



UAE-INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL



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Visit of Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to the UAE



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India paid a State visit to the UAE from 10 - 11th February 2018, at the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates. This was his second visit to the UAE and it allowed leadership of both the countries to take regular stock of the bilateral ties and to review the progress achieved in implementing the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement signed during the last visit of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of U.A.E. Armed Forces to India in January 2017.

Shri Narendra Modi had met H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on 10th February 2018 in Abu Dhabi and discussed regarding boosting strategic cooperation between the two nations as well as a number of regional and international issues of mutual interest. During their meeting, the two leaders discussed regarding areas of cooperation between both the countries and ways to boost and develop them in order to meet the aspirations of their respective peoples.

During the visit, the UAE and India signed five MoU's as part of joint efforts to consolidate bilateral partnership and cooperation; and open up prospects for joint work. His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the UAE, and Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, witnessed the signing ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi.

A **MoU between ADNOC and Indian Consortium (OVL, BPRL & IOCL)** led by ONGC Videsh Ltd. was signed for awarding 10% participating interest in the offshore Lower Zakum Concession. The concession will be for 40 years from 2018 to 2057, and it's the first Indian Investment in upstream oil sector of UAE, transforming the traditional buyer-seller relationship to a long-term investor relationship. The MoU was signed by H.E. Dr. Sultan bin Ahmad Al Jaber, UAE Cabinet Member & Minister of State and Chief Executive Officer, ADNOC Group and Mr Shashi Shanker, Chairman, ONGC.

To **cooperate in the field of Manpower**, the UAE and Indian Government signed a MoU that aims to institutionalise the collaborative administration of contractual employment of Indian workers in the UAE. Under the MoU, both the sides will work to integrate their labour related e-platforms for ending the existing malpractices, combat trafficking and organize collaborative programs for education and awareness of contractual workers. The MoU was sealed by H.E. Nasser bin Thani Al Hamli, UAE Cabinet Member & Minister of Human Resources and Emiratisation, and H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE.

A MoU for **Technical Cooperation in Rail Sector** was signed between the UAE Federal Transport Authority - Land & Maritime and Indian Ministry of Railways. The MoU envisages formation of a Joint Working Group for institutionalizing the cooperation mechanism to facilitate development of joint projects, knowledge sharing, joint research and technology transfer. The MoU was inked by H.E. Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Belhaif Al Nuaimi, UAE Cabinet Member & Minister of Infrastructure Development, and H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE.



To deepen bilateral cooperation in the field of Finance, a MoU between Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) was signed. It aims at enhancing cooperation between both the countries in financial services industry. The MoU envisages information exchange, exchange of experts and training for mutual benefit of both the countries. The MoU would facilitate investment in financial markets by investors from both the countries. The MoU was signed by Mr Rashid Al Baloushi, CEO, Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange and Mr Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, Bombay Stock Exchange.

A MoU between DP World and Government of Jammu and Kashmir was signed to establish multi-modal logistics park and hub in Jammu, comprising warehouses and specialized storage solutions. The MoU was inked by Mr Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO, DP World and Shri Haseeb Ahmed Drabu, the then Hon'ble Finance Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

Apart from his official engagements in Abu Dhabi, Prime Minister Modi delivered his key note address on the theme- "Technology for Development" at the sixth World Government Summit in Dubai, where India was invited as the 'Guest of Honour'. On the side-lines of the World Government Summit, Shri Modi met with a select group of senior business leaders from Gulf Corporation Council countries and highlighted Government initiatives for enhancing the ease of doing business in India.

His other high-level engagements included meeting with H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Prime Minister and Vice President of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. PM Modi addressed the Indian Community on 11th February in Dubai Opera where he also witnessed the Shila Poojan ceremony of the Temple proposed to be built in Abu Dhabi. He inaugurated a project for the construction of the first Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi via video conferencing. Structure of the temple will be hand-carved by Indian Artisans and will be assembled in the UAE. It will be completed by 2020 and will be open to people of all religious backgrounds.



Abu Dhabi Week in India



Abu Dhabi Investment Office along with Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development had organised 'Abu Dhabi Week' in India from 5 - 9th February 2018, in New Delhi and Mumbai for showcasing investment opportunities and to promote their local industries and services.

Abu Dhabi Week in India aimed to foster dialogues, exchange and share insights with the Indian investors' community in line with Abu Dhabi Government's vision to transform the emirate into an economic and business hub. Abu Dhabi Week in India offered a unique platform to identify and discuss strategic roadmap for investments in different sectors.

The delegation from Abu Dhabi Investment Office, accompanied by 23 high-level Government and Semi-Government entities representing different sectors in Abu Dhabi participated in this event including Etihad Airways, Zonescorp, Khalifa Port Free Trade Zone, Mubadala, Abu Dhabi Ports, Abu Dhabi Global Market to name a few. The event included investors roundtable, numerous workshops, Government-to-Government and B2B meetings along with an array of cultural activities representing both the UAE and India.

As a part of the Abu Dhabi Week in India, investment roadshows in New Delhi and Mumbai was organised. The investment roadshow was led by H.E. Saif Mohamed Al Hajeri, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development and H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India. The interactive event highlighted Abu Dhabi's position as a global gateway for investments and cultural exchange in the MENA region. Additionally, it emphasised on the importance of UAE's strategic partnership with targeted countries and its commitment to explore new opportunities.





During the Abu Dhabi Week, the delegation from Abu Dhabi met Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi and discussed ways of pushing forward the economic & investment relationship between the UAE and India. The meeting was also attended by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India; Mr Ahmad Alfalahi, Commercial Attache of UAE to India along with a number of officials from both the sides.

The delegation led by H.E. Saif Mohamed Al Hajeri, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development had also met Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, in Mumbai and discussed mutual investment opportunities. Hon'ble Chief Minister shared details relating to huge infrastructure works undertaken in Maharashtra, and highlighted investment opportunities in building dry ports, logistic parks, etc. H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India and leaders from UAE industry organisations, senior officials from Maharashtra Government were also present during the meeting.



Visit of Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to the UAE



A high-level delegation led by Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh visited UAE on 8th February 2018 to attract investments in the State. Hon'ble Chief Minister was accompanied by Shri Yanamala Ramakrishnu, Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Planning, Andhra Pradesh Government; Mr Satish Chandra, Special Chief Secretary to CM; Mr G. Sai Prasad, Principal Secretary to CM; Mr J Krishna Kishore, Chief Executive Officer, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB); and several other senior officials.

During the visit, APEDB signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Emirates Group for cooperation in the field of aviation. The MoU also included a discussion on setting up a Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO), an Aviation Training Centre and a Manufacturing Unit of in-flight consumables. The MoU was signed in the presence of Shri Naidu and H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Emirates Group. H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE was also present in the meeting along with the Indian delegation and officers of the Emirates Group.

During the visit, Hon'ble Chief Minister had meetings with a number of Dubai based business groups namely DP World, Sharaf Group, Phoenix Group, Dubai Airport Freezone (DAFZA), Conares, Kaaf Investments, Sigfox, etc. and invited them to invest in the state.

In his meeting with Mr Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO, DP World, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu shared details relating to vast opportunities that Andhra Pradesh can offer for mutual growth and invited DP World to set up a Special Economic Zone in the state. In his meeting with Mr Sharafuddin Sharaf, Vice Chairman, Sharaf Group, Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted investment opportunities and encouraged him to make further investments in the state.

In his another meeting with Mr Gaurav Dhawan, Executive Chairman, Phoenix Group, Shri Naidu explained the innovative methods that are being adopted in Andhra Pradesh in the field of agriculture. The Group officials informed that they will start work on a Mega Integrated Rice Mill at Samalkot near Kakinada Port. The Chief Minister also urged the Phoenix Group officials to explore locations for peanut farming and manufacturing of peanut butter in Anantapur.

Hon'ble Chief Minister also had a meeting with Mr Mohammed Ahmed Al Zarooni, Director General, Dubai Airport Free Zone Authority (DAFZA); Vice Chairman and CEO, Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA); and Director, Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE). They discussed the multinational efforts to set up the Aerocity project in Andhra Pradesh, with KPMG as the consultant, and some financiers from Saudi Arabia.

Visit of Mr Vikas Kharage, Secretary - Revenue and Forests Department, Government of Maharashtra to the UAE



A high-level delegation led by Mr Vikas Kharage, Secretary - Revenue and Forests Department, Government of Maharashtra visited the UAE from 14 - 18th February 2018. The delegation comprised of Mr Narayanan Vasudevan, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head - Mangrove Cell and Mr Virendra Rambahal Tiwari, Chief Conservator of Forest, Revenue and Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra.

The Government of Maharashtra is planning to establish a world class facility in Mumbai for showcasing the coastal and marine biodiversity of the state. This facility is planned to be modelled after the Garden Glow and major tourist attractions in Dubai, which are well known for their creative use of high end technology.

In this regard, the Indian officials had a meeting with the officials of Dubai Municipality on 15th February 2018. During the meeting, Mr Muna Obaid Al Daheri, Head, Dubai Safari park briefed the delegation on the experiences of Dubai Municipality in setting up Dubai Safari and Mr Mohammed Hassan Al Fardan, Specialist in the Public Parks and Horticulture Department gave a presentation on the public parks and other leisure facilities in Dubai.

During the meeting, the Indian delegation applauded the leisure facilities, public parks and the overall infrastructure facilities in Dubai as well as the development boom witnessed by the Emirate of Dubai in various fields. They stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation between Dubai Municipality and the Government of Maharashtra to exchange experiences. Mr Vikas Kharage praised the beauty of Dubai and its endeavour to provide all the excellent services to the community. He emphasised the need to communicate with Dubai Municipality in various fields.

In the meeting, the Maharashtra delegation gave a presentation on the Coastal and Marine Diversity Centre in Arioli, Navi Mumbai, set up by the Government of Maharashtra. The meeting was also attended by Mr Pankaj Bodkhe, Consul (Economic & Education), Consul General of India in Dubai.

During the visit, the Indian delegation also conducted a number of visits to various facilities in Dubai such as the Dubai Safari, Dubai Frame, Dubai Garden Glow and Dubai Dolphinarium.

Monthly News Wrap (February 2018)

Abu Dhabi's NPCC expands India operations



National Petroleum Construction Company (NPCC), a division of Senaat Abu Dhabi, has expanded its operations in Hyderabad by opening a new office that employs over 450 people. [Read More](#)

India to get over 65% of Abu Dhabi's crude barrels in Mangalore storage



India will have the right to over 65% of 6 million barrels of crude oil that will be sent by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). All the barrels will be stored in the strategic storage facility, the first of its kind in India, at Mangalore. [Read More](#)

DP World signs MoU with Jammu and Kashmir Government



The Government of Dubai, DP World and Government of Jammu and Kashmir have recently inked a pact to jointly explore opportunities to develop trade infrastructure in the north Indian state. [Read More](#)

Emirates, Andhra Pradesh tie up to give aviation a boost



The Emirates Group, and its affiliated entities including flydubai, signed a MoU with the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB), Government of Andhra Pradesh, to support and invest in the development of AP's aviation sector. [Read More](#)

UAE's achievements get global recognition



According to the ranking of World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report for 2017-18, UAE has been ranked first globally in as many as 50 indices related to vital community, services and development sectors. [Read More](#)

UAE - India look for cooperation in space frontier



After forging a stronger relationship on all matters earthly in the past few years, the UAE and India are now aiming to boost their bilateral ties on various fronts, space being an important sector. [Read More](#)

Air India mulls more routes from Abu Dhabi to India



Air India will soon have direct flights connecting the capital cities of the UAE and India, a top official said. The management of the airlines is mulling flights that connect Abu Dhabi with New Delhi and other Indian cities. [Read More](#)

UAE-India route to be among top travel segments by 2036



India is set to become one of the world's third fastest growing air transport markets by 2036, and flights between India and the UAE will make the country pair the fastest growing travel segment in the industry, a report by IATA revealed. [Read More](#)

Second Defence Industrial Corridor to come up in UP



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently announced that Indian Government would establish a Rs 20,000 crore Defence Industrial Production Corridor in Uttar Pradesh, covering parts of the Bundelkhand region. [Read More](#)

Indian defence sector an opportunity for the UAE



The UAE and India share a very important strategic partnership, and there is a lot of potential for the UAE to invest in the Indian defence sector for further growth, India's defence minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said. [Read More](#)

Monthly News Wrap (February 2018)

India retains top spot as source market for Dubai in 2017



India retained top spot as the source market for Dubai with 2.1 million visitors in 2017, as per the latest data of Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (Dubai Tourism). Dubai witnessed 15% growth in tourist arrivals from India in 2017. [Read More](#)

Borouge launches plastic solutions for Indian packaging market



A joint venture of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and Austria-based Borealis, Borouge launched its new range of plastic solutions for the Indian market at Plastindia 2018 held in Gandhinagar. [Read More](#)

UAE-India ties to reach new heights, say diplomats



During a panel discussion on 'UAE-India ties: Symbolic, Substantive and Strategic' at Emirates Diplomatic Academy, top diplomats noted that the UAE and India share a special bond and bilateral relations are stronger than before. [Read More](#)

UAE, India think-tanks ink pact on research



Breaking new grounds in the level of UAE-India engagements, two think-tanks, Emirates Policy Center (EPC) and Indian Observer Research Foundation (ORF) inked a MoU to cooperate in the areas of research and partnership. [Read More](#)

Indian food products piping hot at Gulfood



The Gulf region has emerged as one of the key markets for Indian agri-products over the years. Around 300 Indian companies participated at 'Gulfood 2018' and showcased a number of new products at the event. [Read More](#)

Sharjah will be Guest of Honour at Delhi book fair 2019



Sharjah has been chosen as the Guest of Honour country at the New Delhi 'World Book Fair 2019', due to its pioneering efforts in the promotion of literature, the arts, intercultural appreciation, reading and knowledge sharing in the region. [Read More](#)

Indian Government allocates Rs 5.97 lakh crore for infra spending in 2018-19



Describing infrastructure as a growth driver of the economy, Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley, increased the budgetary allocation for the infrastructure sector by Rs 1 lakh crore to Rs 5.97 lakh crore for the fiscal year 2018-19. [Read More](#)

Dubai to establish Gulf's first solar-driven hydrogen facility



The Dubai Expo 2020 Bureau and Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), signed a MoU with Siemens that will start work on the region's first solar-driven hydrogen electrolysis facility at the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park in Dubai. [Read More](#)

Lulu to open mall, convention centre in Andhra Pradesh



Through the public-private partnership route, the Lulu group will construct an international convention centre, hotel and shopping mall in the coastal city of Andhra Pradesh with an investment of Rs 2,000 crore. [Read More](#)

Indians invest AED 83.65 billion in Dubai property in 5 years



Indian nationals have emerged as the largest foreign investor group in Dubai's real estate sector, buying properties worth AED 83.65 billion in the last five years from 2013 to 2017, as per the statistics compiled by Dubai Land Department. [Read More](#)



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From R to L: **H.E. Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem**, Group Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, DP World, **His Highness Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum**, President, Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman and Chief Executive, The Emirates Airlines & Group, Chairman, Dubai World, **His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan**, Hon'ble Cabinet Member and Minister Tolerance, Govt. of UAE, **H.E. Dr. Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor**, Group Chairman, Al Habtoor Group and Palm Jumeirah, Chairman, Dubai Quality Group and other distinguished guests during the Golden Peacock Awards ceremony of the 2017 Dubai Global Convention.



GLOBAL BUSINESS MEET

Theme:
Transformative Leadership for **Fostering Creativity, Innovation & Business Excellence**

GALAXY OF SPEAKERS



His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan
Cabinet Member and the Minister of State for Tolerance



H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, IFS
Ambassador of India to United Arab Emirates



H.E. Ahmed Bin Sulayem
Executive Chairman
DMCC
Dubai Multi Commodities Centre



Shri Ashok Chawla, IAS
former Finance Secretary & Chairman
National Stock Exchange



Prof. Colin Coulson-Thomas
President
Institute of Management Services



H.E. Marwan Jassim Al Serkal
CEO
Sharjah Investment and Development Authority (Shurooq)

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

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- Top technical speakers loaded with professional experience
- Business case study presentations by the top companies
- Presentation of Golden Peacock Awards for 'Business Excellence', 'Innovative Product/Service', 'Quality' & 'Training'
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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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