

July - September 2025



Summer Xplore The Edge

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How are countries and markets reacting to Trump tariffs?

President Donald Trump's administration has unveiled a range of new tariffs to take effect in one week on most US trading partners.

Nearly 70 countries face Trump's import duties that were due to come into force on August 1; most were delayed at the last minute and will begin on August 7.

Trump sees the tariffs as an economic tool of power that will put US exporters in a stronger position, by keeping out imports and encouraging domestic manufacturing.

While the situation remains dynamic, different levies will be imposed on countries, ranging from 15 percent on Japan and the European Union to 39 percent on Switzerland.

Here's how countries and markets have reacted to the news:

India

Trump on Wednesday said Indian goods would face a 25 percent US tariff starting August 1, slightly below an earlier threatened level.

The country would also face an unspecified "penalty" over New Delhi's purchases of Russian weapons and energy, Trump said on social media.

India is engaged in trade talks with the US, an Indian government source with knowledge of the discussions told the Reuters news agency on Friday.

"We remain focused on the substantive agenda that our two countries have committed to and are confident that the relationship will continue to move forward," India's foreign ministry said in a statement.

China

China has warned that US protectionism "harms the interests of all parties".

"The Chinese side's opposition to tariffs has been consistent and clear," Foreign Ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun said.

"There is no winner in a tariff war or trade war," he added.

With no permanent deal in place, Beijing and Washington are negotiating a deal over tariffs. A 30 percent combined tariff will, however, be applied, following an agreed pause until August 12. That followed an earlier escalation to a 145 percent tariff on imports.

Taiwan

Taiwanese President William Lai Ching-te has called its 20 percent tariff announced by Trump "temporary ... with the possibility of further reductions should an agreement be reached".

The US president had threatened to hit the island with a 32 percent tax and possible duties on its huge semiconductor shipments.

Japan

A tariff of 15 percent agreed last week between Japan and Washington – down from a threatened 25 percent



– is due to be applied from August 7.

"We continue to urge the US to take prompt measures to implement the agreement, including lowering tariffs on automobile and auto parts," Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said on Friday.

The Bank of Japan (BOJ), however, warned that profits of Japanese firms are likely to fall this year because of US tariffs, leading them to downgrade capital expenditure plans.

Automakers have swallowed the rising costs from the tariffs instead of passing them on to US consumers, as seen in a fall of roughly 20 percent in export prices since April, the BOJ said in a full version of its quarterly outlook report.

"This suggests Japanese automakers are averting price hikes that may lead to falling sales volume, at the cost of seeing profitability worsen," the BOJ added.

South Korea

The US tariff on South Korean imports will be 15 percent, Trump said on Wednesday, down from a threatened 25 percent. But there is no written agreement yet on a trade deal, the Asian nation's trade minister said on Friday.

Speaking to reporters as he arrived home from a visit to Washington, Minister Yeo Han-koo said the two sides had an oral negotiation because of time constraints.

"What we felt during this negotiation is that the US trade environment is fundamentally changing. This is completely different from the first Trump term," Yeo said of the deal.

"I think we are entering a new normal era. So, although we have overcome this crisis, we cannot be relieved, because we do not know when we will face pressure from tariffs or non-tariff measures again."

Malaysia

Malaysia's Trade Ministry has said its rate, down

from a threatened 25 percent, was a positive outcome without compromising on what it called "red line" items.

Thailand

Thailand's finance minister said the reduction from 36 to 19 percent in tariffs, would help his country's struggling economy face global challenges ahead.

"It helps maintain Thailand's competitiveness on the global stage, boosts investor confidence and opens the door to economic growth, increased income and new opportunities," Pichai Chunhavajira said.

Cambodia

The US on Friday slashed the tariff rate for Cambodia to 19 percent from earlier levies of 36 percent and 49 percent, a major boost for its crucial garments sector, its biggest economic driver and source of about a million manufacturing jobs.

"If the US maintained 49 percent or 36 percent, that industry would collapse, in my opinion," Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and top trade negotiator Sun Chanthol told the Reuters news agency in an interview.

European Union

The EU's trade chief, Maros Sefcovic, said the bloc's exporters now benefit from a "more competitive position" following a framework agreement between the EU and the US, although he added that "the work continues.

"The new US tariffs reflect the first results of the EU-US deal, especially the 15 percent all-inclusive tariff cap," Sefcovic wrote in a post on social media platform X.

"This reinforces stability for businesses as well as trust in the transatlantic economy," he added.

New Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com/>

Kuwait to redesign legal hiring process after violations found

Kuwait's Minister of Justice and Chair of the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies Nasser Al-Sumait, has ordered the institute to conduct a comprehensive study to overhaul the selection process for entry-level legal researcher roles, which qualify candidates to become junior prosecutors.

The move comes days after the minister announced the complete cancellation of the current admissions cycle, citing serious irregularities in the process. "In response to the complaints and grievances submitted regarding the recent admissions procedures, and the observations raised about the integrity and accuracy of their results, a review of the documents revealed violations that tainted the work of the selection committee and its supporting team," Al-Sumait said in a statement released by the ministry this week. He added that the flaws in the admissions process were so severe that "they cast a shadow over the entire acceptance process to the extent that no subsequent



correction or review could be of any value." As a result, all actions and results issued by the admissions

committee and its team — formed under ministerial decisions 1602 and 1603 of 2024 — were nullified.

Rigorous framework

In a statement to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Thursday, the minister explained that the newly commissioned study aims to establish "a rigorous institutional framework" for selecting legal researchers. "This mandate reflects the ministry's keenness to uphold transparency and integrity in appointment procedures, and to capitalize on the institute's accumulated national expertise in training and preparing judicial and legal talent," he said. The minister underscored that this effort is part of a broader vision to modernize the justice system based on competence and equal opportunity, "in a way that reinforces society's trust in state institutions."

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

Kuwait vows protection for migrant workers as it reviews related laws



With nearly 3 million migrant workers living in Kuwait, the government is reviewing its labor and residency laws to strengthen protections and align with global standards, senior officials said Wednesday on the occasion of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.

Ambassador Sheikha Jawaher Ibrahim Al-Duaij Al-

Sabah, Assistant Foreign Minister for Human Rights Affairs, said Kuwait is reviewing several key laws — including those governing residency, private sector labor, domestic work and anti-trafficking — to better align with international standards.

"The number of migrant workers in Kuwait is estimated at around 2.95 million, which calls for increased public awareness, for employers to uphold their legal and ethical responsibilities, and for the state to play its role in providing a safe work environment and ensuring legal protection," she said.

Sheikha Jawaher said Kuwait's approach to combatting human trafficking includes strengthening legislation and improving coordination through the Permanent National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. The committee brings together government entities, with the Foreign Ministry playing an active role.

Separately, Minister of Justice and head of the national anti-trafficking committee Nasser Al-Sumait said Kuwait's response to trafficking must be a continuous institutional effort. "Protecting people from trafficking is no longer a choice, it's a national responsibility," he told KUNA.

He said Kuwait's strategy balances prevention, legislation, and victim care, rooted in transparency and accountability, while adapting to modern digital challenges. Public awareness, he added, remains the "first line of defense." Kuwait established the anti-trafficking committee in 2018 with a vision of creating a society free of trafficking and migrant smuggling. The United Nations observes July 30 each year to raise awareness about human trafficking and support victims' rights.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

Kuwait's security plan for 2025 aims to support safer tourism, investment climate: Interior Ministry

Kuwait's Ministry of Interior reviewed the implementation of sweeping legal, digital, and security reforms under its 2025 strategic plan during a media briefing on Wednesday. The plan aims to create a safer, more attractive environment for investment and tourism while strengthening the country's security apparatus, he said.

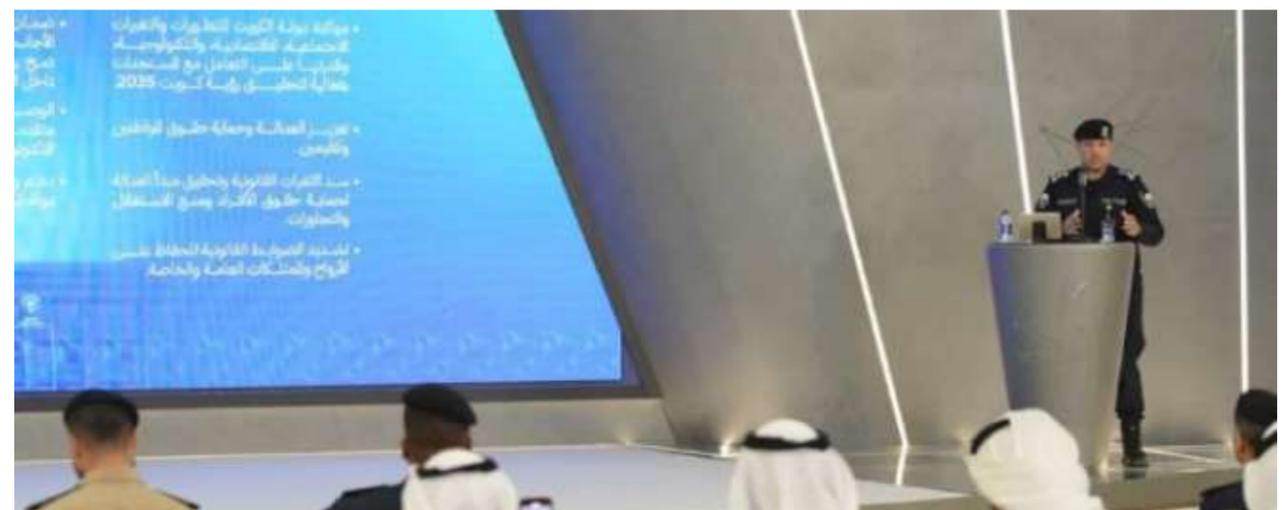
"Our strategic plan is designed to keep pace with social, economic, and technological changes," said Brig Gen Nasser Buslaib, Director General of Relations and Media at the ministry. "It boosts our ability to respond effectively to new developments and ensures that the security establishment is fully aligned with the New Kuwait 2035 vision."

Harsher drug law

He outlined amendments to Kuwait's traffic and residency laws, with upcoming changes to narcotics legislation still in progress. "The plan aims to reinforce justice and protection for both citizens and residents and close legal loopholes to safeguard against exploitation and abuse," he said.

Buslaib noted that the new residency law addresses labor market demands, protects worker and employer rights, and includes clear regulations to combat human trafficking. He also highlighted the e-visa platform—Kuwait Visa—which streamlines access to various visa types, including tourism, business, and family visit visas.

He previewed the forthcoming drug law, which aims to crack down on trafficking and improve support for addicts. The law proposes "harsher penalties for drug-related crimes" and grants authorities expanded



powers to dismantle trafficking networks. It also outlines a national rehab and reintegration plan for addicts. The law's first draft was completed in April and submitted to the Cabinet for review.

In 2024, 39 drug-related deaths were recorded. In just the first half of 2025, the ministry reported 1,451 drug cases, 261 addiction complaints, 1,864 accused individuals and 11 deaths.

16.3m biometrics

A key focus of the ministry's efforts has been digital transformation. According to Buslaib, the ministry now offers 37 services through the "Sahel" app, with over 30 million transactions processed. "This transition has simplified transactions, reducing the need to physically visit government agencies for paperwork," he said.

The ministry has also ramped up biometric data

collection, registering over 16.3 million biometric fingerprints covering citizens, residents, and visitors. "This project boosts border security and helps detect identity fraud," Buslaib added. "It has already helped reduce document forgery and raised operational efficiency at borders and airports. It also helped authorities find wanted individuals, protecting society from crime."

Drop in violations

He also introduced the Coast Guard's new unmanned smart boats, capable of long missions without human operators. These vessels conduct surveillance, track suspicious maritime activity, and support rescue operations—enhancing maritime security and protecting natural resources.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

How To Spot Fake Airline Promotions In Kuwait

Online scammers are stepping up their game, and thousands across

Kuwait could be at risk. Fraudsters are now flooding social media with fake giveaways, too-

good-to-be-true investment offers, and forged airline ticket promotions—all designed to steal your data or even your money. The tricks are so convincing that some major brands, including leading airlines, have been forced to temporarily halt their digital advertising campaigns to prevent users from falling prey to these cyber traps.

So, what exactly are these scams—and how can you spot one before it's too late?

According to cybersecurity experts and brand protection analysts, today's fraudsters aren't just amateurs working from the shadows. They're running slick operations using fake websites, AI-generated visuals, and even trending hashtags to appear credible.

Popular, trusted brands—especially airlines, banks, and government agencies—are frequently impersonated. And while the logos and design might look official, what's lurking behind is anything but.

Growing fake ad epidemic

From false airline giveaways to bogus discounts, here's how cybercriminals are targeting unsuspecting users:

- Hijacking hashtags: Criminals ride on trending social media tags or brand mentions to give their fake posts a visibility boost.
- Lookalike domains: <https://kuwait-airways.com/> or <https://jazeraairways.com/> might seem legitimate at a glance, but they redirect users to phishing pages designed to collect sensitive information or banking credentials.
- Tempting bait: From free flight tickets or discounted tickets to India/Egypt/Dubai to promises of doubling your investment in Kuwaiti dinars—if it sounds too good to be true, it almost certainly is.



How to protect yourself from fake ads

Kuwait users don't need to be tech experts to stay safe. Here's what to watch for:

Verify the profile: Only engage with verified social media pages with the blue checkmark. If the page has low engagement or was recently created, avoid it altogether.

Scrutinise usernames on social media: Fraudsters often use slightly altered usernames - like @Kuwaitairways_official instead of @KuwaitAirways. Always double-check before clicking.

Hover before clicking: On a computer, hover over a link to preview its real destination. On mobile, use tools like ScamAdviser.com to assess a site's safety.

Ignore dream deals: Airline tickets for free or instant returns on financial investments rarely come without strings. Stick to offers announced on official channels or visit airlines' websites or download the airlines' apps

Report and alert: Platforms like Instagram and Facebook allow users to report misleading ads. Always notify the real brand via their website or official contact channels.

Kuwaiti officials sound the alarm

With summer travel in full swing, the stakes are rising. Kuwait's Ministry of Interior has echoed warnings, urging citizens and expats to avoid falling for fake promotional offers generally found via social platforms unless fully verified.

The Ministry of Interior and Kuwait Banks have jointly flagged these fraudulent campaigns as a "major digital threat," especially during the holiday season when many are making last-minute travel and financial decisions.

Still, officials urge vigilance. Always check the sender's email address, and when in doubt, visit the company's official website directly instead of clicking a link.

New Courtesy: <https://www.arabtimesonline.com/>

Kuwait opens doors to GCC foreign residents

Interior Minister Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah issued a decision on Sunday allowing all foreigners residing in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to enter Kuwait by obtaining a tourist visa on arrival at all entry points. The decision was published in the official gazette Kuwait Al-Youm on Sunday and is effective immediately. Under a recently issued decision, a tourist visa is valid for 90 days. According to the decision, GCC foreign residents must have a residency permit in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain valid for at least six months.

The decision also abolishes regulations issued in 2008 and which allowed only certain categories of GCC residents like doctors, engineers, judges, executives and others to avail of the tourist visa on arrival. Around 25 million foreigners residing in the five GCC member states can benefit from the Kuwaiti visa on arrival. Nationals of most countries in Europe, North America, some Latin American countries and leading Asian nations like China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and others have been allowed to obtain tourist visas on arrival for many years.

Over the past 15 months, Kuwait has eased restrictions on visas to foreigners in a bid to open up for visitors. It has eased restrictions on family visas allowing expats working in Kuwait to bring their close relatives like spouses, children, parents and others to visit them for a maximum of one month. It has also made it easier for hotels to sponsor visitors and for companies to obtain business visas for their foreign partners.



Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister, Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah, issued the new directive through the country's official gazette Kuwait Alyoum on Sunday, August 10, 2025. The announcement confirms that any foreign national residing in a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) country, that is, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, or Kuwait itself, is now eligible to

receive a tourist visa on arrival, as long as their residency permit is valid for at least six months.

The visa is granted directly at the port of entry into Kuwait and does not restrict eligibility based on nationality, provided the residency criteria are met.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

GRAND HYPERMARKET OPENS NEW STORE IN FAHAHEEL - BLOCK 11 - STREET 54



Kuwait's leading shopping destination, Grand Hypermarket, proudly opened its newest branch in Fahaheel, Block 11, Street 54, on 12th August 2025 at 4:30 PM with unbeatable opening offers and a wide array of quality products.

The inauguration was graced by Mr. Jassim Mohammed Khamees Al Sharrah (Chairman, Grand Hyper Kuwait), Mr. Ayyoob Kachery (Regional

Director – Kuwait), Mr. Jamal Mohammed Falah Hamad Al Dousari, Mr. Mohammed Al Mutairi, Mr. Salem Al Hamadah, along with Mr. Muhammed Suneer (CEO), Mr. Thehseer Ali (DRO), Mr. Mohamed Aslam (COO), Mr. Amanullah (Director, LAMCO) and other senior team members.

Spanning 29000 sq. ft., the new outlet offers fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, seafood, groceries from

around the world, an in-house bakery, hot food, household essentials, garments, electronics, mobiles, and footwear – all under one roof, with the highest quality and hygiene standards.

With the opening of its 45th store, Grand Hypermarket reaffirms its commitment to delivering an extraordinary shopping experience for Kuwaiti nationals and expatriates alike.

Civil Aviation Authority launched

An Amiri decree was issued on Sunday launching Kuwait Civil Aviation Authority to replace the Civil Aviation Directorate as an independent body that will have full control over the civil aviation sector and related affairs. Chairman of the Authority Sheikh Humoud Mubarak Al-Sabah said the law is in line with the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization and other related regional organizations. The new law was issued 65 years after issuing two civil aviation laws that regulate civil aviation and aviation accidents, Sheikh Humoud said.

He added the new law will boost the independence of the civil aviation sector and keep pace with the best international practices in regulating and managing the civil aviation sector. The law will also enable the civil aviation sector to apply the highest international standards toward a safe and sustainable aviation sector, he said. Articles of the new law consider the Chicago Convention, the convention on international civil aviation, its annexes and amendments, and related international and regional agreements, as an integral part of the law. Under the law, the Authority will have full control of all civil airports, landing of aircraft, civil aviation safety and other related affairs.

In the meantime, the interior ministry on Sunday called on thousands of women who were stripped of their Kuwaiti citizenship to speed up procedures to reclaim their original nationality from their embassies. The ministry recalled in a statement that the last date



for obtaining their old citizenship or at least starting the procedures for that, is August 31, and threatened those who fail to comply risk losing a number of features given to them by the state after losing their citizenship.

Kuwait has revoked the citizenship of thousands of foreign women who were naturalized after getting married to Kuwaiti husbands. The government said it will provide them with certain advantages like

keeping their government jobs, pensions and others if they obtain their original nationality from their embassies. Meanwhile, amendments to the penal code were issued on Sunday stating that officials who obstruct or refuse to apply final court verdicts risk a jail term of up to two years and a fine not exceeding KD 20,000, toughening the penalty against officials who reject to implement court rulings

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

23 injured as amusement park ride collapses in Saudi Arabia

At least 23 people were injured, including several young women, three of whom are in critical condition, when an amusement park ride collapsed on Wednesday evening in the Al Hada district of Taif, a popular mountain resort city in western Saudi Arabia, according to local authorities.

The accident occurred as the ride was in operation and loaded with visitors. Witnesses described scenes of panic and disbelief as the structure suddenly gave way, sending riders crashing down and leaving bystanders screaming. Emergency responders, including civil defence teams and paramedics from the Saudi Red Crescent, quickly secured the site and transported the injured to nearby hospitals, where the most serious cases remain under intensive observation.

Saudi authorities have since ordered the immediate closure of the amusement park pending the outcome of the investigation. Officials said investigators from municipal authorities, the General Entertainment Authority, and security services have opened a wide-ranging inquiry to determine the cause of the failure and whether the park met required safety standards and technical regulations.



The collapse drew swift attention across the kingdom after a video circulated on social media showing the ride shattering mid-operation. The footage captures the moment of the breakdown, followed by the sound of terrified screams, intensifying public concern about the state of safety in leisure venues.

As of late Wednesday, the area around the ride remained cordoned off while investigators continued their work.

New Courtesy: <https://gulfnews.com/>

UAE and Saudi travellers fuel sharp travel spike to Jordan by mid-2025

Jordan is fast becoming a go-to destination for UAE and GCC travellers, with the first half of 2025 showing a surge in tourist numbers — even as parts of the region continue to face geopolitical tension.

According to the Jordan Tourism Board (JTB), the Kingdom welcomed 2.7 million overnight tourists from January to June — a 14% jump compared to the same period in 2024. And travellers from the Gulf are leading that rise.

Saudi Arabia topped the list of GCC countries visiting Jordan, sending 564,000 overnight visitors — up 8% from last year. UAE residents, too, are discovering Jordan in greater numbers, with visits rising 15% to 10,000 tourists in H1 2025.

Despite a slight dip from Kuwait and other Western markets, the tourism board sees this Gulf market growth as a vote of confidence in Jordan's safety, hospitality, and shared cultural values.

UAE's next holiday hotspot? Abu Dhabi invests big in Oman's Salalah coast

Picture this: white-sand beaches, lush mountain backdrops, and a luxury coastal resort backed by one of the UAE's biggest development funds. That's what's now under way in Dhofar, Oman, thanks to a major new investment by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD).

New resort, broader vision

But this isn't just about one resort. It's part of a wider story — a growing economic and tourism partnership between the UAE and Oman that's quietly reshaping travel, trade, and job creation across the region.

The ADFD recently broke ground on a massive Dh764.5 million (OMR 80 million) Integrated Tourism Complex in Salalah, one of Oman's most scenic and increasingly popular destinations. The first phase of this mega-development will stretch across 604,000 square metres and feature:

- A luxury beachfront resort with over 120 rooms and private chalets
- A marina and recreational waterfront
- Revitalised beaches and coastal zones
- Roads, utilities, and supporting tourism infrastructure

When complete, the entire project will cover 2.5 million square metres, transforming Salalah's coastline into a fully integrated tourism zone — a move that fits squarely within Oman Vision 2040, the country's national roadmap to economic diversification.



Oman gets more attractive

For residents of the UAE, Oman has long been an easy escape — with its cool summer climate in Salalah, mountain hikes, and stunning drives just a few hours away. But this investment signals a new chapter.

By helping build luxury tourism hubs just across the

border, Abu Dhabi is making it easier — and more appealing — for UAE travellers to explore Oman through familiar, high-quality experiences.

Think staycations with a twist: road-trippable resorts, homegrown hospitality, and smoother cross-border tourism.

New Courtesy: <https://gulfnews.com/>

'Blood moon' to illuminate skies over Saudi Arabia and Arab region on September 7

A total lunar eclipse will be visible across Saudi Arabia and much of the Arab world on September 7, 2025, according to the Jeddah Astronomy Society. The eclipse, expected to captivate skywatchers across the region, will be observable in several locations in the kingdom, including the Red Sea's Umluj Islands, Amath and Riyadh.

During the event, the moon will pass entirely into the Earth's shadow, likely taking on a reddish hue — a phenomenon popularly known as a "blood moon."

The 2025 eclipse will be one of several lunar events over the coming years. A partial lunar eclipse is forecast for August 28, 2026, followed by a penumbral lunar eclipse on February 20, 2027, according to Time and Date.





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China Southern Airlines and Ethiopian Airlines Sign MoU to Strengthen Strategic Cooperation

China Southern Airlines, one of Asia's leading carriers, and Ethiopian Airlines, Africa's largest and most successful airline, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand and deepen their strategic partnership.

The MoU outlines a commitment to enhanced collaboration in areas such as codeshare flights, network planning, cargo services, and joint marketing initiatives, reinforcing both airlines' presence in the growing China-Africa aviation corridor.

This partnership aims to:

Increase connectivity between key destinations in China and Africa

Enhance passenger convenience through improved transfer options and coordinated flight schedules

Foster cargo cooperation to facilitate trade between the two regions

Explore joint training and technical support opportunities



Mr. Han Wen Sheng, CEO of China Southern Airlines, remarked, "This collaboration with Ethiopian Airlines is a strategic milestone. It will allow us to offer our customers more seamless travel options and help stimulate bilateral trade and tourism."

Mr. Mesfin Tasew, CEO of Ethiopian Airlines, added, "We are proud to partner with China Southern, a globally respected airline. Together, we can

strengthen the air bridge between China and Africa, supporting the growing demand in both passenger and cargo services. Through this cooperation, we will drive greater network integration and provide travelers with more efficient and personalized services between China and Africa."

This MoU marks a significant step toward building a stronger, more connected future between two of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets.

Drukair Officially Signs IOSA – Marking a Major Milestone in Aviation Safety

Drukair – Royal Bhutan Airlines has officially signed and been registered under the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) program, marking a major milestone in its commitment to the highest global standards of airline safety, security, and operational efficiency.

The IOSA certification, recognized globally as the benchmark for airline operational management and control systems, is a rigorous audit process developed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). With this achievement, Drukair joins the ranks of elite carriers around the world who adhere to internationally recognized safety practices.

The signing was celebrated in a formal ceremony attended by senior officials from Drukair and IATA, where both parties expressed their shared commitment to enhancing aviation safety in the region.

Mr. Tandi Wangchuk, CEO of Drukair, stated: "This certification is a testament to our team's dedication to operating with the highest safety and quality standards. As Bhutan's national carrier, we take immense pride in achieving IOSA registration and reaffirm our commitment to providing safe and reliable air travel."

The IOSA program evaluates over 900 standards and recommended practices, covering all critical areas of an airline's operations, including:

Organization and Management System

- Flight Operations



- Operational Control and Flight Dispatch
- Aircraft Engineering and Maintenance
- Cabin Operations
- Ground Handling
- Cargo Operations

- Security Management

This development reinforces Drukair's position as a trusted and responsible airline, while also opening doors to greater partnerships, codeshare agreements, and enhanced global recognition.

IndiGo expands European network with launch of London flights

India's IndiGo will launch daily flights to London Heathrow – its third European point – as it prepares to induct more Boeing 787-9s for its long-haul operations.

The airline will commence flights to London on 26 October with a 787 damp-leased from Norse Atlantic Airways. It did not state which Indian city it will be operating the flights from.

The launch of London flights comes as IndiGo prepares to further expand its international network. Airline CEO Pieter Elbers had previously said IndiGo is looking to fly to Copenhagen and Athens in Europe, as well as Siem Reap and four unnamed



Central Asian cities this year.

IndiGo says it will be taking five more 787s from Norse Atlantic under a damp-lease arrangement. It

already operates a sole 787-9 to two European points: Amsterdam and Manchester, from Mumbai.

Separately, IndiGo will also be introducing its 'IndiGoStretch' business-class product on flights to Singapore (from Mumbai and Delhi) and Dubai (from Delhi).

'IndiGoStretch' features Recaro's R5 business class seats and are found on a small number of Airbus A321s. IndiGo has configured these two-class A321s with 12 business-class seats, and 208 economy-class seats.

New Courtesy: www.flightglobal.com

Cebu Pacific Marks 20 Years in Hong Kong with Tribute to OFWs

Cebu Pacific (PSE: CEB), the Philippines' leading carrier, celebrated the 20th anniversary of its Hong Kong office by paying tribute to overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), recognizing their invaluable contributions to the airline's growth and the nation's progress.

As part of the celebration, CEB presented its Values Awards to five exceptional OFWs who embody the airline's values of Integrity, Service, Trust, Courage, and the Best of Filipino Spirit. It was the first time the award, traditionally given to CEB employees, was extended to the public.

"OFWs have been with us from the very beginning. They're not only our most loyal customers but also a part of the Cebu Pacific family," said Candice Iyog, CEB Chief Marketing and Customer Experience Officer. "This tribute is our way of thanking them for the big roles they play in our journey and our nation's progress."

The awards were presented during Gawad Parangal Para sa Bagong Bayani, hosted by Philippine Alliance—the largest Filipino community in Hong Kong. Held on June 15, the event served as a fitting culmination of this year's Migrant Workers' Day celebration.

Each awardee received a plaque of recognition and a complimentary CEB international roundtrip ticket.



"Being recognized for our efforts gives us a deep sense of pride," said Dante Berido, Philippine Alliance Chairman. "It means a lot to be seen, valued, and celebrated—not just as workers, but as people who make a difference."

As part of its long-term commitment to OFWs, CEB continues to invest in dedicated initiatives such as the upcoming OFW Processing Center at Mactan-Cebu International Airport (MCIA), as well as ongoing collaborations with the Department of Migrant

Workers (DMW) and partner non-government organizations (NGOs).

The airline also recently launched Juan Flight Closer to Home, a campaign offering aviation engineering roles and full relocation support for OFWs looking to return and rebuild their careers in the Philippines.

With a network spanning 37 domestic and 26 international destinations across Asia, Australia, and the Middle East, CEB continues to connect Filipinos to home and to opportunities around the world.

IndiGo Commences Operations on its First Long-Haul Route with Direct Flights between Mumbai and Manchester

IndiGo is the only airline to offer direct connectivity between India and Manchester

Service operated on Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft with enhanced onboard amenities

National, July 01, 2025: IndiGo, India's largest and most preferred airline, today inaugurated its first ever, direct long-haul service connecting Mumbai, India and Manchester, United Kingdom. This is a significant move that paves the way for IndiGo to become a global airline, while reinforcing its commitment to offering enhanced connectivity between India and key global markets, and also signifies successful execution of IndiGo's internationalisation strategy – 'Towards New Heights and across New Frontiers'. IndiGo will operate 3x weekly flights between Mumbai and Manchester, making it the only airline to offer connectivity between the two cities. This new direct connection will significantly enhance accessibility between Mumbai, India's financial capital, and Manchester, a major economic and cultural hub in Northern England.

The service is expected to benefit business travellers, tourists, students, and the Indian diaspora residing in the United Kingdom, fostering stronger economic, educational, and cultural ties. Mr. Pieter Elbers, Chief Executive Officer, IndiGo, said, "As we embark on our long-haul journey with the launch of direct flights between Mumbai and Manchester, this moment marks

our transition from a successful regional carrier to one with growing global relevance. This new service, operated by our Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, damp-leased from Norse Atlantic Airways, ensures greater

confidence that this route will not only serve the large diaspora but also strengthen the economic and cultural ties between the two countries."

The Mumbai–Manchester route will be operated by



comfort, seamless connectivity, and choice to our customers. We are also delighted to offer specially curated complimentary hot meals and beverages to all passengers, with an elevated dining and service experience. This milestone is also a reflection of IndiGo's growing global ambition and its contribution to India's emergence as a global aviation hub. We are

IndiGo's Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft (on damp lease from Norse Atlantic Airways) featuring a two-class cabin configuration comprising 56 IndiGoStretch seats and 282 Economy seats. All seats feature seatback screens for in-flight entertainment - around 300 hours of content with movies and TV shows across a balanced mix of comedy, romance, drama and action.

Air New Zealand appoints Nikhil Ravishankar as next Chief Executive Officer

Currently the airline's Chief Digital Officer, Nikhil will officially take over as CEO on 20 October 2025. In the nearly five years that Nikhil has been at Air New Zealand he has gained a deep understanding of the aviation sector, and the airline. He has also led major advances in the airline's technology backbone, loyalty programme and customer proposition.

Air New Zealand Board Chair, Dame Therese Walsh, says the appointment marks the beginning of the next chapter for the airline, reflecting the strong momentum underway and a new generation of



leadership for the future.

Ravishankar, who currently holds the role of Chief Digital Officer, joined the airline nearly five years ago. During his tenure, he has played a key role in enhancing the airline's technology platforms, loyalty programmes and customer experience. The board highlighted that his experience, digital acumen, and leadership style align with the airline's evolving needs. Board Chair Dame Therese Walsh noted the leadership transition comes at a time of renewed growth.

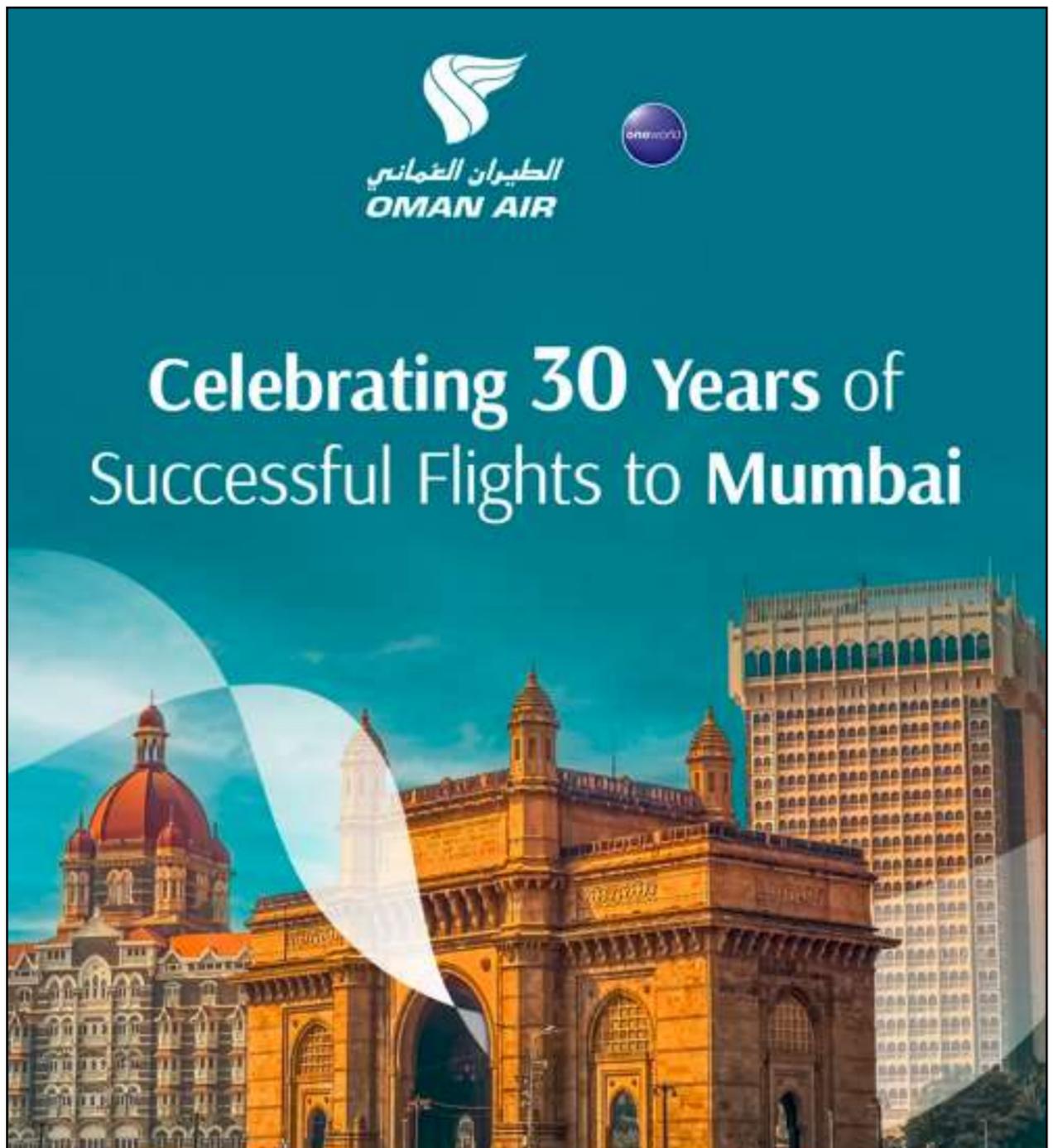
New Courtesy: <https://travel.economictimes.indiatimes.com>

Oman Air Celebrates 30 Years of Service to Mumbai

Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, proudly marks 30 years of operations between Muscat and Mumbai. The second Indian destination to be introduced after Thiruvananthapuram in 1993, Mumbai has since grown into a cornerstone of the airline's network with 12 flights per week. Over the last three decades Oman Air has significantly expanded its footprint across India, strengthening air links that support business, tourism, and community ties between the two countries. Currently, the airline operates 168 flights per week between Muscat and 10 cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Lucknow, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, Calicut and Goa.

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

The milestone comes at an exciting time for Oman Air with its recent entry into the oneworld® alliance. With access to a network of over 900 destinations worldwide, the airline is now better positioned than ever to offer its Indian guests' greater global connectivity, streamlined travel benefits, and enhanced service. Meanwhile, Oman Air, which recently won Best Food & Beverage and Best Cabin Service in the Middle East at the Apex 2025 Awards, continues to deliver a guest-centric journey that blends authentic Omani hospitality with world-class service standards.



OMAN AIR JOINS ONEWORLD ALLIANCE

Oman Air has officially joined the oneworld® alliance as its 15th member airline, creating significant new benefits for its guests and elevating Oman's position on the global map. After a more than two-year integration journey, Oman Air now enters oneworld's worldwide network of leading airlines, offering seamless travel to over 900 destinations in 170 countries and territories.

As a full oneworld member airline, Oman Air's top tier guests will gain access to all oneworld priority benefits including a network of nearly 700 Business lounges globally, as well as newly opened oneworld branded lounges in Amsterdam's Schiphol and Seoul's Incheon Airports.

Likewise, Oman Air will provide oneworld Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby customers with a full suite of oneworld benefits including earning and redeeming miles, earning status points, priority check-in and boarding and lounge access.

Bringing the world closer to Oman, Oman Air's entry into the alliance significantly enhances global access to the Sultanate. Through seamless connectivity across the airline's 15 world-class member airlines, travellers from key markets like the United States, Japan and Australia, can now enjoy smoother, more convenient journeys to Oman.

"Oman Air is honoured to be joining the oneworld alliance, whose members and global footprint represent the best of what international travellers want to experience," said Con Korfiatis, CEO of Oman Air. "We are thrilled to be able to welcome oneworld customers to the Sultanate of Oman to experience our unique culture, stunning mountain excursions,



beautiful beaches, and, above all, the warm hospitality of the Omani people, and equally, to expand opportunities for seamless global travel for guests in Oman."

"We are proud to welcome Oman Air to the oneworld family," added Nat Pieper, CEO of oneworld. "Oman Air brings valuable strategic reach and award-winning product and service to the alliance. This partnership opens up exciting new connections for our customers, particularly across the Gulf and South Asia, and reinforces oneworld's position as the leading alliance

for international travellers."

The announcement comes as Oman Air continues expanding its network, including the launch of a non-stop Muscat-Amsterdam route from 1 July 2025 and an expanded double daily Muscat-London route starting in October. Oman Air now serves 42 destinations across 22 countries, with onward connections to hundreds more through the oneworld alliance.

Garuda Indonesia and Singapore Airlines Deepen Commercial Cooperation with Enhanced Product Offerings and Customer Benefits

Garuda Indonesia and Singapore Airlines (SIA) will strengthen their long-standing commercial cooperation in August 2025, with the launch of joint sales of fare products, additional codeshare destinations, and reciprocal lounge access.

From August 2025, customers will be able to book flights operated by both airlines for services between Singapore and Indonesia within a single itinerary, offering greater convenience, and a wider range of fare options for travellers.

The two carriers will also expand their codeshare arrangement in August 2025 to offer customers more travel options between Indonesia and Singapore, and beyond. Garuda Indonesia customers will gain access to four additional SIA destinations — Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Delhi in India, as well as Male in the Maldives. SIA customers will be able to connect to popular Garuda Indonesia flights from Denpasar to Labuan Bajo, as well as Jakarta to Labuan Bajo, Lombok, and Manado.

Customers will continue to enjoy existing codeshare options on flights operated by both carriers between Singapore and Denpasar, Jakarta, and Surabaya in Indonesia, as well as SIA operated flights to London (Heathrow), the United Kingdom, and Mumbai, India.

From mid-August 2025, members of GarudaMiles and KrisFlyer frequent flyer programmes will enjoy reciprocal lounge access when travelling between Singapore and Denpasar, Jakarta, and Surabaya. This covers the Garuda Executive, KrisFlyer Gold, and the Business Class SilverKris lounges in Singapore and those destinations. Members will also be able to earn and redeem miles on the new codeshare routes, under



the frequent flyer partnership that was launched in February 2025.

SIA increased its flight frequency between Singapore and Jakarta to nine daily services in May 2025, up from eight. Subject to regulatory approval and operational considerations, Garuda Indonesia will boost its flight frequency between Jakarta and Singapore to seven daily flights in the fourth quarter of 2025, up from six, with plans to further increase its frequencies in the coming months.

Mr Wamildan Tsani, President and CEO Garuda Indonesia, said: “Garuda Indonesia is delighted with this strengthening of our partnership with Singapore Airlines, which reflects our shared commitment to delivering an enhanced and seamless travel

experience for our customers. With broader connectivity and integrated services, this collaboration also serves as a platform to support stronger bilateral relations between Indonesia and Singapore.”

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: “This enhancement of our partnership with Garuda Indonesia offers tangible benefits to our customers through joint sales of fare products, additional codeshare destinations, and improved frequent flyer offerings. By working together, we are leveraging our combined strengths to enhance the customer experience and support the growth of air travel between Singapore and Indonesia, and beyond.”

HIMALAYA AIRLINES – CHEERS TO 10 YEARS IN SKIES!!!



A decade of dreams, dedication, and taking H9 to the skies. Our 10th Anniversary formal event was a heartfelt tribute to the journey we’ve shared with our valued partners, team members, and supporters.

The celebration was honored by the presence of H.E. Mr. Chen Song, Ambassador of the People’s Republic

of China to Nepal, as the Chief Guest along with distinguished guests Mr. Mukesh Dangol, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, and Mr. Deo Chandra Lal Karn, Deputy Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN), Mr. Xie Yu, Business and Commercial Counselor, Embassy of People’s

Republic of China.

From humble beginnings to high altitudes, Himalaya Airlines is proud to have flown with trust, excellence, and unity at its core. Here’s to the memories we created yesterday - and to the many skies yet to explore!

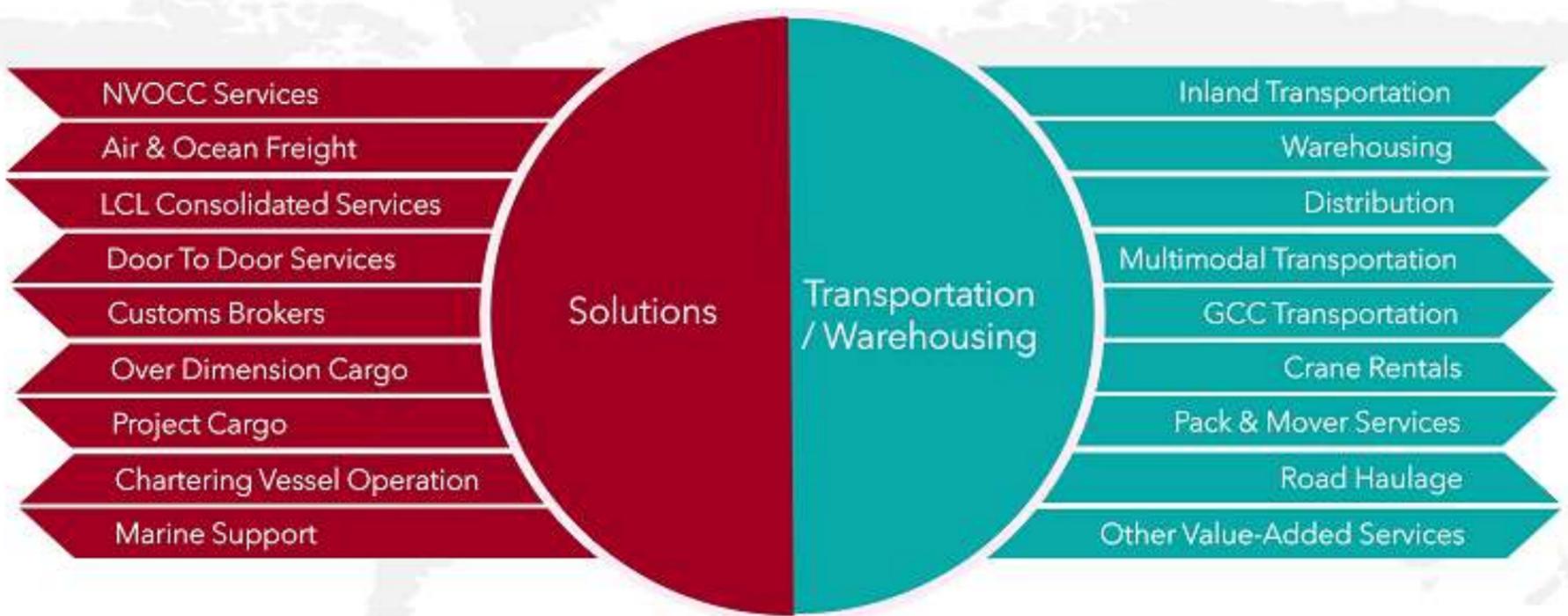


Company Profile



شركة قيصر العالمية للشحن الجوي ذ.م.م.
Caesars Int'l Shipping & Logistics Co. W.L.L.

OUR SERVICES



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International News

Colombian Sen Miguel Uribe Turbay has died, weeks after campaign rally shooting in Bogota

Colombian presidential hopeful Miguel Uribe, who had been fighting for his life since he was shot in June during a campaign event, has died, according to his family.

Uribe, a 39-year-old senator and a potential presidential candidate from the right-wing opposition, was shot in Bogota on June 7 during a rally and

recognised lawmaker for the Democratic Centre party. He was seeking to run in the 2026 presidential election.

A 15-year-old boy was arrested at the scene with a “9mm Glock-type firearm” and has pleaded not guilty after being formally charged on June 10 with attempted murder, the prosecutor’s office said. Five



underwent multiple surgeries before his death.

“I ask God to show me the way to learn to live without you,” his wife, Maria Claudia Tarazona, wrote on social media. “Rest in peace, love of my life, I will take care of our children.”

Uribe enjoyed a rapid political rise, becoming a

other suspects have also been arrested.

“Today is a sad day for the country,” Colombian Vice President Francia Marquez wrote on X.

“Violence cannot continue to mark our destiny. Democracy is not built with bullets or blood, it is built with respect, with dialogue,” she said.

Restored Nagasaki bell rings in 80 years since A-bomb

“Eighty years have passed, and who could have imagined that the world would become like this?” he said. “A crisis that could threaten the survival of

told ceremony attendees of the horror he witnessed as a young teenager.



humanity, such as a nuclear war, is looming over each and every one of us living on this planet.”

About 74,000 people were killed in the south-western port city, on top of the 140,000 killed in Hiroshima.

Days later, on 15 August 1945, Japan surrendered, marking the end of the second world war.

Historians have debated whether the bombings ultimately saved lives by bringing an end to the conflict and averting a ground invasion. But those calculations meant little to survivors, known as hibakusha, many of whom battled decades of physical and psychological trauma, as well as stigma.

Hiroshi Nishioka, a 93-year-old survivor who was just three kilometres from where the bomb exploded,

“Even the lucky ones [who were not severely injured] gradually began to bleed from their gums and lose their hair, and one after another they died,” he recalled. “Even though the war was over, the atomic bomb brought invisible terror.”

Nagasaki resident Atsuko Higuchi said it “made her happy” that everyone would remember the city’s victims.

“Instead of thinking that these events belong to the past, we must remember that these are real events that took place,” the 50-year-old said.

The chief priest of Urakami Cathedral, Kenichi Yamamura, said the bell’s restoration “shows the greatness of humanity”.

Over 600 pilgrims hospitalised due to chlorine gas leak in Iraq

More than 600 pilgrims in Iraq were briefly hospitalized with respiratory problems after inhaling chlorine as the result of a leak at a water treatment station, authorities said Sunday.



The incident took place overnight on the route between the two Shiite holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, located in the center and south of Iraq respectively.

This year, several million Shiite Muslim pilgrims are expected to make their way to Karbala, which houses the shrines of the revered Imam Hussein and his brother Abbas.

There, they will mark the Arbaeen — the 40-day period of mourning during which Shiites commemorate the death of Hussein, grandson of the Prophet Muhammad.

In a brief statement, Iraq’s health ministry said “621 cases of asphyxia have been recorded following a chlorine gas leak in Karbala.”

“All have received the necessary care and left hospital in good health,” it said.

Security forces charged with protecting pilgrims meanwhile said the incident had been caused by “a chlorine leak from a water station on the Karbala-Najaf road.”

Much of Iraq’s infrastructure is in disrepair due to decades of conflict and corruption, with adherence to safety standards often lax.

In July, a massive fire at a shopping mall in the eastern city of Kut killed more than 60 people, many of whom suffocated in the toilets, according to authorities.

Blast at Hezbollah site in Lebanon kills 6 soldiers

A military source says blast took place “inside a Hezbollah military facility”; the Army said the blast took place “while an Army unit was inspecting a weapons depot and dismantling its contents in Wadi Zibqin” in the Tyre district near the Israeli border.

Lebanon’s Army said a blast at a weapons depot near the Israeli border on Saturday (August 9, 2025) killed six soldiers as a military source said troops were removing munitions from a Hezbollah facility.

Trump-Putin talks are already a triumph for Moscow, its economy and markets

Talks between Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. counterpart Donald Trump are still days away, but the two leaders' upcoming meeting to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine is already seen as a victory for the Kremlin, the Russian economy and global financial markets.

The discussions are set to take place on Friday in Alaska.

"This is already a big win for Putin to be invited for the first time since 2007 to meet with the U.S. president on American soil. Is a wonderful achievement, from his point of view, no conditions and the absence of Ukraine, the absence of any European representation. This is already a triumph," Richard Portes, head of the Economics faculty at the London Business School, told CNBC Monday.

There are concerns that Ukraine could be forced to cede Russian-occupied territory to Moscow, and the mood is dour in Kyiv, whose officials, including President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, have so far not been invited to attend the talks.

Kyiv has said no deal about its future would be struck in its absence, and European leaders are pushing strongly for Ukraine's involvement. The U.S., for its



part, has said its considering inviting Zelenskyy, NBC News reported.

In the meantime, economists say the talks — which take place as Russia makes gains on the battlefield in southern and eastern Ukraine, with no ceasefire deal

in sight — are already a win for Putin and his war-centered economy that is laboring under international sanctions and stubbornly high inflation of 9.4% in June.

New Courtesy: <https://www.cnbc.com/>

Brazil's Bolsonaro arrested, adding to tensions with Trump



Brazil's Supreme Court put former President Jair Bolsonaro under house arrest on Monday ahead of his trial for an alleged coup plot, underscoring the court's resolve despite escalating tariffs and sanctions from U.S. President Donald Trump.

Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes, the target of U.S. Treasury sanctions last week, issued

the arrest order against Bolsonaro. His decision cited a failure to comply with restraining orders he had imposed on Bolsonaro for allegedly courting Trump's interference in the case.

Bolsonaro is on trial before the Supreme Court on charges he conspired with allies to violently overturn his 2022 electoral loss to leftist President

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Trump has referred to the case as a "witch hunt" and called it grounds for a 50% tariff on Brazilian goods taking effect on Wednesday.

The U.S. State Department condemned the house arrest order, saying Moraes was using Brazilian institutions to silence opposition and threaten democracy, adding the U.S. would "hold accountable all those aiding and abetting sanctioned conduct."

It did not provide details, though Trump has said the U.S. could still impose even higher tariffs on Brazilian imports.

The Monday order from Moraes also banned Bolsonaro from using a cell phone or receiving visits, except for his lawyers and people authorized by the court.

A press representative for Bolsonaro confirmed he was placed under house arrest on Monday evening at his Brasilia residence by police who seized his cell phone.

Bolsonaro's lawyers said in a statement they would appeal the decision, arguing the former president had not violated any court order.

In an interview with Reuters last month, Bolsonaro called Moraes a "dictator" and said the restraining orders against him were acts of "cowardice."

New Courtesy: <https://www.cnbc.com/>

Trump administration to formally axe Elon Musk's 'five things' email

The Trump administration on Tuesday formally axed a program launched by billionaire former Trump adviser Elon Musk requiring federal employees to summarize their five workplace achievements from the prior week, as first reported by Reuters.

The Office of Personnel Management, the federal human resources agency that implemented Musk's push to slash the federal workforce, announced the end of the "five things" email via a memo that rescinds guidance instructing workers to comply with the initiative.

"At OPM, we believe that managers are accountable to staying informed about what their team members are working on and have many other existing tools to do so," OPM Director Scott Kuper said in a statement, adding the agency told government HR



representatives that OPM would no longer manage

the process nor use it internally.

While many federal agencies had already phased out compliance with the weekly email, the move signals the Trump administration is turning the page on one of Musk's most unpopular initiatives following a falling out between the two men in early June.

Musk, who spent over a quarter of a billion dollars to help Trump win November's presidential election, led the Department of Government Efficiency's efforts to slash the budget and cut the federal workforce until his departure in May to refocus on his tech empire.

Musk initially received a warm White House sendoff from Trump, but then incurred the president's wrath by describing Trump's tax cut and spending bill as an abomination.

News Courtesy: <https://www.cnbc.com/>

Tsunami warnings across Pacific following powerful earthquake in Russia

During the night of 29–30 July 2025, a powerful magnitude 8.8 earthquake struck off the coast of Russia’s Kamchatka Peninsula, which was the strongest quake recorded in the region since 1952.

The quake occurred at a depth of 20.7 km, approximately 126 km from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, the capital of Kamchatka in Russia's Far East.

The seismic event triggered tsunamis in both Russia and Japan, prompting tsunami warnings across multiple countries bordering the Pacific Ocean.

In Severo-Kurilsk, a town of 2 000 people located in the northern part of Russia’s Kuril archipelago,



repeated tsunami waves caused significant flooding. All residents were evacuated, and several buildings

were reportedly swept away.

In Japan, a 30-centimeter wave was observed off the coast of Hokkaido, the country’s northernmost island.

As a precaution, staff at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, which was hit by a powerful undersea earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, were ordered to evacuate.

In addition to Japan and Russia, tsunami warnings have been issued in several other countries and archipelagos, including Chile, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Mexico, New Zealand, Taiwan and the North American west coast.

News Courtesy: <https://www.atlas-mag.net>

Floods sweep through New York and New Jersey



Exceptionally heavy rainfall during the night between 14 and 15 July 2025 triggered major flooding in the US States of New York and New Jersey.

In New York, between 38 and 45 millimeters of rain fell in under two hours, prompting the temporary suspension of operations at all three major airports. Ground transportation was also disrupted, with several subway lines halted and stations inundated.

In New Jersey, rainfall totals reached as high as 150 millimeters. Authorities advised residents to remain indoors for their safety.

Flash flooding was also reported in parts of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

No casualties have been reported so far.

A powerful storm system unleashed heavy rain and

flash flooding across the US East Coast on Thursday, prompting New York City and New Jersey to declare states of emergency. Streets turned into rivers, subways flooded, cars were stranded, and public transportation came to a halt as the storm system swept through major cities from New York to Washington,DC. City officials issued urgent warnings as the situation worsened throughout the day, urging residents to avoid travel and take shelter indoors.

News Courtesy: <https://www.atlas-mag.net>

Heavy Rain Pummels the East Coast and Sparks Isolated Flash Flooding

Strong rain storms lashed the East Coast Thursday, delaying flights throughout the region and prompting emergency rescues of motorists trapped in deep water on busy highways from the Philadelphia area to New York City.

In New York, flash flooding briefly closed sections of major roadways and flooded train stations across the metropolitan region as the evening rush hour approached.

Commuters captured video of water pouring over a train on a platform in Manhattan's Grand Central Terminal and water pooling on the floor of a city bus as it pushed through a flooded Brooklyn street.

Riders of one Long Island-bound commuter train were evacuated by firefighters as floodwaters rose. Other commuter rail lines on Long Island and New Jersey were suspended or severely delayed.

Amtrak officials announced Thursday evening that trains between Philadelphia and Wilmington, Delaware were stopped because of severe storms sending high water over the tracks.



Heavy Rain Causes Flooding, Evacuations and at Least 38 Deaths Around Beijing Region

Almost a year's worth of rain caused flooding and landslides that washed away cars, forced evacuations and knocked out power around the Chinese capital, killing at least 38 people by Tuesday and rescue and relief work continued.

The flood risk for parts of Beijing, Hebei province and neighboring Tianjin city remained high until Tuesday evening.

State media broadcast footage of muddy waters rising into homes in rural areas and rescuers carrying an injured person on a stretcher and searching on a damaged road.

Premier Li Qiang said the heavy rain and flooding in the hard-hit Beijing district of Miyun caused “serious casualties” and called for rescue efforts, according to the Xinhua News Agency.



The Beijing Daily, a state-backed paper, reported that the city had received 54.3 centimeters (21.4 inches) of rain in the last four days, which is just a bit short of the 60 centimeters (23.6 inches) the city receives annually in a year.

The storm knocked out power in more than 130 villages in Beijing, destroyed communication lines and damaged more than 30 sections of road. More than 16 centimeters (6 inches) of rain fell on average in Beijing by midnight, with two towns in Miyun recording 54 centimeters (21 inches) of precipitation, the city said.

The city government said 28 people died in Miyun and two others in Yanqing district Monday.

New Courtesy: <https://www.usnews.com/>

Yoga is not about self-improvement, it's about self-acceptance

Yoga, an ancient practice originating in India, has evolved into a global phenomenon, recognized for its ability to foster holistic well-being – encompassing physical, mental, and emotional health. More than just a series of postures, yoga integrates breathwork and meditation, offering a comprehensive approach to stress reduction and overall health improvement. Its popularity is reflected in the vast number of practitioners worldwide, with roughly 300 million people engaging in yoga, including approximately 36 million in the USA alone. This growing adoption stems from the numerous scientifically-backed benefits of yoga.

Physical benefits

Improved flexibility, strength, and balance: Yoga poses and stretches target various muscle groups, increasing range of motion, building strength, and enhancing balance, potentially reducing the risk of falls, especially in older adults.

Reduced pain and inflammation: Yoga may alleviate chronic pain, including back and joint pain, and improve symptoms associated with conditions like arthritis.

Enhanced cardiovascular and respiratory health: Yoga can lower blood pressure, improve blood circulation, and increase lung capacity through controlled breathing techniques.

Support for various health conditions: Studies suggest yoga can be beneficial in managing conditions like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and even certain autoimmune diseases.

Mental and emotional benefits

Stress and anxiety reduction: Yoga activates the parasympathetic nervous system, countering the stress response and promoting relaxation. Mindfulness practices within yoga help individuals break free from cycles of worry.

Improved mood and emotional balance: Yoga can boost levels of mood-enhancing chemicals like endorphins and increase a brain chemical associated with better mood and decreased anxiety.

Enhanced mental clarity and focus: Yoga and

10 health tips for 2025

1. Eat a healthy diet

Eat a combination of different foods, including fruit, vegetables, legumes, nuts and whole grains. Adults should eat at least five portions (400g) of fruit and vegetables per day. You can improve your intake of fruits and vegetables by always including veggies in your meal; eating fresh fruit and vegetables as snacks; eating a variety of fruits and vegetables; and eating them in season. By eating healthy, you will reduce your risk of malnutrition and noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke and cancer.

2. Consume less salt and sugar

Reduce your salt intake to 5g per day, equivalent to about one teaspoon. It's easier to do this by limiting the amount of salt, soy sauce, fish sauce and other high-sodium condiments when preparing meals; removing salt, seasonings and condiments from your meal table; avoiding salty snacks; and choosing low-sodium products.

3. Reduce intake of harmful fats

Fats consumed should be less than 30% of your total energy intake. This will help prevent unhealthy weight gain and NCDs. There are different types of fats, but unsaturated fats are preferable over saturated fats and trans-fats. WHO recommends reducing saturated fats to less than 10% of total energy intake; reducing trans-fats to less than 1% of total energy



meditation may improve executive functions like memory, decision-making, and concentration.

Better sleep quality: Yoga promotes relaxation, potentially leading to improved sleep patterns and relief from insomnia.

Increased self-awareness and body image: Yoga encourages a deeper connection with oneself, potentially improving self-esteem and body image.

Yoga and physical therapy

Yoga can complement physical therapy by improving flexibility, strength, and body awareness, assisting in rehabilitation and recovery. Yoga therapy is a holistic

intake; and replacing both saturated fats and trans-fats with unsaturated fats.

4. Don't smoke

Smoking tobacco causes NCDs such as lung disease, heart disease and stroke. Tobacco kills not only the direct smokers but even non-smokers through second-hand exposure.

5. Be active

Physical activity is defined as any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles that requires energy expenditure. This includes exercise and activities undertaken while working, playing, carrying out household chores, travelling, and engaging in recreational pursuits. The amount of physical activity you need depends on your age group but adults aged 18-64 years should do at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity throughout the week.

6. Check your blood pressure regularly

Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is called a "silent killer". This is because many people who have hypertension may not be aware of the problem as it may not have any symptoms. If left uncontrolled, hypertension can lead to heart, brain, kidney and other diseases.

7. Follow traffic laws

Road crashes claim over one million lives around the

approach tailored to individual needs and goals, using movement, breathing, and meditation to address specific conditions and promote well-being.

In conclusion, yoga offers a powerful and accessible path to enhanced well-being. Its combined physical, mental, and emotional benefits make it a valuable practice for individuals of all ages and abilities. However, it's crucial to consult with a healthcare professional before starting any new exercise program, especially if you have pre-existing medical conditions.

world and millions more are injured. Road traffic injuries are preventable through a variety of measures implemented by the government such as strong legislation and enforcement, safer infrastructure and vehicle standards, and improved post-crash care.

8. Take antibiotics only as prescribed

Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest public health threats in our generation. When antibiotics lose their power, bacterial infections become harder to treat, leading to higher medical costs, prolonged hospital stays, and increased mortality. Antibiotics are losing their power because of misuse and overuse in humans and animals. Make sure you only take antibiotics if prescribed by a qualified health professional. And once prescribed, complete the treatment days as instructed. Never share antibiotics.

9. Clean your hands properly

Hand hygiene is critical not only for health workers but for everyone. Clean hands can prevent the spread of infectious illnesses. You should handwash using soap and water when your hands are visibly soiled or handrub using an alcohol-based product.

10. Have regular check - ups

Regular check-ups can help find health problems before they start. Health professionals can help find and diagnose health issues early, when your chances for treatment and cure are better.



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CAESARS TRAVEL COMPANY’S BDM MR R. KARTHA IS ELECTED AS TOURISM FORUM CHAIRMAN, MIDDLE EAST IN THE WORLD MALAYALEE COUNCIL

Caesars Travel Company’s Business Development Manager, Mr R Kartha is elected as Tourism Forum Chairman, Middle East in The World Malayalee Council. The World Malayalee Council, which unites Malayalees globally on one platform, has elected its new office bearers. The new leadership for the Global, Regional, and Provincial levels was chosen at the recently concluded Global Conference in Sharjah, UAE.

The other new Global Office Bearers are:

Dr. Isaac John Pattaniparambil (Chairman), Baby Mathew Somatheeram (President), Moosa Koya (General Secretary), Thomas Chellath (Treasurer), Johny Kuruvila (Global Goodwill Ambassador).

The following individuals from the Kuwait Province have been elected as office bearers to the Global and Middle East Region positions:



B.S. Pillai (Global Vice Chairman, Advisory Board), Jacob Mathew Chennappetta (Global Chairman,

Corporate Network), Sajeev Narayanan (Vice Chairman, Middle East & Chairman, Kuwait Province), Bindu Sajeev (Vice President, Global Women's Council), Adv. Rexzcy Williams (Business Forum General Secretary, Middle East & Business Forum Chairman, Kuwait Province), Adv. Lucia R. Williams (Event Management Chairperson, Middle East), Anil P. Alex (News & Media Chairman, Middle East).

The World Malayalee Council (WMC) was formed on July 3, 1995, during the inaugural World Convention of Non-Resident Malayalees in New Jersey. It was established as a non-political and non-sectarian organization to unite the global Malayalee community. The WMC aims to foster friendship and fellowship among Malayalees worldwide and provide various platforms for training, empowerment, service, support, and charity.

Air Arabia Cargo Manager Visits Kuwait GSA Office

The Kuwait GSA Office of Air Arabia (Caesars Cargo) had the privilege of welcoming Ms. Nermin El Anbary, Cargo Manager – Air Arabia, during her recent official visit to Kuwait. The visit marked an important step in further strengthening the partnership between Air Arabia and its GSA representative in the country.

During her visit, Ms. El Anbary met with Mr. P.N.J. Kumar, CEO of Caesars Travel Group, and Mr. Unni, GSA Manager – Air Arabia Kuwait. The discussions centered on reviewing the airline’s current cargo operations in Kuwait, exploring potential opportunities for business growth, and enhancing service efficiency for customers and partners in the region.

Key topics included streamlining operational processes, expanding cargo capacity, and introducing new solutions to meet the evolving demands of the Kuwait market. The meeting also emphasized the importance of continuous communication and coordination between Air Arabia’s head office and its local GSA team to ensure the highest standards of service delivery.

The visit reflects Air Arabia’s strong commitment to the Kuwait market and its dedication to providing innovative, reliable, and customer-focused cargo



services. Both parties expressed optimism about future developments and reiterated their shared goal of driving growth and delivering excellence in cargo operations.

Saudia Airlines Cargo Regional Director Visits Kuwait GSA Office

The Kuwait GSA Office of Saudia Airlines Cargo (Caesars Cargo) had the honor of hosting Mr. Rami Abbas, Regional Director – MENAT, Saudia Airlines Cargo, during his recent visit to Kuwait. The visit underscored Saudia Cargo’s commitment to strengthening its presence in the Kuwait market and further enhancing its collaboration with its GSA partner, Caesars Cargo.

Mr. Abbas was warmly welcomed by Mr. P.N.J. Kumar, CEO of Caesars Travel Group, and Mr. Unni, Business Development Manager. The discussions focused on reviewing current cargo operations, evaluating market trends, and identifying strategic opportunities for growth.

Key areas of conversation included improving operational efficiency, optimizing capacity utilization, and introducing value-added services to meet the needs of customers in Kuwait. Both parties also discussed potential initiatives to expand the cargo network and enhance the speed, reliability, and flexibility of Saudia Cargo’s services.

The visit highlighted the shared vision of Saudia Airlines Cargo and Caesars Cargo to deliver



exceptional cargo solutions backed by operational excellence, innovation, and strong customer service.

Editorial

Artificial Intelligence (AI): The Future of Smart Technology

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming the way we live, work, and think. Once a concept confined to science fiction, AI now plays a central role in our daily lives — from voice assistants and recommendation systems to advanced medical diagnostics and autonomous vehicles.

The growth of AI is fueled by massive advancements in computing power, the availability of big data, and the development of sophisticated algorithms. Today, AI is not just an emerging technology — it is the foundation of future innovation across industries.

What is Artificial Intelligence?

Artificial Intelligence is the branch of computer science that aims to create machines capable of simulating human intelligence. This includes the ability to:

- Learn from experience
- Understand and respond to language
- Recognize patterns and objects
- Solve problems
- Make decisions

Unlike traditional software, which follows strict pre-programmed rules, AI systems can adapt and improve as they process more data.

Core Components of AI

1. Machine Learning (ML)

Machine Learning is the most widely used subset of AI. It allows systems to improve automatically by learning from historical data. ML is used in:

- Spam detection in emails
- Product recommendations on e-commerce sites
- Predictive maintenance in manufacturing

Types of Machine Learning:

- Supervised Learning:** Trains on labeled data (e.g., classifying emails as “spam” or “not spam”).
- Unsupervised Learning:** Finds hidden patterns in unlabeled data (e.g., customer segmentation).
- Reinforcement Learning:** Learns through trial and error, often used in robotics and game AI.

2. Natural Language Processing (NLP)

NLP enables AI to understand, interpret, and respond to human language in a way that feels natural. Applications include:

- Chatbots and virtual assistants
- Real-time translation tools
- Sentiment analysis on social media

3. Computer Vision

Computer Vision gives AI the ability to interpret and understand visual data from the world, enabling technologies such as:

- Facial recognition for security
- Quality control in manufacturing
- Autonomous vehicle navigation

4. Robotics

Robotics combines AI with engineering to create machines capable of performing complex tasks. Examples range from surgical robots in hospitals to robots exploring Mars.

5. Expert Systems

These AI programs mimic the decision-making abilities of a human expert in a specific field. They use a knowledge base and a set of rules to provide recommendations or solve problems.



Types of AI

- Narrow AI (Weak AI):**
 - Specialized in one task
 - Most common type today
 - Example: Google Translate, Netflix recommendations
- General AI (Strong AI):**
 - Hypothetical AI that can perform any intellectual task a human can do
 - Still under research
- Superintelligent AI:**
 - AI surpassing human intelligence in all fields
 - Carries both incredible opportunities and potential risks

Applications of AI in the Real World

- Healthcare**
 - Early disease detection through AI-powered imaging
 - Personalized medicine based on genetic data
 - Robotic surgeries with enhanced precision
- Finance**
 - Fraud detection through pattern recognition
 - Algorithmic trading to optimize investment strategies
 - Automated customer support via chatbots
- Transportation**
 - Self-driving cars and trucks
 - Predictive traffic management systems
 - AI-assisted airline operations
- Education**
 - Adaptive learning platforms tailored to each student’s needs
 - Automated grading systems
 - AI-assisted content translation for global learning
- Retail & E-commerce**
 - Personalized product recommendations
 - AI-powered demand forecasting

Automated inventory management

Benefits of AI

- Productivity:** Automates repetitive and time-consuming tasks.
- Accuracy:** Processes data with minimal errors.
- 24/7 Availability:** Works without fatigue or downtime.
- Innovation:** Opens doors to new problem-solving approaches in medicine, science, and engineering.

Challenges and Ethical Concerns

- Job Displacement:** Automation may replace certain human roles, creating economic and social challenges.
- Bias and Fairness:** AI can inherit biases from the data it’s trained on, leading to unfair outcomes.
- Security Risks:** AI can be misused for cyberattacks, identity theft, or surveillance.
- Ethics and Regulation:** Governments and organizations must ensure AI development is safe, transparent, and accountable.

The Future of AI

- The future of AI holds tremendous promise. In the coming decades, AI may help us:
 - Combat climate change through predictive environmental modeling
 - Discover cures for complex diseases
 - Improve disaster response and resource management
 - Enable safer, more efficient transportation systems
- However, realizing these benefits requires responsible AI development, guided by ethical principles, strong regulations, and global cooperation.

Conclusion

Artificial Intelligence is not just a technological trend — it is a transformation that will redefine every aspect of human life. Like all powerful tools, it comes with both opportunities and risks. If humanity can balance innovation with responsibility, AI will become one of the greatest achievements in human history.

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