



UAE-INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL



Monthly Digest of UAE - India Business Council (UIBC)

December 2018



www.uibc.org

Visit of Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs of India to the UAE



A high-level delegation led by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs of India visited UAE for the 12th Session of the UAE-India Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) for Economic and Technical Cooperation held on 3-4 December 2018 in Abu Dhabi. The JCM was co-chaired by H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Cabinet Member and UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Indian External Affairs Minister. A number of senior officials from both the countries were also present during the meeting.

In the JCM, both Ministers while welcoming cooperation and the progress in UAE-India bilateral relations, reaffirmed their determination to further strengthen the bilateral engagement. They discussed several areas of mutual interest including Trade & Commerce, Investments, Energy Security, Agriculture & Food Security, Railways, Defence and Space, Security and Combating Crime, Education & Culture, Civil Aviation, Consular, Immigration and Indian Community related issues and agreed to enhance cooperation in these areas.

While welcoming the Indian delegation, H.H. Sheikh Abdullah emphasized that the UAE has always shared strong historical ties with India. He noted that the relations between the two countries are based on mutual respect, trust and aimed at enhancing the mutual benefit of the people of the two friendly countries.

Smt. Sushma Swaraj congratulated the leadership, Government and the people of the UAE on the occasion of the 47th National Day of the UAE and expressed satisfaction at the pace of growth in bilateral relations in all areas of cooperation.

During the meeting, both sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral ties and took stock of the developments in the region. They underscored the importance of sharing views on regional and international development. Both sides further strengthened their resolve to combat extremism and terrorism in all its forms, regardless of the perpetrators and their intent.



On the sidelines of JCM, the UAE and India signed two documents as part of joint efforts to consolidate bilateral partnership and cooperation; and open up prospects for joint work. The two foreign Minister witnessed the signing of a MoU between the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Ministry of External Affairs of India for Development Cooperation in Africa. The MoU was signed by Mr Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Mr T. S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Indian Ministry of External Affairs. The Agreement on Currency Swap between the UAE Central Bank and the Indian Reserve Bank was also exchanged by Mr Mohammed Ali bin Zayed Al Falasi, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of the UAE and H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE in the presence of H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Smt. Sushma Swaraj.

During her visit, Smt. Sushma Swaraj called on H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces in Abu Dhabi. His Highness and Indian External Affairs Minister reviewed the distinguished ties between the two countries, and discussed opportunities to further enhance bilateral cooperation in diplomatic arenas and trade & investment sectors. The two sides also exchanged views on regional and international developments, as well as issues of mutual concern.

The Crown Prince stressed the importance that both nations attached to the values of peace and tolerance. He expressed his desire to further expand the cooperation with India in future to achieve the full potential. Smt. Sushma Swaraj briefed the Crown Prince on the discussions held in the JCM, particularly with respect to energy, space, railways etc. She thanked His Highness for his contributions to take UAE-India relations to the next level and recalled his historic visit to India in January 2017 as Chief Guest of the Republic Day Celebrations. Minister Swaraj expressed gratitude for the support extended to the construction of temple by the UAE leadership and appreciated his inter-faith dialogue.

The meeting was also attended by H.E. Dr. Anwar bin Mohammed Gargash, Cabinet Member and UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; H.E. Dr. Sultan bin Ahmad Al Jaber, UAE Cabinet Member & Minister of State and Chief Executive Officer, ADNOC Group; H.E. Mohammed Mubarak Al Mazrouei, Under-Secretary, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court; H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India; and H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE.

During the visit, Smt. Sushma Swaraj along with H.H. Sheikh Abdullah launched the Gandhi-Zayed Digital Museum in Abu Dhabi marking the celebrations of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth and centenary celebrations of the birth of Sheikh Zayed, founder of the UAE. The leaders, along with H.E. Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi, Cabinet Member and UAE Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development; H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India; H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE; and other senior Government officials toured the exhibition.

The digital exhibition is scheduled to open its doors to the public in March 2019 and is being organised by the UAE Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development in cooperation with the Mahatma Gandhi Digital Museums.

During the visit, Minister Swaraj also interacted with a cross section of Indian community in Abu Dhabi and appreciated their contribution in enhancing relations with the UAE.



Meeting of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India with Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Gol



December 2018: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had a meeting with Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Gol. UAE Ambassador was accompanied by Mr Mohamed Ali Alabbar, Chairman, Emaar Properties and Mr Amit Jain, Group Chief Executive Officer, Emaar Properties. During the meeting, they discussed the ongoing commercial activities of Emaar in India and its future plans.

Dr. Albanna praised several initiatives undertaken by the Indian Government for improving its rank by 23 places in the World Bank "Ease of Doing Business" ranking and attracting foreign direct investments.

While highlighting Emaar's commercial activities in India, Mr Alabbar shared that Emaar is one of the biggest Emirati investors in the country, and is committed to increase its investments in the Indian market. Regarding the company's future investment plans, he stressed that Emaar is keen to diversify its activities by investing in logistical services, food storage centres, real estate development and traditional properties. He also affirmed that food security is one of the key priority sectors in the UAE while expressing Emaar's desire to create relevant partnerships with the private sector.

Mr Alabbar praised India's efforts to resolve issues of Emirati companies in India. While acknowledging significant achievements of High Level Investment Task Force in solving issues faced by UAE investors, he also shared that formation of the Fast Track Committee, at the level of Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Gol and Ambassador of UAE to India will provide significant support to solve these issues in a specific timeframe.

Visit of H.E. Tariq Hilal Lootah, Under Secretary, UAE Ministry of State for Federal National Council Affairs (MFNCA) to India



A delegation led by H.E. Tariq Hilal Lootah, Under Secretary, UAE Ministry of State for Federal National Council Affairs (MFNCA) visited India, on a study visit to Indian Parliament, from 12 to 14 December 2018. H.E. Tariq Hilal Lootah and his accompanying delegation had met Mr Surendra Nath Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India. Mr Tripathi interacted with the delegation and briefed them about the functions of Indian Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and its role in the law making process and explained the linkage between the Government and Parliament specially in respect of Legislative business to be transacted by both the Houses of Parliament.

During the visit, H.E. Lootah had also met H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India on 14th December in New Delhi. In the meeting, H.E. Dr Albanna and H.E. Lootah discussed ways and aspects of promoting Parliamentary cooperation between the UAE and India as part of the distinguished and growing strategic partnership the two countries share.

Visit of Shri Raghubar Das, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand to the UAE



December 2018: A high-level delegation led by Shri Raghubar Das, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand visited UAE to attract investments in the State. Hon'ble CM was accompanied by Mr D.K. Tiwari, Development Commissioner, Government of Jharkhand; Mr Sunil Kumar Barnwal, Principal Secretary to the Jharkhand CM; Mr Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Secretary - Higher and Technical Education and Skill Development and other officials of the State Government.

In a bid to attract reputed firms to provide jobs to the youth of the Jharkhand State, the Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society (JSDMS) under the aegis of Jharkhand Government organized an Industry Road Show during the visit. The road show aimed at understanding how the state of Jharkhand can work towards creating an ecosystem demand led skilling and training. The deliberations explored the mechanism for capturing the UAE demand, training of states workforce for UAE high demand sectors, facilitating the ethical migration of eligible migrant workers.

While addressing the roadshow, Shri Raghubar Das said that “The Jharkhand Government has focused on the Youth to make them skilled under the New Jharkhand initiative. He also underlined the huge demand of workforce in the Middle East and other Gulf countries while admitting that the Youths back home should be trained as per the requirements in these countries. He also lauded the progress made by the State in terms of business sectors and agriculture.”

H.E Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE also attended the roadshow and said that “India is the third largest business partner country after China and the USA in the region. The relation between the two countries has seen a new height after Narendra Modi becoming Prime Minister. Efforts of Jharkhand Government in this direction are praiseworthy and UAE can play a big role in building a skilled Jharkhand.”

During the visit, Chief Minister Raghubar Das visited International Centre for Culinary Arts (ICCA) and Masdar Future City along with other industrial institutions. The delegation also visited Emirates Driving Institute in Dubai to explore synergies between institute and training needs in Jharkhand.

Meeting of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India with Mr Manoj Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary - Home, Industries, Technical Education, Government of Himachal Pradesh



December 2018: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had a meeting with Mr Manoj Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary - Home, Industries, Technical Education, Government of Himachal Pradesh. During the meeting, Mr Kumar extended an official invitation to His Excellency for participating in Himachal Pradesh Global Investors' Meet scheduled to be held on 10-11th June 2019 in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. The UAE has been named as "Partner Country" of the Investment Forum.

In the meeting, they also discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the UAE and Himachal Pradesh, especially in the Hospitality, Food Processing, Tourism and Real Estate sectors. They also discussed about the upcoming engagements and their importance in building the bilateral relationship much stronger.

Monthly News Wrap (December 2018)

<p>India, UAE ink currency swap agreement</p>  <p>In a landmark move, the UAE and India inked a currency swap agreement to boost trade and investment ties between the two countries. Now, businesses can do trade using local currencies of rupee and dirham, instead of dollar. Read More</p>	<p>Sheikh Zayed statue unveiled in India</p>  <p>A statue of the Founding Father of the UAE, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, was unveiled in India on the eve of 47th National Day. The unveiling of the statue took place on the sidelines of the National Day reception in New Delhi. Read More</p>
<p>UAE declares 2019 as the Year of Tolerance</p>  <p>The year 2019 will be celebrated as the 'Year of Tolerance' in the UAE, H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan has declared. It will highlight the UAE as a global capital for tolerance, through its various legislative and policy-oriented goals. Read More</p>	<p>UAE passport ranked most powerful globally</p>  <p>In a new historic achievement, the UAE passport has become the strongest passport and now ranked first globally. The number 1 spot in the global Passport Index was achieved just as UAE celebrates its 47th National Day and its achievements since 1971. Read More</p>
<p>ADIA to invest USD 50 billion into India</p>  <p>Abu Dhabi Investment Authority will invest USD 50 billion into India, especially into infrastructure and food processing capacity, said Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Gol. Read More</p>	<p>ADIA said to eye opportunities in India airport privatisations</p>  <p>The Abu Dhabi Investment Agency (ADIA) is in discussions with European and Southeast Asian airport operations for possible consortium arranged to bid for six state-owned Indian airports currently on offer for privatisation, according to sources. Read More</p>
<p>India's Samana to float Abu Dhabi feeder fund to lure Gulf investors</p>  <p>Samana Global Business Solutions, a Kerala-based diversified business group, has tied up with IBMC UAE to float a feeder fund in Abu Dhabi. The move aims to tap investors from GCC and other international markets for its proposed USD 560 million Alternative Investment Fund (AIF). Read More</p>	<p>UAE-based Thumbay Group on the verge of global expansion</p>  <p>Thumbay Group, announced its expansion plan as well as a new brand identity for the Gulf Medical University and GMC Hospital. Going global, the Group plans to open a second unit of the GMC Hospital in Malawi, Africa, as well as spread its services to India. Read More</p>
<p>Dubai-based Lulu Group interested in setting up integrated project in Punjab</p>  <p>Dubai-based Lulu group — a leading group of retail shopping centers in Gulf countries expressed keen interest to start its venture in Punjab through an integrated project preferably in Mohali. Read More</p>	<p>UAE Minister of Economy highlights UAE economy achievements in 2018</p>  <p>H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansoori, UAE Minister of Economy, revealed that the UAE economy had achieved several developmental milestones in 2018, which have contributed to stimulating its growth and enhancing its competitiveness. Read More</p>

Monthly News Wrap (December 2018)

UAE and India hold conference on Countering Terrorism, Extremism



A two-day conference was organised by the Policy Perspectives Foundation in New Delhi to address the root causes of radicalization and terrorism between the United Arab Emirates and India. [Read More](#)

India eyes \$100 billion FDI in 2 years says Suresh Prabhu



India aims to receive USD 100 billion in foreign direct investments in the next two years and special industrial clusters are being created for countries like Japan, South Korea, China and Russia where their companies can invest and operate, Union Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu said. [Read More](#)

Air India Express commences operations on Kannur-Abu Dhabi route



Air India Express, the subsidiary of Air India, has introduced flights connecting Kannur, Kerala with Abu Dhabi. The Kannur-Abu Dhabi route will operate three weekly flights on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. [Read More](#)

India remains Dubai's leading source market for tourism



Dubai remains on track to becoming the most visited city for global travel, business and events, with India retaining its position as Dubai's leading source market, underlining the city's sustained appeal to its traditional strongholds and a wider diversified global audience. [Read More](#)

Dubai Tourism set to launch new Attractions Marketplace



Dubai Tourism has announced plans to launch a new B2B online platform in January 2019 to promote the emirate's attractions and experiences, offering integrated digital support and wider visibility to both domestic stakeholders and global markets. [Read More](#)

Dubai means Business : The Emirate joins World's 20 most popular cities for Business Travel



Dubai attracts not only leisure and medical tourists but also a large number of business travellers from around the world as the emirate is among the world's 20 most popular cities for business travel, driven by the Mice sector, strategic location, strong connectivity and its regional hub status. [Read More](#)

Dubai seeks to draw more Indian property investors



According to the statistics issued by DLD's Department of Real Estate Studies & Research at the 10th edition of Dubai Property Show held in Mumbai, Indian nationals have consistently been the highest foreign investors in Dubai real estate. [Read More](#)

Visa reforms to help UAE retain appeal as an investment hub



The UAE's announcement on granting long-term visas to investors, entrepreneurs and those in specialist disciplines will help retain high net worth individuals (HNWIs) who had not previously enjoyed any security of residency. [Read More](#)

Indian Govt clears agriculture export policy to take shipments to USD 60 bn by 2022



Seeking to double agricultural export to USD 60 billion by 2022, Indian Government approved a maiden export policy for the farm sector that imposes no restrictions on export of all organic and processed products. [Read More](#)

Sharjah also known for investment sector



Despite its being globally renowned for its cultural achievements, Sharjah is also known for its investment sector, which maintains a balance of growth across all sectors. [Read More](#)

UAE - India Upcoming Events

28-31 Jan. 2019		Arab Health, Dubai View Details
31 Jan - 02 Feb. 2019		Logix India, New Delhi View Details
07-08 Feb. 2019		Bengal Global Business Summit, Kolkata View Details
10-12 Feb. 2019		The World Government Summit, Dubai View Details
17-21 Feb. 2019		IDEX, Abu Dhabi View Details
17-21 Feb. 2019		Gulfood, Dubai View Details
22-23 Feb. 2019		ET Global Business Summit, New Delhi View Details
26-28 Feb. 2019		DUPHAT, Dubai View Details
05-07 March. 2019		Middle East Electricity, Dubai View Details
14-16 March. 2019		International Engineering Sourcing Show (IESS), Chennai View Details
02-04 April. 2019		International Apparel & Textile Fair, Dubai View Details
07-11 April. 2019		Culture Summit, Abu Dhabi View Details
08-10 April. 2019		Annual Investment Meeting, Dubai View Details
24-30 April. 2019		Abu Dhabi International Book Fair, Abu Dhabi View Details
28 April - 01 May. 2019		Arabian Travel Market, Dubai View Details
10-11 June. 2019		Himachal Pradesh Global Investors' Meet' View Details
10-12 June. 2019		Automechanika Dubai View Details



ABOUT US

UAE - India Business Council (UIBC) is the only Official Joint Business Chamber set up by both the Governments for promoting economic synergy between the UAE and India. UIBC was formally launched by His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister for Foreign Affairs and Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs of India during 11th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on 3rd September 2015 in New Delhi.

UIBC aims to create an inclusive bilateral trade environment between UAE and India by linking businesses from both the countries, and supporting long-term commercial partnerships for developing strategic relationships between businesses and government officials from both the countries.

UIBC acts towards promoting investment promotion and business collaborations/ JVs between UAE and Indian businesses by organizing B2B networking meetings, policy forums and investment focused events, delegations, and other facilities required to succeed. It serves to provide a voice and visibility to the various stakeholders in UAE - India economic space and work towards promoting trade and investment, job creation, innovation, inclusion, and entrepreneurship between the UAE and India.



OUR MISSION

- To act as a catalyst engaged in exchange of ideas intended to promote the economic synergy between the UAE and India.
- To serve as the direct link between business and government leaders of both the countries
- To work towards providing the critical first 'home-away-from-home' with a network of Government, Policy Makers, Business Leaders and Industry contacts supported by highly skilled secretariat
- Providing a voice and visibility to the various stakeholders in UAE - India economic space
- To work towards promoting trade and investment, job creation, innovation, inclusion, and entrepreneurship between the UAE and India



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