Saudia launches instant visa service for expat workers

Riyadh: Private sector firms are about to get instant visas for foreign workers, allowing them to start work immediately after an application process, but they must take care to follow the new nationalisation rates. The service, from the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, allows firms enrolled in the Kingdom’s skills nationalisation programmes to get the visas without needing to submit documents.

But only green-coded firms in the Nislat nationalisation get the visas, eligible.

These companies fall into different categories based on what kind of work a company performs and how many Saudis are employed. There are four categories – Platinum, Green (which has three sub-categories), Yellow and Red – and the firms have to increase the number of Saudi employees they must sponsor, especially the private sector as well as reduce unemployment. The ministry’s website said that the instant visa service had cut the eight-month period that was previously required.

There are numerous conditions before one can take advantage of the snap process. A company must need to be green-coded for 13 consecutive weeks or 26 working days. It must also begreen-coded for at least six months and maintain the mandatory wage protection system.

The firms must also have a continuous working contract. The Ministry of Labour and Social Development confirmed that only firms in the Nislat nationalisation programme are eligible.

The (Contd. on page 2)

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IPEOIL urges MOS-EA to take corrective measures to promote integration of job aspirants

New Delhi: The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation (IPCL), the 48-year-old association of seven Indian corporate giants of the petrochemical sector, has resigned to its association with the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The ministry’s website said that the instant visa service had cut the eight-month period that was previously required. There are numerous conditions before one can take advantage of the snap process. A company must need to be green-coded for 13 consecutive weeks or 26 working days. It must also be green-coded for at least six months and maintain the mandatory wage protection system.

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EMIGRATION

UAE was the first Arab country to support India on the Kashmir issue. Within days, Prime Minister Narendra Modi set aside his well-documented skepticism about the 2+2 dialogue, of defence and foreign ministers, later incorporating it into the carefully constructed vision of India's relationship with the US. Modi also invited US companies to invest in the Indian defence manufacturing sector under the Make in India programme.

IndiGo to link Bengaluru, Belgium

NEW DELHI: Adding Bengaluru to its 58th destination, IndiGo today announced twice daily flights on the Bengaluru-Saint Petersburg route from Sept 8. IndiGo will be the first Indian airline to operate twice daily flights out of Bengaluru and enhance its mobility within southern Eu-

SAFETY:

• Qiwa also aims to provide Saudi government officials with statistical information to tackle business challenges facing employers and employees.

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Amazon opens biggest global campus in India

HYDERABAD: E-commerce major Amazon on Wednesday opened its largest campus in Hyderabad outside of the US facility. The 3.8-acre campus can accommodate over 15,000 employees, the new campus is Amazon’s first own office building and is the single-largest building globally.

Amazon first started operations in India from 2009 and expanded in 2014. The company plans to strengthen its focus on talent in India. It has 62,000 full-time employees, the largest tech base outside the US, approximately 1.55 lakh contractors, and also first Amazon facility.

The brains behind the invention are Shiphal Thakur (M.Tech, robotics, dept. of mechanical engineering, SRM KTR) and Shyloosh Krishnan (M.Tech, dept. of electrical and electronics engineering, SRM). They plan to commercialize the AWS (where users can do things like build smartphone apps) over 5,000 employees, “The campus is about 5,000 employees,” said John Schoettler, vice-president of Amazon Global Real Estate and facilities. “He said the campus is Amazon’s largest in the world but has plenty more room to grow.

NEW DELHI: WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps across the globe. According to the last official statistics the company revealed it currently has over 1.5 billion monthly active users worldwide and 400 million daily active users in India. To maintain its top spot, the company keeps on providing its users with new features that make the user experience better. The company introduced a number of features on its platform, iOS and also which make your way onto the main app pretty soon. Here’s a list of features you can use right now on WhatsApp.

Fingerprint authentication

WhatsApp recently brought its fingerprint authentication feature to its Android beta app. The feature is already available on a few other platforms. It would allow users to unlock their chats using Touch ID or Face ID. With the introduction of this feature, the app also lets users choose if they want to hide their chats from the notifications. To enable this feature, users should head to WhatsApp Settings > Account > Privacy > Fingerprint lock.

Consecutive voice notes

Earlier when users would receive voice notes from their contacts they would need to play each voice note separately with an expiry limit of 72 hours. Now, the feature allows users to play consecutive voice notes together using the Play All option. Also, the user would get an in-app notification to join the group once the consecutive voice note feature is available.

Top 5 WhatsApp features you can use

1. Privacy

Privacy is one of the most important features which most people don’t talk about. These features are not very obvious and the people don’t care about them, even when they do they can’t use them or don’t know how to use them. They just need to start the voice note and then put their device next to the earpiece. Then, the device will convert the voice note to text which is easy for them to understand.

2. Group invitations

This feature allows users to add people to a group using a phone number or a contact. The user can send a message to the person asking them if they want to be part of the group.

3. Remove group members

This feature allows users to remove members from a group. They can just tap on the person’s name and select the option to remove them from the group.

4. Contact Groups

Contact Groups is a feature that allows users to create groups of their contacts that they want to stay in touch with. They can then send messages or voice notes to the entire group at once.

5. Voice Notes

Voice Notes is a feature that allows users to record and send voice messages. They can also listen to the voice notes that they received from their contacts.
Melbourne varsity to set up India’s first blended academy for international students

The University of Melbourne, Australia, has set up a first-of-its-kind blended academy in India in the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) campus for blended courses in science and humanities. The academy will be the first of its kind in an international university to come up at SPPU.

As part of this joint venture, new BSc blended courses in environment science, physics, chemistry and geology have been introduced from the current academic year. The courses were launched on Friday, said a statement.

“The blended BSc courses will be offered with SPPU, under the University of Melbourne’s Learning and Teaching will be the first academy of an international university to come up at SPPU,” the statement said.

HCL Technologies start pact with MADC, to create 8,000 jobs

HCL Technologies has signed a pact with Maharashtra Airport Development Corporation (MADC) for expansion of its Kolhapur campus. The agreement is aimed at creating a move that will help create over 8,000 new jobs.

As part of the MoU (memorandum of understanding), HCL will acquire 90 acres of land to add to the existing 50-acre campus in MIHAN, Nagpur, a statement said.

HCL Technologies started its business operations in Nagpur in 2014 and already has more than 800 employees servicing global accounts.

HCL’s R&D centre delivers a spectrum of services including application development, product engineering, BPO, IT services management, as well as the company’s internal enabling functions.

The campus, when fully operational, will employ over 8,000 personnel, the statement said. “Our IT sector has contributed immensely to help make it the most hospitable and provocative city in the world. This expansion of the HCL campus in Nagpur will provide many job opportunities and promote growth and development in the city. Minister for Road Trans- port and Highways Nitin Gadkari said.”

HCL Technologies has also announced the launch of Tech Bee – a work-intro- duced career programme.

This drive will offer opportunities in the domain of non-engineering, diploma students as well as students who have completed Class XII to explore career oppor- tunities in science.

“Our expansion in Nag- pur is going to be part of our growth strategy to expand and bring global op- portunities for students beyond the large metropoli- tans in the country. Our endeavour is to bring global IT careers to you without having you to move out of your homes or pay heavy tuition fees,” HCL Tel- er Operations Chief Revenue Officer Apparao VY said.

For students who have com- pleted Class XII.

After completion of the two years, the students will be deployed at HCL Technologies. They will also have an option to pursue courses in environment science, physics, chemis- try and geology has been approved by the SPPU. The fac- ulty from the University of Melbourne, Aus- tralia that the course will be offered at SPPU. The idea is to have student exchanges and to encourage courses with new subjects that can be offered at SPPU. The course will have 23 top- rated universities.

SPPU said. The idea is to turn the existing 50-acre campus into a high-end campus for international students.

The curriculum will include topics such as research study, epidemiologi- cal and bio-statistical considerations in designing research study, planning and conducting research, designing data collection tools, writing a research protocol and publication ethics.

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Daily Edio

IN FOCUS

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Rupees losses against UAE dirham

Dubai: The Indian rupee fell against the UAE dirham and the US dollar and the Indian Rupee in a falling trend against the UAE Dirham.

AUD/US: The Australian dollar has remained strong against the US dollar and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

SPEL: The Swiss franc has been stable against the US dollar and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

EUR/USD: The Euro has been stable against the US dollar and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

GBP/USD: The British pound has been stable against the US dollar and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

AUD/JPY: The Australian dollar has remained strong against the Japanese yen and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

GBP/JPY: The British pound has been stable against the Japanese yen and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

EUR/JPY: The Euro has been stable against the Japanese yen and has not shown any marked trend against the UAE dirham.

“Overnight tenant

www.thenational.ae
SBI plans to establish nearly 10 lakh YONO Cash Points

In an effort to promote digital transactions, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the transaction timings for Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) by one hour. You are allowed to transfer money through RTGS from 8 am to 7:30 am. According to the RBI, the new transaction timings will be applicable from August 26.

Federal Bank ties up with Lulu Money

Federal Bank has ventured into a tie-up with Lulu Money – a leading financial services company, to facilitate instant money transfers to India. The ATM network of Federal Bank has operations across 200 branches worldwide. Speaking at the occasion, Ravi Ranjit, Vice Presi- dent & Head-International said, “We are pleased to announce a new partnership with Lulu Financial Services (Hong Kong) Ltd to extend our international money transfer services to our customers. A system that is meant for high-value and low-value transactions will be introduced through this tie-up. The minimum amount that can be transferred will be Rs 2,000 and Rs 100, respectively. We are confident that this new service will be popular among our customers who operate in the expatriate and international remittances segment.”

Sriram City Union Finance raises Rs 900 crore via NCDS

The Reserve Bank of India has granted a permission to a wholly owned subsidiary of Shriram City Union Finance Ltd (SFCUF) to tap the domestic debt market. The subsidiary company, SFCUF Capital Pvt Ltd is planning to make an offering of a retail convertible debenture in the amount of Rs 900 crore. The issue, which offers an internal rating of up to 9:65:pm per annum, will be closed on or before September 19, with an option of early closure or extension. The investment tenors comprise three, five and seven-year options and cumulative options for two years and monthly, annual and semi-annual options for three years and five years.

The NCDS have been rated AA+(stable) by Crave and AA (stable) by Crisil. The base issue size, excluding additional issue, is Rs 21,000 crore with an option to retain oversubscription. The Central Government of India or any of its departments is not providing any guarantee or security to the issue.

The future growth of SFCUF, according to Chairman and Managing Director M K Surana, “is based on three bases.

Entering into new business

“We will focus on the core areas of refining and marketing, expanding our presence in the lubricants business. That’s why we are setting up a new unit in Ghaziabad. We are also expanding our presence in the marketing business. The company currently has 11 locations in the country in the Middle East and Africa and has set up a wholly owned unit in Dubai.

“Our future growth emphasis will be on better operational efficiency, better margins on existing business, expanding capacity, newer products, new technologies, natural gas, renewables and bio-products,” he added.

Siddharth Motwani, Founder & CEO of BookMyForex, said: “We are excited to bring to the foreign exchange market in India, a quick and easy way for people who have urgent transactions to complete their money transfer. So far, BookMyForex has returned the international losses of up to Rs 20,000 per customer. With this, we think that in the times of a 17pc increase in refining capacity, much higher mar- keting investments and the fact that our profitability should be doubled of what we are today.” Surana added.

BookMyForex, YES Bank tie up for foreign exchange travel card

BookMyForex, a leading online foreign exchange services company, and YES Bank Limited, a Systemically Important Domestic Regional Rural Bank have signed a strategic partnership to launch a new foreign exchange travel card. Thecard will be available in three different denominations of $100, $500 and $1,000.

Tiger Global invests $150 million in Yatra

One of the latest big-ticket investments in the travel sector was the $150 million investment by Tiger Global in Yatra. The deal was announced in December 2018. The funds will be used to strengthen the company’s core areas of refining and marketing, including small enterprise/ small business, petrochemicals, and shipping.

The company is exploring the possibility of going for another ultra mega solar power plant in Rajasthan, the details of which will be announced in due course. Customers can visit any of the branches in Mumbai, to continue the entire process of the service.

Similarly, Bansal and Soorma, who have always embraced innovative technology that gives rise to services, are bullish on the growth of this service. Customers can visit any of the branches in Mumbai, to continue the entire process of the service.
In When Singapore don’t miss lunch at Komala Vilas

*India Today*

**Digital divide**

E ven as hunt for a new investor for the bankrupt Jet Airways is underway, the government has to have extended the validity of all Jet Air-ways’ slots allocated to other carriers by another three months.

“By 2030, we estimate that the user will primarily be a mobile phone user, from a billion new users present in the world,” the report said. “By 2030, we estimate that the user will primarily be a mobile phone user, from a billion new users present in the world.”

The digital disruption has freed a fist of busi-nesses, including entertainment from an enti-while B2C2 model, to a D2C (direct to consumer) model. “We won’t shut down D2C and the e-commerce,” said Raja. “We want to make sure we keep our customers who would walk in, pay for content online,” the report added. “By 2030, we estimate that the user will primarily be a mobile phone user, from a billion new users present in the world.”

The government is increasingly willing to accept the rising challenge of the digital age. “The brick-and-mortar retail is in the process of vanishing,” the report added. “By 2030, we estimate that the user will primarily be a mobile phone user, from a billion new users present in the world.”

Our initial hypothesis is that the user will increasingly be a mobile phone user. “By 2030, we estimate that the user will primarily be a mobile phone user, from a billion new users present in the world.”

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