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Grace period for UAE residency violators

ABU DHABI
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A two-month grace period, starting from September 1, has been granted to residency law violators, allowing them to adjust their status or leave the country without incurring fines.

The Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs, and Port Security (ICP) stated that violators can regularise their status during the amnesty period or leave the country without incurring fees.

A dedicated service allows violators to submit a request to exempt/reduce the financial fine imposed on violators of the Foreigners' Entry and Residence Law.

Documents that need to be provided include a copy of the violator's passport, a letter stating the reasons for the violations and the inability to pay them and any other documents requested by the Fines Committee.

The person in question needs to visit the nearest Customer Happiness Centre (Amer), submit the application fulfilling all conditions and documents to the customer service employee and pay the service fees (if any).

FRIDAY TAKEAWAY | P10-11



FAT-BURNING PILL: IS IT A MYTH?

There aren't any medications that directly target fat cells. Fat-burning pills are dietary supplements that suppress appetite, block carbohydrate absorption, and speed up metabolism. As these are not medications, they do not need regulatory approval. That's a source of concern. Also, there haven't been enough studies on their efficacy and side effects

Haniyeh likely killed by a smuggled bomb

DAMAGE TO BUILDING SUGGESTS A NON-MISSILE STRIKE

DUBAI
BY STEPHEN N.R.
Senior Associate Editor

Amid speculation about how Israel managed to target Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, the *New York Times* (NYT) reported that he was killed by a bomb smuggled into the guesthouse where he was staying a few months earlier. The report cited seven officials, including two Iranians and one American.

The guesthouse, used for retreats, secret meetings, and housing prominent guests such as Haniyeh, suffered shattered windows and a collapsed portion of the wall but minimal damage to the building itself, suggesting that the attack was unlikely to have been a missile strike. According to the NYT report, the explosion occurred around 2am local time and was triggered remotely. It shook the building, shattered windows, and partially collapsed an exterior wall.

Bomb was hidden?

The report noted that the bomb had been hidden in the guesthouse approximately two months ago, quoting five Middle Eastern officials. The guesthouse, run and protected by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, is part of a large com-



■ The guesthouse where the explosion occurred, killing Haniyeh at 2am on Wednesday. The building suffered minimal damage.

pound known as Neshat, located in an upscale neighbourhood of northern Tehran.

Some outlets, including the television channel Iran International, have reported that Israeli agents captured and interrogated Revolutionary Guards inside Iran to obtain intelligence.

Bomb detonated remotely

The bomb was detonated remotely once it was confirmed that Haniyeh was inside his room at the guesthouse. The blast also killed a bodyguard.

Haniyeh had stayed at the guesthouse several times when visiting Tehran, according to the Middle Eastern officials.

The NYT article mentioned that the meticulous planning behind the attack ensured that, despite the proximity of Ziyad Al Nakhalah, leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, who was staying next door, his room sustained minimal damage, as claimed by two Iranian officials.

Earlier reports, including those from Iranian state media, suggested that Haniyeh might have been targeted by a drone or a precision-guided missile. Some Iranian media reports speculated that Haniyeh's phone was intercepted, allowing his location to be tracked via GPS.

SEE ALSO P12

Menu gone wrong: Famed French food flops at Paris Olympic village

Athletes left disappointed by the 3,300-seat food court

PARIS

Despite promises that France's famed gastronomy would be showcased in the Paris Olympic village, many athletes have been left unimpressed by the catering and hungry for more meat on the eco-friendly menus.

At a trial run at the Olympics village restaurant in June, Games supremo Tony Estanguet stressed how Paris 2024 was aiming to cut the average carbon emissions per meal in half compared to previous Olympics by offering more vegetarian food.

Promising not to disappoint visitors to a country famed for its fine food, the organising committee also took on several Michelin-starred chefs as advisers to work alongside its food contractor, French multinational Sodexo.

But the first few days in the village, lo-

cated in a deprived suburb north of Paris, saw demands for more steak, eggs and bigger helpings as athletes looked to replenish themselves after gruelling competitions or gym sessions.

American superstar gymnast Simone Biles said she had been left disappointed by the 3,300-seat food court, which features six different dining areas offering meals from around the globe.

"It's not proper French cuisine, like you guys might be eating because you're outside the village," she complained on Tuesday. Team-mate and gold medallist Hezly Rivera agreed, saying: "I definitely think French food is good, but what we are having in there I don't think is the best."

Olympic 100m champion Marcell Jacobs from Italy called the village "nice, the food not," an assessment endorsed by Jamaica's two-time 200m world champion Shericka Jackson.

—AFP



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