



# UAE-INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL



## Monthly Digest of UAE - India Business Council (UIBC)

March 2020



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**Telephonic Conversation between H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces and Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India**



His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces had a telephonic conversation with Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

The two leaders exchanged information and views on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the situation in their respective countries, as well as the steps being taken by their respective Governments. H.H. Sheikh Mohammed and PM Modi agreed that the next few weeks would be crucial to control the spread of the virus, and required concerted and coordinated efforts by all countries. In this context, both sides appreciated the organisation of a Virtual Summit among G20 Leaders held earlier in the day to discuss the pandemic.

His Highness and PM Modi emphasised the importance they attach to the strength and richness of the bilateral relationship and explored ways for consolidating the strategic cooperation between the two friendly countries. They agreed to maintain regular consultations between their officials in the present situation, particularly to ensure continuity of logistical supply lines.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan assured PM Modi about the welfare of over 2 million Indians living in the UAE and contributing to its economy.

Indian PM thanked Crown Prince for his personal attention to the health and safety of Indian expatriates in the present situation. PM Modi conveyed his best wishes for the good health of the Crown Prince and the entire Royal Family as well as all Emirati citizens.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan warmly reciprocated the good wishes.

## Meeting of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India with Mr Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, GoI



**March 2020:** H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had met Mr Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India to discuss bilateral relations between the UAE and India.

During the meeting, the two sides highlighted that strategic relations between the UAE and India are growing and deepening. This was the first meeting between H.E. Dr. Albanna and Mr Shringla, who took charge as Foreign Secretary of India.

The UAE Ambassador conveyed his wishes to Mr Shringla for his new endeavor and assured him fullest cooperation of the UAE Embassy for working together in order to reflect the strategic relations between the UAE and India.

In the meeting, the two dignitaries also discussed bilateral cooperation for Dubai Expo 2020 as well as India's participation and support towards the event. Strategic dialogue meeting and Air Service Agreements were also discussed during the meeting.

The meeting ended on a positive note and both sides reiterated their commitment to consolidate bilateral ties & seek partnership in new areas.

## Meeting of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India with Mr Zulfi Ravdjee, Advisor to Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh



**March 2020:** H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had a meeting with Mr Zulfi Ravdjee, Advisor to Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The discussions at the meeting were centred on promoting bilateral trade and investment ties between the UAE and Andhra Pradesh and finding the way forward to address issues. The meeting culminated on a positive note with both sides agreeing to work together to explore investment opportunities.



## Participation of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India at an interactive session organised on the occasion of International Women's Day



**March 2020:** H.E. Dr. Ahmed Al Banna, UAE Ambassador to India had participated in an interactive session organised on the occasion of International Women's Day.

The session was attended and addressed by Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, GoI and Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development and Textiles, GoI. It was also attended by several diplomats including Ambassadors and High Commissioners of different countries.

At the interactive session, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar shared his views about women enactment and women lead enactment.

Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani enlightened the participants about the steps taken by Indian Government towards women recognition & woman enactment.

While addressing the audience, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna highlighted efforts of the UAE from its inception and shared vision of H.H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founder of UAE on recognition of women & women enactment.

His Excellency focused on women being important part of the UAE Government and mentioned that 50 percent of the UAE Cabinet comprises of women & has 9 female Ministers.

H.E. Dr. Albanna also suggested for having a platform and signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between the UAE and India involving other countries & organisations like UN with reference to woman enactment.

Meeting of H.E. Pavan Kapoor, Indian Ambassador to the UAE with H.E. Abdulla Al Saleh,  
Under-Secretary, UAE Ministry of Economy for Foreign Trade Affairs



**March 2020:** H.E. Pavan Kapoor, Indian Ambassador to the UAE had received H.E. Abdulla Al Saleh, Under-Secretary, UAE Ministry of Economy for Foreign Trade Affairs to discuss ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in trade and investment between the two countries.

The meeting culminated on a positive note and both sides expressed common desire to bolster cooperation and exchanges between the UAE and India.

## Monthly News Wrap (March 2020)

<h3>PM Modi singles out UAE in briefing</h3>	<h3>UAE Cabinet sets list of economic sectors open for full foreign ownership</h3>
 <p>The UAE was singled out from the entire Arab world by India's Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during a global video conference on the COVID-19 pandemic. PM Modi held the video conference with India's Ambassadors worldwide, to discuss responses to the Covid-19 pandemic. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>	 <p>The UAE Cabinet has approved a list of sectors eligible for 100% foreign ownership including 122 economic activities in industry, agriculture and services. The decision aims to support the growth environment and to reaffirm UAE's position on the global arena as a hub for investment. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>
<h3>Abu Dhabi Chamber discusses investment cooperation with India</h3>	<h3>RAK Airport boosts Indian trade links with agri and farming deal</h3>
 <p>The Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry discussed ways of reinforcing its commercial and investment ties with India during a meeting held between H.E. Mohamed Helal Al Muhairi, Director-General of the Chamber and H.E Pavan Kapoor, Indian Ambassador to the UAE and his accompanying delegation. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>	 <p>Trade operations between Ras Al Khaimah and India have been boosted by a three-way deal signed between the emirate's airport, Hyderabad International Airport and SpiceJet. Under the agreement a dedicated freight corridor will be established through which agri and farming products from centrally located Telangana and neighbouring regions can be sent over to the UAE. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>
<h3>UAE rolls out strategic food security law</h3>	<h3>DAFZA contributes AED 164 billion to Dubai foreign trade economy</h3>
 <p>The UAE has rolled out a strategic food security law that ensures adequate and uninterrupted food supplies through wholesalers and retailers across the UAE at all times. The law seeks to regulate the strategic stock of food commodities in the country in the event of crisis, emergencies and disasters and offers incentives and facilities to registered providers and merchants. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>	 <p>Dubai Airport Freezone Authority (DAFZA) has played a key role in boosting Dubai's economic growth, with a 12 percent contribution to the emirate's foreign trade in 2019, compared to 11.2 percent in 2018, out of a total trade value of AED 1.37 trillion recorded last year. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>
<h3>India's Rs 480 billion incentives to boost electronics exports</h3>	<h3>Expo 2020 Dubai to seek one-year postponement</h3>
 <p>With the aim to boost domestic manufacturing along with attracting investment in electronic component manufacturing, the Indian Government has approved three key schemes with a total outlay of Rs 480.42 billion. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>	 <p>Expo 2020 Dubai will explore the possibility of postponing the event by one year in order to allow the world recover from coronavirus pandemic, organisers announced. <a href="#">Read More</a></p>





## 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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