



UAE-INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL



Monthly Digest of UAE - India Business Council (UIBC)

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UAE - India boost Energy Cooperation



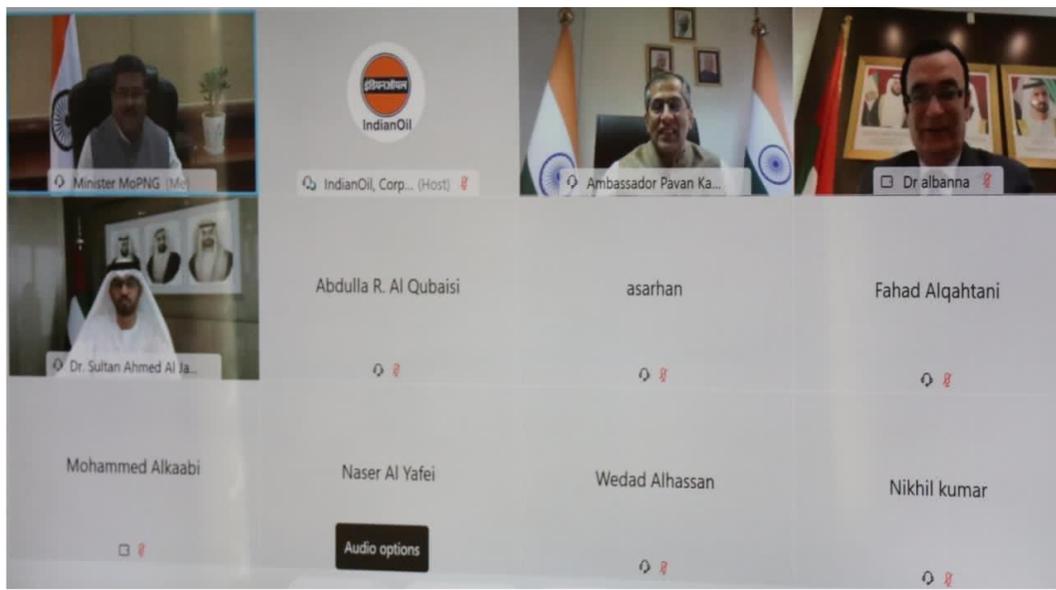
The UAE and India have explored ways to take bilateral relations to a higher level with special emphasis on the energy sector by further strengthening and providing greater momentum to bilateral strategic energy partnership between the two countries. This came in a virtual meeting, H.E. Dr. Sultan Bin Ahmad Sultan Al Jaber, UAE Cabinet Member and Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and MD & CEO, ADNOC Group held with Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, GoI on 17th March 2021.

During the virtual meeting, H.E. Dr. Sultan Al Jaber reiterated the great importance of the longstanding commercial ties between the UAE and India, adding that ADNOC welcomes opportunities to expand partnerships in petrochemicals, logistics and services and explore collaboration in new areas, including hydrogen.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan mentioned that India is seeking at further strengthening of bilateral energy partnership and conveyed his deep appreciation to Dr. Sultan Al Jaber for being a key partner in India's energy engagement globally.

Taking the discussion forward, the two dignitaries deliberated upon ways for further enhancing the bilateral energy cooperation between the two countries and agreed to remain committed despite the challenges presented by Covid pandemic.

The meeting was also attended by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India; H.E. Pavan Kapoor, Indian Ambassador to the UAE; and senior officials from both sides.



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



March 2021: 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 cooperation covering wide range of areas & enhancing UAE-India relationship.

In the meeting, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna highlighted that the UAE-India bilateral relations continue to evolve over time, from mere commercial cooperation into strategic partnership. He appreciated the positive developments witnessed between both the nations and reiterated the growth potential for the bilateral trade. His Excellency assured fullest cooperation of the UAE Embassy for working together in order to reflect the strategic relations between the UAE and India.

For his part, Mr Shringla expressed happiness at the strong and growing bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and discussed next steps to consolidate the bilateral ties and seek partnership in new areas between the UAE and India.

The meeting ended on a positive note and both sides reiterated their commitment to further strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two countries by working together and focusing on finding the way forward to address issues of both countries.

Meeting of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India with Mr Vipul, Joint Secretary (Gulf), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



March 2021: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had a meeting with Mr Vipul, Joint Secretary (Gulf), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in New Delhi.

During the meeting, the two dignitaries discussed about the bilateral cooperation for ensuring a conducive and peaceful environment for the progress and development between the UAE and India. The discussions at the meeting were centred on promoting bilateral trade and commercial activities between the UAE and India and finding the way forward to address issues of both the countries.

The meeting culminated on a positive note with both sides agreeing to work together to enhance the bilateral relations further.

Participation of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India at the Inaugural Session of PHD Global Aviation & Air Cargo Summit



March 2021: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna, UAE Ambassador to India had participated virtually at the inaugural session of 7th edition of PHD Global Aviation & Air Cargo Summit themed 'Aviation - Air Cargo Industry's New Growth Blueprint & Business Resurgence Parameters' organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The virtual summit was attended and addressed by Mr Pradeep Singh Kharola, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, GoI; Ms Vandana Aggarwal, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry of Civil Aviation, GoI; Ambassadors & Diplomats; senior officials from Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation; and other dignitaries who shared their perspectives on the subject. The webinar also witnessed the participation of business and industry leaders; key stakeholders from the aviation, air cargo logistics & aircraft leasing companies; aircraft manufacturers; drones & other related aviation & cargo industries.

In his address, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Albanna while highlighting the strategic relationship between the UAE and India mentioned that the aviation industry is a key player in enhancing the overall bilateral relationship, governed by the air service agreement. The UAE Ambassador briefed the participants on the bilateral Air Service Agreement and reiterated his commitment to further strengthen aviation linkages between the two countries and early commencement of scheduled flights under the UAE-India Air service agreement. His Excellency also emphasized that the International Community must stand together to overcome the challenge presented by the Covid19 Outbreak on aviation industry & to recover from its effects.

While addressing the participants, Mr Kharola deliberated about the importance of the aviation and cargo sector which played a pivotal role in being the engine of connectivity and enabler for growth worldwide for international trade. He mentioned that despite of many challenges caused by the pandemic the Indian aviation and cargo has emerged as a resilient sector and urged for working together for improving the Air Cargo and building strong partnerships between the nations and airlines.

Ms Vandana Aggarwal also addressed the virtual event and discussed regarding various initiatives taken by the Indian Government in the aviation industry and shared that India is one of the few countries that has added air trade capacity during pandemic on measurable terms besides the B2C conversions. She also highlighted that the air cargo sector has been instrumental in the transportation of essential supplies and is playing a crucial role in the transportation of the COVID-19 vaccine worldwide.

Meeting of Dr. Aman Puri, Consul General of India in Dubai with H.E. Eng. Hessa Al Malek, Advisor to the Minister for Maritime Transport Affairs, UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure



March 2021: Dr. Aman Puri, Consul General of India in Dubai had a courtesy meeting with H.E. Eng. Hessa Al Malek, Advisor to the Minister for Maritime Transport Affairs, UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

During the meeting, the two sides reaffirmed the close, deep-rooted ties between the UAE and India in several areas of mutual interest, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Aman Puri conveyed gratitude to H.E. Eng. Hessa Al Malek for the continuous support of the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure for resolving issues of Indian seafarers.

Monthly News Wrap (March 2021)

Dubai Land Department showcases initiatives at virtual edition of IREX India 2021



Dubai Land Department (DLD) participated in the 2021 edition of International Real Estate Expo (IREX) India as 'City Partner' to shed light on Dubai's real estate sector. DLD showcased the multiple opportunities that Dubai provides in this sector as well as introduced participants to department's innovative services and initiatives. During the exhibition, which was organized in India virtually, DLD welcomed 428 visitors and displayed a number of its services and initiatives on its platform.

Transworld Group to build INR 200 crore container manufacturing facility in Gujarat



Dubai-based Transworld Group, promoted by Indian businessman Mr Ramesh Ramakrishnan signed an agreement with state-owned Sagarmala Development Company Ltd to build a cargo container manufacturing facility in the state of Gujarat with an investment of about INR 200 crore. The plan marks India's entry into manufacturing cargo containers, a segment dominated by China, as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Aster DM Healthcare plans India expansion



Aster DM Healthcare Ltd., a Dubai-based operator of hospitals and pharmacies expanding across India, is revisiting a potential sale of dollar bonds after pushing back a planned issuance last year. The company which runs 26 hospitals and hundreds of clinics and pharmacies in the Gulf and India, is seeking to issue about USD 400 million of securities possibly in the next three to six months. Aster plans to expand across India and is looking to open at least four hospitals in the country in the next four years.

Indian start-up lands JV, funding deals with UAE firm on new age food products



Zaara Biotech, an Indian campus start-up, has bagged a joint venture deal with UAE-based multi-sector business group TCN International Commerce for the company's micro-algae-based new age lifestyle food products. The Indian firm has also finalized a USD 10 million funding deal with TCN, which is to be used for Zaara's proposed research and development projects in bio and nanotechnology areas with some of the leading universities in the UAE.

Dubai-based ice cream start-up eyes expansion to India, Saudi Arabia, other GCC markets



Pedalo Gelato, the Dubai-based ice cream start-up which opened its doors in October 2020, is set to unveil a major expansion in India and three GCC countries. The company plans to set up a subsidiary in India, which will launch and run its ice cream business in the country. In the first phase the company is looking at three major cities – Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore. The firm will explore supplying the products to India from its Dubai facility, subject to cost feasibilities, until the company finds a local manufacturer in the country.

Gulf Capital plans investment of INR 250 crore to open 18 ART fertility clinics in India



Alternative asset management firm Gulf Capital announced that it plans to invest a total of INR 250 crore in India to open 18 ART Fertility Clinics to provide fertility treatment across the country in two years. The first two clinics in Gurugram and New Delhi have commenced operations. They will be followed by clinics in Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, and Kolkata in the next four months.

Monthly News Wrap (March 2021)

Indian UFlex eyes Dubai expansion amid rising demand for packaged goods in GCC



Indian flexible packaging manufacturer UFlex is set to massively expand its Dubai manufacturing facility, driven by the growing demand for sustainably packaged consumer packaged goods (CPGs) in the GCC and nearby regions. It will be adding an additional cast polypropylene (CPP) manufacturing line with an annual production capacity of 18,000 metric tonnes at Flex Films Middle East, operating from the Jebel Ali free zone.

Indian logistics intelligence venture ClickPost plans major expansion in the GCC



ClickPost, the Indian start-up, plans for a major expansion to extend its operations across the GCC market by year end, amid e-commerce companies' increased focus to significantly reduce their returned deliveries and save billions of dollars annually. The India-based logistics intelligence company is in talks with some of the leading companies in the luxury, apparel, cosmetics and pharma sectors in the GCC region for partnership deals as part of its ambitious growth plans in the region.

India's TVS automobiles opens showroom in Dubai



India's TVS Motor Company has inaugurated their first 2,000 sqft showroom in the UAE to provide spare parts and feature a service facility, apart from hosting a wide range of two-wheelers. The global two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer announced their new distribution partnership with Public Motors (part of Ghaf Investments) in the UAE. This association is a strategic step towards expanding TVS Motor Company's market presence, driving innovation through best-in-class products and setting a customer experience benchmark.

Indian women's wear start-up breaks into UAE as first international expansion



YourLibaas, an Indian start-up for niche women's designer clothing, is set to enter the UAE in its first expansion internationally. The company also has plans to explore partnership deals with leading retail chains in the Gulf region as part of its ambitious growth and brand awareness plans. YourLibaas will join a long list of Indian companies including Dabur, Titan, Tanishq, Cleartrip, FreshToHome and TutorComp, that have chosen the Gulf region for their maiden global expansion.

New fund from India's Nikhil Kamath to target Middle East investors



Famed Indian school dropout-turned-star entrepreneur Mr Nikhil Kamath seeks to woo a significant chunk of investors from the Middle East to invest in new fund, which will have a USD 1 million minimum investment level and make his soon-to-be-launched second hedge fund another success. True Beacon Global is expected to go live by the end of April and will be an open-ended fund in which subscribers can enter or exit any time after the fund is launched.

The Gulf accounts for bulk of airline traffic to India after air bubble agreements



As per the official data, the Gulf accounted for the bulk of the 7.09 million international air travellers to India from April 2020 to January 2021. The India-UAE routes were among the first to open post resumption of international air travel under travel bubble agreements. Indian private carriers such as IndiGo, Vistara, SpiceJet and GoAir, and the country's national carrier Air India have also been operating hundreds of weekly flights to the Gulf sector under the 'bubble' arrangement.

Major Upcoming Events

16-19 May. 2021		Arabian Travel Market View Details
17 May-09 June. 2021		Middle East Energy Dubai View Details
23-29 May. 2021		Abu Dhabi International Book Fair View Details
21-24 June. 2021		Arab Health View Details
06-08 September. 2021		Annapoorna ANUFOOD India View Details
07-09 September. 2021		SIAL Middle East View Details
12-15 September. 2021		The Big 5: International Building & Construction Show View Details
15-17 September. 2021		Renewable Energy India Expo View Details
1 October 2021 - 31 March. 2022		Expo 2020 View Details
17-21 October. 2021		GITEX Technology Week View Details
14-18 November. 2021		Dubai Airshow View Details
15-18 November. 2021		ADIPEC View Details
24-26 November. 2021		CPHI & P-MEC India View Details
14-16 December. 2021		Automechanika Dubai View Details
17-19 January. 2022		World Future Energy Summit View Details
13-17 February. 2022		Gulfood View Details
22-24 February. 2022		DUPHAT 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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