITI/Diploma with 2 to 3 years exp. in Maintenance/ FM project need only apply. (Gulf Return preferred)

Urgently Required for Reputed Bakery in **QATAR**

CHEF BAKERY BAKERY ASSISTANT
VAN SALES MAN: Valid Qatar Licence

SEND CV'S FOR SHORTLISTING

Urgently Required for workshop in **QATAR**

HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC (Qatari Driving Lic.) Good English is mandatory.

Contact / Apply with Original Passport, CV & all relevant documents

AIMS INTERNATIONAL
REGN. NO. B-0350/MUM/PER/1000+5/33341992

GB 1, Boman House, 2, Homji Street, Nr. Fort Market, Mumbai - 01

Tel.: 2261 6874 / 2261 7788 • Mob: 9821836388 / 9029581001

Email : aimsjobs@gmail.com

Delhi Contact: 011 2275 7474 Mobile: +91 92120 44292

E-mail : aimsdelhi@gmail.com

Urgent Requirement For QATAR

SAFETY OFFICER
(Nebosh/Iosh) Required Oil & Gas Exp.

HYDROJETTER (Gulf Exp.)

BRUSH PAINTER

Send the C.V's by e-mail / M/S. ACME ENTERPRISES

Flat No 28, Gc. flr. Damji sharmji industrial Estate, Vikroli (W), L.B.S Marg, Mumbai. (M) 835693705 / 8879541386

Email : arabdp@gmail.com

Reg. No. B-0513/MUM/PER/1000+5/82832008

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR ONE OF THE LEADING COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA

VACANCY IN LARGE NUMBERS - SHORTLISTING IN PROCESS

➤ Cash Operation Manager

➤ Bachelor's deg in Finance or other related discipline.

➤ Preference if any recognized certification (MBA, CFA, CPA)

A minimum of 8 years Business/Accounting experience including Hedging/Derivatives/Investments & Loan management of which at least 5 years' should have been in a supervisory position.

SKILLS: Strong skills in Treasury related activities. Skill in Debt Management & derivatives

Excellent Salary + Other Benefits

Interested Candidate can Send their CV on the below given Email ID: kindly mentioned your position in the subject line.

AGHA CARAVAN INTERNATIONAL
H.R. CONSULTANCY

H.O.: 4104, Konark Shram, Tardeo Rd., Mumbai Central (W), Mumbai - 400 034.

Tel : 022-67865786 (30 Lines) +917021629264

www.ghacaravan.com jobseeker@ghacaravan.com

MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS NO. B0622/BOM/PER/1000+2/3910/93

LEADING GROUP OF CO. IN SAUDI ARABIA: CV Selection

- Cash Van Salesman - SR 1800 + Commission (KSA lic)
- Garage Door Techn. / Sales Representative (Garage door)
- Heavy Trailer Drivers (Good Salary+Trip Allow) Valid Saudi Lic.

5 STAR Hotels & Restaurant in SAUDI ARABIA: CV Selection

- Continental Cook + Assistant Cook + Kitchen Helper
- Housekeeping supervisor + House keeper
- Baker (Salary SAR 2500-4000)

MALL & SUPER MARKET COMPANY IN ABHA: CV SELECTION

- BUTCHER (SR 2000 to 2500/- Sales exp)
- AC Technician + Electronic Technician
- Diesel Mechanic + Light Driver (KSA Lic)
- Trailer Driver (KSA Lic) + Plumber (Industrial)
- Forklift Operator (GCC License) + Building Electrician

Report along with your original Passport & Cert. For detailed JD visit web.

M.I. ENTERPRISES Regd. No. B-0165/MUM/PER/1000+5/70552005

Everest Bldg, E11 6th Flr., Tardeo, Nr. Mumbai Central Station, Mumbai - 34.

Tel: 022-66661266-23526962. admie@gmail.com Web: www.mienterprises.com

Requirement For MIDDLE EAST

Send CV's for Shortlisting

Minimum 5-15 yrs Experience in Oil & Gas, Petrochemicals, Refineries Industries

- SHUTDOWN- Manager/Assistant Manager
- SHUTDOWN- Planning Manager/QA QC Manager
- RIGGING SUPERVISOR/FOREMAN
- MECHANICAL HELPER- Valid PCC, ECNR Passport, Age 21-32
- FABRICATOR - Structural/Aluminium/Pipe/Tank
- FITTER - Structural/Pipe/Tank
- RIGGER/SCAFFOLDER- Valid TUV Card
- HYDROJETTER- Water Jetting Card
- MACHINIST - CNC, Lathe & Surface Grinding
- MARINE - Captain/Cook/Sailor/Minimum 10 yrs exp
- MARINE - Mechanic/Electrical Technician/BMU Technician
- ENGINEER-Estimation/Sales (Min. 5 yrs exp in Marine field)
- VALVE TECHNICIAN/ENGINEER-Grade 3/Garde 4

MEDHA H.R. CONSULTANTS
AN ISO 9001:2015 COMPANY / Website: www.medhahr.com

Solaris - 1, D-wing-44, Opp. L&T/Sanofi, Gate No. 6, Powai, Mumbai-72. Tel: 022-40220315/16/17/18, 28470427, 28470557, 7012273630, 9322205213, 8898770810 Email: cv@medhahr.com

Lic: B-0520/MUM/PER/1000+10/8579/09

URGENTLY WANTED FOR SAUDI ARABIA

FORKLIFT OPERATOR
FOR SAUDI AIR CARGO-JEDDAH, GCC License Holder

WEB DEVELOPER (DOT NET)
DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (EXP 3+ YEARS)

CIVIL ENGINEER
(Minimum 3 yrs exp. in Road Construction, Gulf Return)

- BOOM PUMP OPERATOR
- ASPHALT PLANT OPERATOR
- ASPHALT PLANT MECHANIC
- CRUSHER PLANT OPERATOR
- PAVER MACHINE OPERATOR
- HYDRAULIC MECHANIC
- J.C.B OPERATOR

Contact immediately with Passport, Photo & updated CV's to:

HANA INTERNATIONAL
Off. No. 9006, Ozore Biz Centre, 9th Floor, 252 / 254, Next to Maharashtra College, Bellas Road, Mumbai - 400 008. Tel: 022 23092913 / 23082958

Email: mohi@hanaintl.in Regn. No. B-0222/MUM/PER/1000+5/461991

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR A LEADING FACILITY MANAGEMENT COMPANY

INTERVIEW SOON IN MUMBAI & DELHI

- CHILLER TECHNICIAN: Capable of handling independent works related to maintenance of Central AC systems especially in Chiller eqpt., trouble shooting of Chillers etc.
- A C TECHNICIAN: Capable of handling independent works related to maintenance of Package and Split Units etc.
- ELECTRICIANS
- PLUMBERS

VACANCY IN LARGE NOS.

Basic English speaking candidates holding original ITI/Diploma with 2 to 3 years exp. in Maintenance/ FM project need only apply. (Gulf Return preferred)

Urgently Required for Reputed Bakery in **QATAR**

CHEF BAKERY BAKERY ASSISTANT
VAN SALES MAN: Valid Qatar Licence

SEND CV'S FOR SHORTLISTING

Urgently Required for workshop in **QATAR**

HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC (Qatari Driving Lic.) Good English is mandatory.

Contact / Apply with Original Passport, CV & all relevant documents

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REGN. NO. B-0350/MUM/PER/1000+5/33341992

GB 1, Boman House, 2, Homji Street, Nr. Fort Market, Mumbai - 01

Tel.: 2261 6874 / 2261 7788 • Mob: 9821836388 / 9029581001

Email : aimsjobs@gmail.com

Delhi Contact: 011 2275 7474 Mobile: +91 92120 44292

E-mail : aimsdelhi@gmail.com

REQUIRED FOR EUROPE (Age Limit 45 yrs.)

SHORTLISTING IN PROGRESS

- CONCRETE / SHUTTING CARPENTERS - (PER / DOCA Formwork Experience is MUST)
- INDUSTRIAL SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS (Garment Tailors)
- MIG / MAG WELDERS (FCAW) + FINISHING CARPENTERS
- GLASS CUTTER / INSTALLERS + ALUMINIUM FABRICATORS
- ELECTRICIAN (Building Maintenance) + MASONS (All Rounder)
- TRAILER DRIVERS (Original GCC Valid License)

All above positions must have min. 5 yrs. of exp. with basic English communication skills. (Gulf Exp. Preferred)

VACANCIES IN LARGE NOS.

CLIENT INTERVIEW ON 21st & 22nd FEBRUARY, 2020

At: Anuptech Trade Trade Centre, R-84, TTC Industrial Area, MIDC, Rabale, Navi Mumbai - 400701

Cont. with originals Photo, Passport, CV, Exp. Training & Education Certificates to: 4 & 5, Ground Floor, Simran Plaza, Corner of 3rd & 4th Road, Near Railway Station, Kar (West) - Mum. - 52. Tel: 08040089999

Mobile: +919892195780 Email : europejobs@bipsindia.in

M/S. Centaur Consulting Services License : B-0596/MUM/PER/1000+5/90312013

URGENTLY REQUIRE FOR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA

- SAFETY ENGINEERS / OFFICERS (ARAMCO Approved)
- CIVIL SUPERVISORS / FOREMAN
- CAD OPERATORS (Civil / Architectural)
- HEAVY DRIVERS (Gulf license)
- BOBCAT OPERATORS - WALL PAINTERS
- INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIANS

Candidates worked in Gulf with min. 5 yrs exp. can apply.

Meridian Management
Krishna Niwas, 1st Flr., 281, SBS Rd, Fort Mumbai - 1

Tel.: +91 22-2269 5613/15

Mob.: 9884667088 / 9321140495

Email : hr@meridianmanagement.in

Regd. No. B-0126/MUM/PART/1000+5/4622796

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QATAR ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CO.

Requires following personnel having experience in Oil & Gas Maintenance field for their Various Shutdowns:

QATAR

REQUIRED IN LARGE NUMBERS



www.GulfJobPaper.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR ONE OF THE LEADING CONTRACTING COMPANIES IN SAUDI ARABIA

VACANCY IN LARGE NUMBERS - SHORTLISTING IN PROCESS

- LOGISTICS SPECIALIST
- SR QUANTITY SURVEYOR
- CIVIL / STRUCTURAL INSPECTION ENGINEER
- MECHANICAL SITE INSPECTION ENGINEER
- ELECTRICAL SITE INSPECTION ENGINEER
- ARCHITECTURAL SITE INSPECTION ENGINEER
- QUANTITY SURVEYOR
- LAND SURVEYOR
- HEALTH & SAFETY ENGINEER
- HSE MANAGER
- HSE INSPECTOR
- QA / QC INSPECTOR

→ Diploma Holder
→ 10 years & Above exp. in Construction of Petrol Station

EXCELLENT SALARY + OTHER BENEFITS
Interested Candidate can Send their CV on the below given Email ID; kindly mentioned your position in the subject line.

AGHA CARAVAN INTERNATIONAL H.R. CONSULTANCY
H.O.: 4104, Konark Shram, Tardeo Rd., Mumbai Central (W), Mumbai - 400 034.
Tel : 022-67865786 (30 Lines) +917021629264
www.aghacaravan.com jobseeker@aghacaravan.com
MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS NO. B0622/BOM/PER/1000+/2%/3910/93

CLIENT INTERVIEW 18TH FEB 2020 OMAN

- HVAC TECHNICIAN
- U.P.V.C SALES MAN
- ALUMINIUM FABRICATOR
- ALUMINIUM INSTALLER / FITTER
- TIG WELDER
- SAW WELDER
- SALES MAN CUM DRIVER- G.C.C. Valid Lic. Holder

CLIENT INTERVIEW FOR SAUDI 1ST MARCH 2020

- PIPE FABRICATOR / FITTER
- STRUCTURAL FABRICATOR / FITTER
- 6G WELDER (TIG + ARC - CS, SS, ALLOY)

U.A.E

- AIRLESS / SPRAY PAINTER
- PIPE FABRICATOR WELDER (TIG + ARC)
- CASHIER / BUTCHER - (Shopping Mall Exp)

Mail Id: cvgplacement2018@gmail.com
Contact: 9324485205 / 9321057448

GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT
303, Wellington Business Park - 2, Hasan Pada Road, Near Marol Metro Station, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059
Lic.No. B-0159/MUM/PER/1000+/5/8248/2011

BUILDING MATERIAL & TRANSPORT GROUP OF COMPANY IN QATAR: CV Selection

- Heavy Trailer Drivers - 10 Nos (Salary QR 2000 + Trip, Minimum QR 500 - 900 / Qatar Lic)

FURNITURE & INTERIOR CO. IN QATAR

- Furniture Painter/Polisher - 10 Nos (QR 1400-1800)

LEADING GROUP OF CO. IN QATAR: CV Selection

- Service Engineer (Exp. in Domestic & Commercial Pumps)
- Service Sales Engineer (Exp. in HVAC aftermarket sales)
- Water Pumps Technician (Exp. in booster Pumps/Central Pump/Pool Pumps)
- Laundry Man + Laundry Counter Boys

Report along with your original Passport & Cert.. For detailed JD visit web.

M.I. ENTERPRISES Regd. No.: B-0165/MUM/PER/1000+/5/70552005
Everest Bldg, E/11 6th Flr., Tardeo, Nr. Mumbai Central Station, Mum - 34.
Tel.: 022-66661266-23526962 • admvie@gmail.com Web: www.mienterprises.com

FREE RECRUITMENT

Indman on behalf of their Major International Clients having ongoing Civil Construction - Building / Road / Infrastructure Projects in DUBAI & ABU DHABI requires the following on immediate basis :-

UAE

SELECTIONS IN PROGRESS - IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE

REQUIRED IN LARGE NUMBERS

- SHUTTERING CARPENTERS
- MASONS
- STEEL FIXERS
- CONSTRUCTION HELPERS: (Age: 21 to 35 years)

All Candidates to report with CV's, Certificates, Passport & Photos:

Indman Consultants
An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Agency
41-B, Excel Building, 1st Floor, Road No. 2, Azad Nagar, Off Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053
Regn. No. B-0438/MUM/PER/1000+/5/5268/1999

WE HAVE NO SUB-AGENTS
Email: hrdept@indman.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR ONE OF THE LEADING COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA

VACANCY IN LARGE NUMBERS - SHORTLISTING IN PROCESS

- DESIGNER FOR SOUND ATTENUATORS

→ BE Engineer/ Diploma Engineer, Auto Cad/Solidworks, Pro-E etc. Familiar with Sound Design Software.
→ Should have 5 years experience in Designing of Sound Attenuators (custom type), Louvers & HVAC Duct work

- Responsible for Acoustic Calculation & Noise control.
- Responsible for preparation of NC graph, Engineering data sheet, GA Drawing & detailed fabrication Drawing.

Interested Candidate can Send their CV on the below given Email ID; kindly mentioned your position in the subject line.

AGHA CARAVAN INTERNATIONAL H.R. CONSULTANCY
H.O.: 4104, Konark Shram, Tardeo Rd., Mumbai Central (W), Mumbai - 400 034.
Tel : 022-67865786 (30 Lines) +917021629264
www.aghacaravan.com jobseeker@aghacaravan.com
MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS NO. B0622/BOM/PER/1000+/2%/3910/93

URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR A LEADING WATER TREATMENT PLANT (OPERATIONS & MAINT) IN KSA

VACANCY IN LARGE NUMBERS - PRE SCREENING IN PROGRESS

- MAINTENANCE ENGINEER
- A/C TECHNICIAN
- MECHANICAL FOREMAN
- STP/WTP OPERATORS
- MECHANICAL TECHN.
- GENERAL ELECTRICIAN
- INSTRUMENT TECHNICIAN
- LABORATORY TECHN.
- STRUCTURAL FABRICATOR

All above positions candidate must have ITI / Dip or Degree with 5+ years experience in relevant field

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UPSC: civil services exam application process on

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) released the notification for the Civil Services Examination (CSE) on February 12. The application process has begun on the same day and will conclude on March 3, 2020. Interested candidates can apply at the official websites, upsc.gov.in, upsconline.nic.in. The application process for the Indian Forest Services (IFS) will also be held on the same date. The applicants will have a total of six attempts at the examination. This year a total of 796 vacancies are to be filled through the exam.

The preliminary exam for UPSC CSE and IFS will be held on May 31 (Sun-

day). To clear the test, candidates will have to clear the preliminary exam followed by the main and the interview round. Those who clear the prelims will have to apply for the Civil Services (Main) examination again and submit an on-line Detailed Application Form (DAF). In the form, candidates will have to specify the order of preferences only for those services participating in the civil services examination for the year for which he/she is interested to be allocated to.

Eligibility: As per the previous year notifications, those in the age group of 21 to 32 years having an undergraduate level degree can apply for these exams.

The applicants need to fill two forms both available at the official website. The upper age limit is relaxed for candidates belonging to the reserved category as per the government rules.

Exam pattern: Further, the UPSC preliminary exam consist of two papers and both are mandatory. Part I will constitute of 100 questions and part II has 80 questions. Both parts for 200 marks each and combine to form a 400 marks exam. For every wrong answer, one-third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted, as per the rule.

Those who get through all these tiers of the examination will be hired as All-India Services and

central civil services including IAS, IPS, IFS, IRS, and IRTS. The application form for Indian Forest Service will be released on the same day at the official website.

How to apply

Step 1: Visit the official website, upsc.gov.in

Step 2: Click on UPSC civil services examination link

Step 3: Click on I agree button and register using details

Step 4: Fill form I and then for, II

Step 5: Make payment and submit

Fee: Candidates will have to pay Rs 100 as application fee. Those belonging to SC, ST, PwD category and females are exempted from paying any fee.

CRPF Head Constable GD recruitment for 1412 posts

The Ministry of Home Affairs has invited applications for the post of Head Constable GD in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). A total of 1412 posts are invited for the post of which 1331 are for males and 81 posts are for females. Interested candidates can apply at the official website, crpf.gov.in. The applications are open and last date to apply is March 6, 2020.

To be selected for the posts, candidates will have to appear for recruitment exam scheduled to be held on April 19, 2020. On clearing this, candidates will also have to pass physical standards and medical category tests.

Eligibility

Age: The upper age is capped at 32 years. The age of candidates will be counted as on August 1, 2019.

Education: Candidates should have obtained class 12 level of education from a recognized board.

Work experience: Applicant should have completed at least four years of service including basic training. For more years of experience extra marks will be awarded up to 5 years' candidate will get four, up to 6 eight marks, up to 7 years 12 marks, up to 8 years, 16 marks and over 8 years 20 marks will be awarded.

Exam pattern

The written exam will

have objective type questions. A total of 160 questions will be asked, each of one mark. The question paper will be of three hours and at level of class 12. To pass the test applicants need to score 50pc marks in aggregate and 45pc marks in each category. For reserved category candidates there is relaxation of five per cent in qualifying marks.

Salary

Finally, selected candidates will get the basic monthly salary in the range of Rs 25,500 to Rs 81,100 in addition to allowances such as DA, HRA, CCA and others.

The candidates can apply through the website- crpf.gov.in till March 6, 2020.

IIMC awards alumni for best work in journalism, PR

The Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) has awarded the exemplary work in journalism and allied fields. The IIMC Alumni Association announced winners of the fourth IIFCO IIMCAA Awards during the annual alumni meet - Connections 2020, at IIMC headquarters in New Delhi.

Several awards including 11 in reporting, 12 in desk production, seven awards in advertising, PR and communications and one in media research were distributed. Priyamvada Rana and Pratyush Deep Kotoky jointly received the highest winning amount of Rs 51,000 for

Agricultural reporting while other winners received Rs 21,000 each.

Young journalist Somesh Jha was declared alumni of the year while Chennai-based lake restoration activist Arun Krishnamurthy got public service award. As many as 17 students from Delhi campus received IIMCAA scholarships of Rs 25,000 each while 10 other campus students will be given it in chapter meets.

IIFCO IIMCAA Awards 2020 Winners

Alumni of the Year: Somesh Jha

Public Service: Arun Krishnamurthy

A1 - Agricultural Reporting:

Priyamvada Rana & Pratyush Deep Kotoky

A2 - Investigative Reporting: Ranveer Singh

A3 - Developmental Reporting: Meena Kotwal

A4 - Political Reporting: Aman Gupta

A5 - Sports Reporting: Anand Dutta

A6 - Economic & Business Reporting: Somesh Jha

A7 - Crime Reporting: Rounak Kumar Gunjan

A8 - Environment Reporting: TR Vivek

A9 - Entertainment Reporting: Shweta Thakur

A10 - Feature Writing: Diwash Gahatraj

A11 - Data Journalism: Gunjan Goswami

B1 - Print Production - Large Publications: Prashant Asthana

B2 - Print Production - Medium & Small Publications: NO WINNER

B3 - Broadcast Production - Large Network: Abhinav Pandey

B4 - Broadcast Production - Small & Medium Network: Pragya Barthwal Dhyani

B5 - Digital Production - Content: Aman Gupta

B6 - Digital Production - Innovation: NO WINNER

B7 - Digital Production - Video: Haritha KP

B8 - Anchor/Presenter/Broadcaster (Audio): Swati Bakshi

B9 - Anchor/Presenter/Broadcaster (Video): Neeraj Bhatt

B10 - Documentary Film Making: Jajati Karan

B11 - Photography - Amateur: Mark Valerian Lakra

B12 - Photography - Professional: Kumar Abhishek

C1 - Advertising: Mohit Pasricha

C2 - Media Innovation: Neharika Bhasin

C3 - Image Building (Public Relations): Parnika Deora

C4 - Advocacy: Pinky Pradhan

C5 - Crisis Management: Pragati Kandpal

C6 - Image Management: NO WINNER

C7 - Social Media Management - Small: Chaithanya Krishnaraju

C8 - Social Media Management - Big: NO WINNER

C9 - Social Media Influencer: Dheeraj Vashistha

C10 - Research Paper in Mass Communication: Om Prakash Das

Jury Special Mention

A2 - Investigative Reporting: Meena Kotwal

A3 - Developmental Reporting: Madhav Sharma

A3 - Developmental Reporting: Ayushi Jindal

A3 - Developmental Reporting: Kishan Barai

A6 - Economic & Business Reporting: Aprajita Sharma

A6 - Economic and Business Reporting: Rohin Kumar

A7 - Crime Reporting: Sonia Yadav

A11 - Data Journalism: Mukeesh Rawat

B11 - Photography - Amateur: Akram Shakeel

C3 - Image Building: Badri Nath

C7 - Social Media Management - Small: Gargi Bhardwaj

and Mandeep Yadav

C10 - Research Paper in Mass Communication: Dev Vrat Singh

The national meet of Connections 2020 in Delhi will be followed by chapter-level meets in other major cities in India and abroad, including Mumbai, Bhubaneswar, Dhenkanal, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Ranchi, Pune, Kochi, Bengaluru, Dubai, Singapore, Dhaka and Kathmandu - over the next two months.

Optimism may lower stroke severity, inflammation: Study

Stroke survivors with high levels of optimism may have lower inflammation levels, reduced stroke severity, and less physical disability after three months, according to a study.

Researchers from The University of Texas in the US, examined the relationship among optimism, inflammation, stroke severity, and physical disability for three months after a stroke, in a study of 49 stroke survivors.

Understanding how these elements relate to or impact one another may provide a scientific framework to develop new strategies for stroke recovery, they said.

“Our results suggest that optimistic people have a better disease outcome, thus boosting morale may be an ideal way to improve mental health, and recovery after a stroke,” said Yun-Ju Lai, a postdoctoral fellow at The University of Texas.

Post-stroke inflammation is detrimental to the brain and impairs recovery.

Optimism has been associated with lower inflammation levels and improved health outcomes among people with medical conditions, the researchers said.

However, no prior studies assessed if this association exists among stroke patients, they said.

This pilot study is a secondary analysis of data col-

lected from a repository of neurological diseases.

As optimism levels increased, stroke severity and the inflammatory markers — interleukin-6 (IL-6) and C-reactive protein (CRP) — decreased even after considering other possible variables.

However, this was not true of tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNFα), another marker for inflammation.

“Patients and their families should know the importance of a positive environment that could benefit the patient. Mental health does affect recovery after a stroke,” Lai said

Simple tips to strengthen your spine

Dr Phani Kiran S

A sedentary lifestyle has led to an increase in the time spent sitting during work hours, travel and at home which has proved injurious to health.

An average person with a desk job spends at least eight to 10 hours sitting in a day. Back or neck pain is one of the most common

symptoms experienced by them.

Inactivity tends to weaken the spinal, abdominal and gluteal muscle. So, if you spend hours sitting and suffer from chronic back, then the following measures:

• **Good posture:** Maintain good spinal posture while doing daily activi-

ties. Choose ergonomic chairs with adequate back support, adjustable height and arm rests. Walk or stretch your back muscles often.

• **Exercise:** Regular exercises to strengthen the spinal muscles, abdominal

muscles and core muscle are extremely important.

• **Sleep:** The spinal

muscles are continuously at work. They need adequate rest to recover overnight to be ready for the next day. The discs in the spine lose some water during the day. When we sleep, the discs recover the lost water pressure.

• **Diet and sunlight:** Adequate water intake is essential to prevent de-

hydration. The function of the discs in the spine depends on its ability to retain enough water in its matrix. A balanced diet rich in calcium and Vitamin D is essential for muscle and bone strength. Low Vitamin D is associated with increased risk of falls in the elderly.

• **Quit smoking:** The discs in the spine do not have their own blood supply and they depend on the adjacent vertebral body for oxygen, glucose and other essential nutrients. Smoking results in reduced blood supply to the vertebral bodies and this affects the permeation of nutrients into the discs, setting off an acceleration of disc degeneration and related problems.

Everything you need to know about IVF

Dr Meera B

Infertility is a global issue affecting approximately 13 to 14pc of the population worldwide resulting in close to one in six couples facing difficulty in conceiving. However, with a better understanding of human reproductive physiology and the availability of modern diagnostic technology, more and more couples are receiving the gift of parenthood.

The birth of Louis Brown, the world's first IVF baby on July 25, 1978, revolutionised the management of infertility. Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART), the broad spectrum of medical procedures used to treat infertility includes treatments that address complications of both the

egg and sperm.

In vitro fertilisation (IVF) or Intra Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) is done as firstline of treatment in cases concerning tubal pathology, severe male factor infertility azoospermia, fertility preservation in cancer patients, pre-implantation genetic diagnosis and donor oocyte. IVF is also recommended for patients with ovulatory dysfunction (PCOS) and endometriosis.

Some FAQs about fertility treatment

What is the difference between IVF & ICSI?

Both are forms of In vitro fertilisation, differing in only the method of fertilisation in the embryology lab. In IVF, the sperms and the egg are allowed to fertilise

in a small petri dish and this method is very similar to the natural form of fertilisation. IVF is deployed when sperm parameters are normal. ICSI is mainly

sperm parameters are de-

ranged in count, motility or morphology.

What is an IVF cycle?

During IVF, mature eggs are collected (retrieved)

from ovaries and fertilised

with the sperm in a lab. Then, the fertilised egg (embryo) or eggs are transferred to a uterus. One full cycle

of IVF takes about three weeks. Sometimes these steps are split into different parts and the process can take longer.

How many IVF cycles are recommended?

According to at least one study, women who conceived with IVF treatment went through an average of 2.7 cycles. They found that the odds for success—for women of all ages—after three IVF cycles were between 34 and 42 per cent. Practically speaking, to improve your odds, you should try for at least three IVF cycles.

How painful are IVF injections?

First of all, not every woman finds the shots painful, so that is something to keep in mind. For most pa-

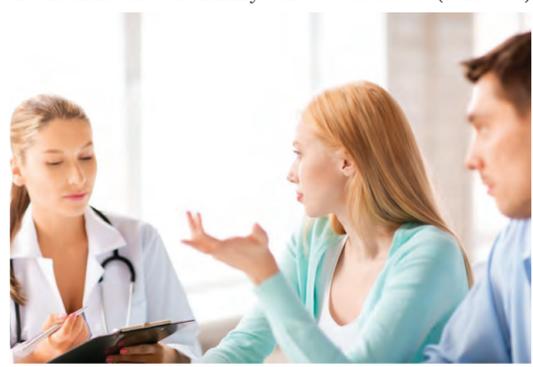
tients, the injections aren't pleasant, but they are quick and any discomfort is over in a few seconds. Most of the medications you will take during IVF are administered this way, usually with an injection pen.

How many times can I try IVF?

Studies examining the likelihood of pregnancy after multiple IVF attempts show varied results, with some suggesting that three rounds are the optimal maximum, given the emotional and financial strain that IVF can cause. Financial limitations aside, it may be worth continuing beyond three cycles.

Tips to improve IVF success rate

• **Maintain a healthy weight.**



Dr Meera B is a consultant at KIMS Centre for Fertility, KIMS Thiruvananthapuram. (The views expressed are her own)

GULF FAQs

Can I return to UAE after ban four years ago?

I overstayed in Dubai by three months in 2016. When I left my eyes were scanned at the immigration office and I was told I would not be allowed to return to Dubai again. It is almost four years since I was banned, so can I apply for a visa now and will I be allowed to enter the country again?

Until June 2018, someone who overstayed on a visa usually received a lifetime ban. This means any subsequent visa applications would be denied. Even if an application got through the system because of a change of passport or name, an eye scan on entry meant the person was stopped at immigration. Since the change in the rules, there is a three-month grace period for overstaying before punitive action is taken and more leniency especially where the overstay was not for very long. Article 28 of the UAE Immigration Law states: "An alien who has been deported may not return to the country except with special permission from the ministry of interior". I have heard of such bans being overturned on application although there is no guarantee this will happen.

To find out if a previous lifetime ban can be lifted you must contact the General Directorate of Residency & Foreigners Affairs in Dubai, which is part of the Ministry of Interior. The website www.gdrfad.gov.ae lists several contact numbers. Alternatively, a lawyer can be engaged to perform this service for a fee.

Notice period

My workplace only accepts resignations from staff if they give six months' notice of their intention to leave and only in January. If staff resign in any other month, they incur massive financial penalties, including the loss of their end-of-service benefits. What would happen if an employee were to abscond and leave his or her job in the UAE, without giving the required notice period, before immediately taking up employment in another GCC country without cancelling the UAE employment visa?

I understand this is a mainland employer, so UAE Labour Law applies. It is unusual for anyone to give six months' notice and even then it would be expected only for senior management on unlimited contracts. The UAE government website specifically states that for anyone on a limited contract the maximum notice period is three months. The labour law makes no mention of a maximum notice period for unlimited contracts, so if a contract is signed by an individual accepting such terms it is likely to be legally valid. I suggest checking the labour contract lodged with the Ministry of HR and Emiratisation (MoHRE) to check if this contract states six months' notice. The terms in that contract are considered legally binding.

An employer cannot specify the dates when an employee can resign and that is not a reasonable request. It's unlikely that such a restrictive contract would be acceptable to the MoHRE because employers are not permitted to apply random penalties on employees when they leave service or to withhold any end-of-service benefits. The only time a penalty can be applied on leaving service is if an individual breaks the terms of a limited term contract. That penalty is for an amount equivalent to no more than 50pc of earnings for a period of three months, per Article 116 of UAE Labour Law. If an employee leaves without giving notice, the employer can apply for an absconding ban. That is usually a one-year ban but in some cases an individual can be blacklisted. The visa would be cancelled at the time of the ban. In a situation like this I suggest employees contact the MoHRE for advice or register a case against the employer.

Jail for Insulting

I am a student and am facing a peculiar problem. Some kids are troubling me in school. They make fun of me and intimidate me. They don't exactly bully me or harm me physically, but pass comments that I find insulting. I have complained to my teacher about it, but no action was taken. Do I have a legal remedy for this? Can any authority issue them a stern warning or something?

Pursuant to your query, it may be noted that verbal comments which may be abusive or insulting to a fellow student is a second degree offence in accordance with Offence No. 2.8 under Article 7 (1) of Ministerial Resolution No. (851) of 2018 on code of behaviour management for students in the general education institutions (the "Ministerial Resolution No. 851 of 2018") issued by Ministry of Education (MOE), which states: (1) Behaviour offences are classified into four levels according to their degree, severity, and impact on the students, and on the educational environment and community in general. The procedures of such levels shall be carried out in accordance with the

provisions, provided that each of them shall be documented in accordance with the approved regulations and forms and shall be dealt with in accordance with the educational values and systems. Second degree offences (medium severity offences): 2.8: Verbally abusing or insulting students, staff, or visitors of the school." In continuance, Article 8 (1) of Ministerial Resolution No. 851 of 2018, stipulates the measures that shall be taken upon the commission of an offence by a student. The following measures shall be imposed for Second degree offences (medium severity offences):

Article 8: Mechanism of dealing with offences: (1) The below sequential actions shall be taken and deduction shall be made to the behaviour marks in case of committing an offence, with due consideration to the mentioned detailed instructions, and ensuring that the topics falling within the functions of the Behaviour Management Committee has been brought before the committee for making the necessary decisions.

Second degree (medium severity offences): (1) Issuing the first written warning and instructing the student to sign on an undertaking not to repeat the offense, as per the Form No. 9. (2) Completing the file of the individual case study by the academic advisor/social worker. (3) Summoning the student's guardian on the day next to the offense date and asking them to sign on an agreement for reforming his son's / daughter's behaviour. (4) Monitoring the student's behaviour and providing guidance sessions for him / her."

Further, it may be noted that the Behaviour Management Committee is one of the committees that should be formed at educational institutions which is deputed to address problems that may be faced by a student and determining measures that may be taken against students who commit an offence in accordance with Article 14 (1) and (2) of the Ministerial Resolution No. 851 of 2018. However, as no action was taken despite your complaint, you may consider contacting the "Child Protection Unit" with your grievances. It is a specialised unit established by the MoE, which aims to safeguard children from various forms of harm, negligence, and abuse that may occur at the educational institutions they are enrolled in or at their home. Based on the instructions received thereafter, you may decide to further escalate the matter by filing a criminal complaint against the students who verbally pass insulting comments on you at a police station having jurisdiction. The aforesaid criminal complaint may be filed upon a written or verbal complaint pertaining to an offence related to insult and slander.

In continuance, it may be noted that insulting any individual in the UAE is a criminal offence. This is in accordance with Article 374 of the Federal Law No. 3 of 1987 in issuance of Penal Code of UAE (the 'UAE Penal Code'), which states:

Article 374: Shall be sentenced to detention for a maximum period of six months or to a fine not exceeding Dh5,000 in case the libel or insult takes place through the telephone or facing the victim in the presence of others.

"The penalty shall be a fine not exceeding Dh5,000 if the libel or insult takes place facing the victim without the presence of a third party or in a letter dispatched to him by any means whatsoever." The public prosecution may consider your complaint under the prevailing Federal Law No. 3 of 1987 in issuance Penal Code of UAE and the Federal Law No. (9) of 1976 on Delinquent and Vagrant Juveniles.

Debt reschedule

I need breathing space to take control of my debt by rescheduling my liabilities. My debts arose from issues with a previous employer, but my request keeps being bounced back from someone internally. I have been very honest with the bank and want to repay my debts, but just need someone who has the authority to make a decision to look at my case so I can get back in control. The bank's Elite Connect team have been helpful but they can't authorise the changes I need and the collections won't or can't do so either. This has been going on since Oct and the stress of the situation is getting to be too much. What to do?

I referred your query to my contacts at RAKBank who got on the case straight away and were able to resolve the problem within a week. A spokeswoman for the bank commented: "We have contacted the customer and his request to reschedule his liabilities has been reviewed and approved on an exceptional basis to assist him with his repayments. The loan was rescheduled successfully and you are advised of the same."

SAUDI CELEBRATES VALENTINE'S DAY



Hearts and flowers were everywhere in Riyadh as Saudi Arabia celebrated the once "Haram" Valentine's Day.

Duped by Indian travel agents, 104 women stranded in Muscat

MUSCAT: A video showing 89 Indian women, who have sought refuge at the Indian embassy in Muscat (Oman) after escaping from the clutches of their oppressive landlords, pleading for help has gone viral. A majority of the women belong to Andhra and 14 are from Punjab. In the four-minute-long video, they narrated their ordeal of how they were duped by travel agents—first in India and then in Dubai.

They claimed that agents sent them to the UAE on a tourist visa with an assurance that their contacts in Dubai would help them get

jobs as nurse and teacher. Once in Dubai, they got trapped and forced to work as domestic help. They were again given a false assurance by Dubai agents that they would be provided with "decent jobs" in Muscat. Once there, they were sold off to rich landlords, who confiscated their passports and made them work for 18 hours a day, often beating them if they refuse to follow their orders.

The women somehow managed to escape and reached the embassy. They have been living in the embassy for the past six to 11

months, hoping that they would return home soon. On seeing the video, Dubai-based businessman Surinder Pal Singh Oberoi offered to help the beleaguered women. He agreed to pay their repatriation costs, which included air fare and immigration and overstay fines.

Oberoi, chief of the Sarbat Da Bhalla Charitable Trust, claimed that besides 89 women, 15 more girls had been made hostage by their landlords in Muscat. This takes the number to 104. He had earlier paid "blood money" amounting to \$2.2 million to the relatives of

a Pakistani man allegedly killed by a group of 17 boys belonging to Punjab. "I am in touch with the women, including the ones being made to work like slaves by their landlords," he claimed.

"I have requested embassy officials to facilitate the process of making new passports of the women. Some of the landlords are willing to hand over the original documents provided they are paid the amount that they had given to the agents when they had "purchased" the women. My organisation will also pay the landlords," Oberoi told a TV channel.

Indian origin Rishi UK's new finance minister

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has named Indian origin politician Rishi Sunak as his new finance minister, after Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid's shock resignation following a post-Brexit Cabinet reshuffle.

Sunak (39) has a business background and previously served as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, effectively Sajid Javid's number two. He arrived at the Treasury after his appointment and told reporters that he is "delighted to be appointed . Lots to get on with". Javid was due to present the budget in just four weeks time but reportedly quit because PM Johnson demanded that he fire all five of his most senior aides.

The budget is one of the main events in the calendar for the UK Treasury and even more crucial after Britain's exit from the European Union, which means Su-

nak, the Conservative MP for Richmond in Yorkshire since 2015, will have to hit the ground running. Sunak attended the prestigious Winchester College before moving on to study politics, philosophy and economics at Oxford University. He also has an MBA from Stanford University in the US.

Sunak's wife is the daughter of Indian billionaire and co-founder of IT services company Infosys, Narayana Murthy. His father was a doctor and his mother ran a chemist shop. Before entering politics he worked for investment bank Goldman Sachs and a hedge fund, then co-founded an investment firm.

Amongst other changes, Johnson has removed Northern Ireland Secretary Julian Smith, Business Secretary Andrea Leadsom, Housing Minister Esther McVey, Environment Secretary Theresa Villiers and Attorney General Geoffrey Cox.



Rishi Sunak

Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra is now Sushma Swaraj Bhawan

NEW DELHI: Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra and Foreign Service Institute in Delhi has been rechristened as Sushma Swaraj Bhawan.

This is a "solemn tribute to the invaluable contribution of former External Affairs Minister late Sushma Swaraj to Indian diplomacy, the cause of the Indian diaspora and the ethos of public service" said a media release by MEA.

Swaraj passed away at the age of 67 on Aug 6, 2019. She had a long and illustrious career in Indian politics and was well known for her exemplary oratorical skills. She also became famous for her "Twitter diplomacy" in the time that she was the foreign minister, aiding Indians across the world through the social media platform.

Corona may push Singapore into recession

SINGAPORE: Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said that an economic recession could be a possibility as the adverse impact of the coronavirus outbreak



PM Lee Hsien

on Singapore's economy has already exceeded that of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) back in 2003.

Speaking during a visit to Changi Airport Terminal 3, PM Lee said that the impact will be significant as the country battles a "very intense outbreak" of COVID-19. "It's already much more than SARS, and the economies of the region are much more interlinked together. China, particularly, is a much bigger factor in the region," he said.

"I can't say whether we will have a recession or not. It's possible, but definitely our economy will take a hit" he added.

The SARS outbreak in 2003 lasted from March until July that year before it was eradicated in Singapore. "That was, I think, very fast. I expect it not to be so fast this time," PM Lee said. Singapore has 58 cases of the coronavirus disease as of Feb 13 and is currently under DORSCON Orange alert level.

IOC to invest Rs500cr for Karnataka unit FPIs net buyers in first half of Feb

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Karnataka government under which the firm will invest `500 crore to set up

during 'Invest Karnataka', conference at Hubballi. The new oil terminal is expected to cater to the growing demand of petroleum products from Karnataka where IOC has nearly 50pc

The terminal receives petrol, diesel and aviation fuels from two key pipelines one of 300 kilometre (Km) from Chennai Petroleum Corporation and the second from 480 km away from the Petronet Mangalore-Hassan-Bangalore pipeline. A day-long Invest Karnataka conference saw investment proposals totalling Rs 72,000 crore, mostly in north Karnataka, by 51 firms. This is expected to generate a whopping 90,000 employment opportunities in the region. Companies from across manufacturing, aerospace, logistics and power generation sectors have committed to invest across various cities in Karnataka.

Foreign investors remained net buyers in the first half of February by investing a net sum of Rs 24,617 crore in the Indian markets due to positive sentiments post-Budget and the central bank's decision to maintain an accommodative stance in its recent monetary policy review.

As per the depositories' data, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) pumped in a net sum of Rs 10,426 crore into equities and Rs 14,191 crore into the debt segment between February 3 and 14. This adds up to a total net investment of Rs 24,617 crore.

FPIs have been net buyers in the Indian markets since September 2019, the data showed.

"The recovery in the

markets post-Budget has largely been supported by DIIs (domestic institutional investors)," Ajit Mishra, vice-president (research) at

tax burden will be shifted to recipients at the applicable rate.

Besides, she also said certain government securi-

equities has been nominal in February so far as "the subdued FPI sentiments are a result of coronavirus outbreak's impact on global economic growth," Mishra said.

Citing reasons for investment in the bonds market, analysts said the investment was largely on the back of the RBI maintaining an accommodative stance in its recent monetary policy review.

On the future course of

FPI flows, Mishra said that "in the medium term, FPI flows should increase as the domestic economy rebounds and global concerns subside".



petroleum products receiving, storage and distribution terminal at Chitradurga in Karnataka. It will be set up in an area of 120 acres in the district.

The MoU was signed

market share. Currently, the Devanagonthi terminal of the IOC in Bengaluru outskirts supplies 30pc of the petroleum demands in Karnataka, supplying 500 million tonnes of the fuel.

Microsoft sets up engg hub in Noida

Tech giant Microsoft said that it has set up a new development centre in Noida, its third such facility in India, that will serve as an engineering and innovation hub for the company.

The announcement comes ahead of the visit of Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella slated for later this month. "The centre will build on Microsoft's commitment to tap India's world-class engineering talent to create solutions for global impact," Microsoft said in a statement.

The India Development Centre (IDC) represents Microsoft's strategy of globally shared development to build products and services for driving digital innovation, it added.

"The IDC-NCR will play a critical role in Microsoft India's expansion

and growth... in Microsoft India's expansion and growth story. The facility will open opportunities for thousands of engineers, with plans to expand to a full-fledged development centre, similar to IDC facilities in Bengaluru and Hyderabad," the statement said.



The company, however, did not disclose the investment being made for setting up the centre.

The IDC-NCR will be home to the company's

engineering teams across various technology groups, including Microsoft's Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Research Group, Cloud and Enterprise Group, and Experience & Devices Group, along with Core Services Engineering and Operations, the statement said. The IDC-NCR will

also house Mixer, Microsoft's live streaming gaming platform team, becoming the first centre to host the gaming team outside the company headquar-

ters in Redmond, United States. "We have built a strong engineering presence in India over the past two decades and we are excited to be expanding to Noida," Kurt DelBene, executive vice-president (corporate strategy, core services engineering and operations) and chairman of the IDC advisory board, said.

Rajiv Kumar, managing director at Microsoft India Research and Development, said the centre creates opportunities for engineers to do meaningful work that will have impact across the world.

"We are excited to tap into the engineering talent available in this part of the country to create a truly pioneering organisation that will build innovative solutions for global impact," he added.

The investment is a debt instrument structured as a project finance

Goldman Sachs join hands with realty firm

Leading realty firm, Vatika Group, has received an investment of Rs 245 crore from Goldman Sachs, leading global investment banking and investment management firm, for the 3rd time. This investment will expedite the construction of first phase of a commercial project located on NH-8. The project will be developed in 3 phases comprising 2.2 million sq ft.

The prestigious commercial project is strategically located on National Highway-8 and enjoys excellent connectivity and infrastructure. The project will shape as one of the most strategic investments.

The investment is a debt instrument structured as a project finance

facilitating a partial refinance to Piramal Enterprises and the balance towards construction.

In the past Goldman Sachs has invested Rs 100 cr in 2007 towards Vatika Business Park and Rs 255 cr in 2014 in Vatika Hotels.



Gaurav Bhalla, Managing Director, Vatika Group, said, "We at Vatika Group envision fulfilling the rising demand of the grade A commercial

spaces in Delhi NCR. Such debt instruments being extended by mature funds such as Goldman Sachs is the need of the hour ensuring completion of assets while allowing for partial refinance. The investment by Goldman will surely accelerate in delivering the project on time."

Bajaj Finance among top 10 most-valued firms on BSE

Bajaj Finance Ltd has replaced State Bank of India to become India's tenth most-valued firm by market capitalisation on the BSE.

According to the BSE, Bajaj Finance's market capitalization stood at Rs 2.87 trillion, with its shares trading at Rs 4,773.85 on the BSE. The finance company's shares have risen nearly 12pc so far this year.

State Bank of India has a market cap of Rs 2.81 trillion. Currently, Reli-

ance Industries Ltd is the country's most valued company with a market cap of Rs 9.48 trillion, followed by Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (Rs 8.26 trillion) and HDFC Bank Ltd (Rs 6.73 trillion).

Hindustan Unilever Ltd is number four (Rs 4.95 trillion), followed by HDFC Ltd (Rs 4.12 trillion), Infosys Ltd (Rs 3.36 trillion), ICICI Bank Ltd (Rs 3.50 trillion), Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (Rs 3.23 trillion), and Bharti Airtel Ltd (Rs 3.07 trillion).

Despite the slowdown

in consumer spending, Bajaj Finance has reported strong earnings consistently and analysts said this is a clear indication of the company's resilient business model.

Analysts gave a thumbs-up to the finance company's portfolio granularity strategy across products and geographic locations and its capacity to absorb higher provisions. They believe the firm will continue on its high double-digit growth trajectory.

Odisha govt signs MoU with HDFC Bank

With an aim to strengthening the startups ecosystem in Odisha, state government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank.

The Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department signed the MoU in the presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at Kharavela Bhawan.

"Young entrepreneurs are engines of growth for new Odisha. I am sure this MoU between Start-up Odisha and HDFC Bank will open up new possibilities

for startups," said the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

As per the MoU signed, the bank will provide smart banking solutions to the Startups recognised by the Startup Odisha along with



opportunity to pitch their solutions to requisite stakeholders and will work towards providing them an opportunity to showcase

their solutions.

Additionally, the bank will extend incubation and acceleration support to all Startups banking with them, said an official, adding that the bank will "enable startups to list on their Smart Buy platform for growth and visibility."

The Chief Minister expressed his satisfaction with the progress made under the Odisha Startup Policy.

"We are going to set up a world-class Startup Hub in Bhubaneswar and launch a fund for Startups this year to further boost the ecosys-

tem," said Patnaik.

Dibyashankar Mishra, the MSME Minister said, "Odisha is one of the fastest-growing Startup ecosystem in the country and we invite more such partners to collaborate with us in this journey creating a holistic support system for Startups."

HDFC Bank is having third party alliances to provide discounts for startups across key business support functions like shared workspaces, digital marketing, content writing, tax and legal advisory, financial management, compliance among others.

Mfs upbeat on retail investors to continue investing

Mutual fund houses are upbeat that retail investors will continue investing in markets through SIPs and other products in 2020. Interestingly, the industry saw assets under management (AUM) at an all-time high of Rs 28,18,814 crore driven by positive flows in all categories of open-ended schemes, said N S Venkatesh, CEO, Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). According to latest data from AMFI, the overall AUMs rose by five per cent at Rs 27,85,804 crore in January as against Rs 26,54,075 crore in December. However, the average net assets under manage-

ment (AAUM) grew at a modest 3.41pc. The Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) saw total collections of Rs 8,531.90 crore as against Rs 8,518.47 crore the previous month. The SIP accounts as on January stood at Rs 3.03 crore, whereas the SIP AUM was Rs 3,24,868.34 crore. "This is a thumping recognition of retail investor acceptance of mutual funds, as a long-term wealth creation avenue, amid market volatility. We expect this positive growth momentum in MF AUMs to continue, driven by growth-oriented budget and RBI stance on continuing benign interest rate cycle, thus resulting in 15 to 20pc growth for the

industry this fiscal," said Venkatesh. Net inflows into income and debt-oriented schemes surged in Janu-



ary to over Rs1 lakh crore as against Rs 78,000 crore

in December, AMFI data shows. Inflows into open-ended growth and equity-oriented schemes surged

4,499 crore in December. Similarly, equity-linked saving schemes shot up 94 per cent last month. "The equity AUM for the sector has grown from Rs 7,62,798 crore in December 2019 to Rs 7,87,557 crore in January 2020. This is on the back of strong equity inflows of Rs 7,877 crore during the month, which has continued to increase for the second month in a row. While the small-cap funds have not been the flavour during the last few months, the recent rally seems to have driven the inflows into small and mid-cap fund inflows," said Sundeep Sikka, CEO, Nippon Life India Asset

Management.

"We expect flows into mutual funds to gather further momentum in the coming months. On the fixed-income side, one of the noticeable trends is a shift away from liquid funds towards overnight funds. With the introduction of exit load in liquid funds and certain additional restrictions that will come into effect from April, we expect the trend to continue," said G Pradeep Kumar, CEO, Union Asset Management Company. With overall sentiments improving on the back of softer crude oil prices and lower interest rates as also unconventional steps taken

by the RBI recently has led

to expectations of further softening of interest rates. These factors should help to sustain the growth in equity markets in the near term. The industry has seen an 84pc increase in net flows between January 2019 and January 2020. As far as equity funds are concerned, there's a 23pc increase in net inflows in last month over the last 12 months. "One remarkable thing is a 70pc increase in net flows in equities as against the previous month. It's interesting to note this flow is well spread between the category of funds such as large-cap, mid-cap and multi-cap," Kumar noted.

Delhi airport launches doorstep baggage pick-up, drop service

GM-led Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has announced that it has launched a doorstep baggage transfer facility for passengers flying to and from Delhi airport.

After successful trial the facility has been officially launched at Terminal 3. The service has been introduced in collaboration with Bengaluru-based CarterX, as part of DIAL's endeavour to provide world-class experience to its passengers. To avail the facility, passengers can book their baggage through CarterX website or app or counters at Delhi airport to be picked from their home in Delhi and NCR region. Soon the booking facility would be available through Delhi airport website - www.newdelhiairport.in,

said a DIAL spokesperson.

Each bag thus booked is then secured in separate tamper-resistant sealable bags, which are marked and bar-coded for easy identification. On arrival at the airport, passengers can collect their baggage at the departure forecourt area and proceed for check-in, he said. Similarly, passengers arriving at Delhi airport can book the service online or at the baggage pick-up and drop counter, located in receiving and greeters area of Terminal 3 arrival. The baggage will then be delivered to locations in Delhi, NCR region, Punjab, Haryana, UP and Rajasthan. All the baggage booked for pick-up and drop facility are insured by the service provider agency, he said.

With this fully digital platform, passengers can travel hassle free while they are travelling from and to Delhi Airport, as they no longer need to worry about carrying their heavy bags. The service offers seamless experience of baggage transit for passengers, the spokesperson said. Passengers availing this facility will have to provide the date of service for pick-up or delivery, flight details, delivery location. After payment of service fee, the baggage would be brought to arrival departure area. The passenger can also track their baggage in transit on phone or tablet, he said.

However, going forward, this service will be extended to Terminal 1 and Terminal 2.

Ex-Love Island host Caroline Flack found dead

Caroline Flack, a British TV presenter who hosted the controversial reality TV show "Love Island," has died at age 40. "We can confirm that our Caroline passed away today, the 15th of Feb," the family said in a statement. A family lawyer said Flack had killed herself and was found in her London apartment.

Two former Love Island contestants, Sophie Gradon and Mike Thalassitis had killed themselves in 2018 and 2019. Flack hosted "Love Island" from its launch in 2015, but stepped down last year after being charged with assaulting her boyfriend Lewis Burton. She denied the charge and was scheduled to stand trial starting next month. British com-

mercial network ITV, which broadcast the show, said in



Caroline Flack

a statement that "everybody at Love Island and ITV is shocked and saddened by this desperately sad news."

"Caroline was a much-loved member of the Love Island team and our sincere thoughts and condolences are with her family and friends," the network statement said.

Dubai Duty Free sales edge up

Airport retailer Dubai Duty Free reported a marginal increase in overall sales in 2019, helped by the opening of new space at both Dubai International Airport (DXB) and Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC). The retailer witnessed 0.7pc year-on-year growth in sales to Dh7.406 billion (\$2.029b), nearly Dh50 million more than in 2018. Sales growth in 2019 was largely driven by perfumes, followed by liquor, cosmetics, tobacco and electronics. All five categories contributed nearly Dh4.458b or more than 60pc of total sales.

"Overall, it has been a fantastic year for the operation," said Colm McLoughlin, executive vice chairman and chief executive of Dubai Duty Free in a statement.

Seagull International bags Global HR Excellence Award

Seagull International has won the Economic Times-ET Now Global HR Excellence Award for the Best Overseas Recruitment Consultants in India in the 28th World HRD Congress Held in Mumbai. The award was received by Dr. Sureshkumar Madhusudhanan, MD of Seagull Group and Mr CP Shyam, Associate Vice President from Mr Namr Kishore, the Jury Member the World HRD Congress in the ceremony held at Hotel Taj Lands End, Mumbai on Feb 15, 2020. Delegates from more than 100 countries are attending the three-day conference.

Seagull International is a leading Global Human Resource Consultants firm, Recognised by Ministry of Exter-

nal Affairs, Govt. Of India and Kochi and overseas the same award in 2018 having its corporate office branches in Nepal, Dubai, as well, apart from Asso-



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at Mumbai and branches Doha, Riyadh and Kuwait. Seagull International won Award in 2017 and 2018.

Odisha inks pact with Kerala for water tourism

The Odisha Tourism Department has inked a pact with Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC) to acquire technical support in planning and developing diverse water tourism and recreation products.

The state boasts of 482-km coastline and eight major reservoirs besides Asia's largest brackish water lagoon Chilika and several other pristine water bodies were setting up sustainable water sports, recreation facilities and tourism property like houseboats is feasible.

Odisha Minister for Tourism Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi said Odisha had already established its brand identity

as India's best kept secret and the partnership would help diversify the state's water tourism offerings. "We must keep innovating to refine the quality of experiences and sustain curiosity among tourists. Odisha has always accorded priority to collaboration over competition and our partnering with Kerala is a watershed," he said.

After the familiarisation trips to Chilika and Tampara lakes besides Bhitarkanika and Gopalpur organised by department for houseboat and water sports operators and investors in July last year, the state has received several single window proposals in the segment. While five water sports projects

have been operationalised at Tampara, Gopalpur, Barkul, Chandrabhaga and Naraj (Cuttack), the department has invited tenders for operation and management of floating restaurants at select locations in Chilika lake.

"Besides water sports, we have decided to introduce houseboats in Chilika, Bhitarkanika backwaters and Hirakud reservoir, which will offer the best of the state's eco-tourism potential harmonised with adventure, leisure and experiences in local cultures and hospitality," said Tourism Secretary Vishal Kumar Dev. MD of KSINC Prashant Nair signed the MoU with Tourism Director Sachin Ramchandra

Yadav. Nair said the collaboration would help Odisha Tourism to plan and develop water based tourism in the state in a structured and sustainable manner.

A technical team of KSINC is scheduled to conduct an extensive field trip and submit preliminary technical reports to the state government soon. The tourism department has also come up with plans to operationalise river cruises along the stretches of National Waterways in the state and other viable stretches. Inland Waterways Authority of India and the state counterpart are in the process of conducting detailed feasibility studies.



Bollywood actress Sunny Leone at a PeTA India event during the Lakmé Fashion Week (LFW) Summer Resort 2020 in Mumbai.

Rajiv Bansal to pilot ailing Air India for second time

Senior bureaucrat Rajiv Bansal has been appointed as the chairman and managing director of Air India for a second time, days after the government announced 100pc stake sale of the debt-ridden national carrier. Bansal, a 1988-batch IAS officer of the Nagaland cadre, is currently the additional secretary in the ministry of petroleum.

The appointments committee of the cabinet has approved his appointment as the CMD of Air India in the rank and pay of additional

secretary. He replaces Ash-



Rajiv Bansal

wani Lohani, who has completed his one-year tenure as the head of the airline. As part of the strategic disinvestment, the govern-

ment had on Jan 27 issued the preliminary bid document for 100pc stake in Air India, which has a debt pile of over Rs 60,000 crore. Bansal was in Aug 2017 named as Air India's interim CMD for three months. He had then also replaced Lohani, who was appointed as the chairman of the Railway Board after completion of his two-year stint.

During Bansal's three-month tenure, Air India had launched services to Copenhagen among others. He had also initiated various steps

to reduce costs and improve on-time performance of flights during his short tenure. Bansal, who hails from Haryana, has served in the ministry of electronics and IT where he had looked after digital payments, Aadhaar and internet governance among others. He is a civil engineer by profession having graduated from IIT Delhi in 1986 and has a diploma in finance from ICFAI, Hyderabad, and an executive masters in international business from IIFT, New Delhi.

Corona: new rule for travellers arriving in India

Travellers arriving in India from the coronavirus-affected countries, including Singapore, have been asked by the health ministry to fill up a "self-reporting form" at the airport, requiring them to share details such as contact number and address, among others, as part of precautionary measure amid the outbreak of deadly virus.

The travellers are required to share the date of their arrival to India, flight and seat numbers, port of origin of journey, port of final destination, passport number, email ID and contact number, among other details. In addition, they will be required to share the

name of cities, if any, they visited in China 14 days prior to their arrival in India. "All persons coming to India from 2019-nCoV affected countries are required to fill up this proforma. You are requested to provide the following information to safeguard your own health," the form read.

Coronavirus originated in the Chinese city of Wuhan in Dec last and since then has killed over 1300 people in that country alone, while cases have been registered in several nations across the world, including India. Health and other concerned ministries in nations around the world have stepped up their efforts to curb the spread of the deadly virus.

Singapore government will pay the hospital bills incurred by patients infected by the virus --- officially known as Covid-19. This coverage

does not extend to outpatient treatment at general practitioner clinics or polyclinics, nor does it apply to treatment sought at private medical facilities, the ministry said .Singapore has reported as many as 50 cases of corona-

virus - the second most behind China. The country has raised its disease outbreak response level to "orange" after confirmed cases with no travel history to China or links to the past cases, surfaced in the country.

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EXCHANGE RATES

As on 17th February, 2020 (In rupees)

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	46.50	50.20
Bahraini Dinar	179.00	199.00
British Pound	91.63	95.10
Canadian Dollar	52.43	56.20
Emirati Dirham	18.80	20.20
Euro	75.89	80.00
Kuwaiti Dinar	225.50	243.50
Omani Rial	177.00	195.00
Qatari Riyal	18.00	20.30
Saudi Riyal	18.35	19.90
Singapore Dollar	49.86	53.80
Swiss Franc	71.22	75.10
US Dollar	69.90	73.40

Rates are subject to change without notice. Errors & omissions excepted. Source: ARAB MONEY