



UIBC NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025



BUSINESS INTERACTION & MOU SIGNING CEREMONY

UIBC ORGANISES BUSINESS INTERACTION MEET IN NEW DELHI, SIGNS MoUs



The UAE-India Business Council (UIBC) hosted a **Business Interaction Meet in New Delhi on 23rd September 2025**, bringing together leading companies and trade bodies from both nations. Aligned with UIBC's mission to promote trade and investment while leveraging the UAE-India CEPA, the event aimed to foster strategic partnerships and advance sustainable growth.

The gathering convened senior officials from the Government of India, UIBC members, business leaders, and representatives from the diplomatic and media community, marking a significant milestone in strengthening the UAE-India economic partnership. The discussions focused on enhancing collaboration across trade, innovation, logistics, SMEs, and start-ups, with the objective of creating new avenues for collaboration and investment opportunities.

In line with this vision, **UIBC has established a joint mechanism that integrates its extensive industry networks with the UAE-India CEPA Council's focus on start-ups, SMEs, innovation, and emerging sectors.** This collaboration will enhance coordination, facilitate knowledge exchange, and further create new avenues for commercial and strategic engagement.



Participating at the event, **His Excellency Abdunasser Alshaali, PhD, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to India**, underscored the strategic depth of the bilateral partnership. **He remarked** - "The UAE and India stand at the forefront of a transformative partnership. With the UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) as our foundation, we are unlocking new opportunities that will redefine global trade flows and strengthen the economic future of both nations."

Speaking on the occasion, **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Sharafuddin Sharaf, Chairman of UIBC India Chapter** said - "UIBC remains committed to its mission of serving as a premier platform for dialogue, collaboration, and policy advocacy. These MoUs and knowledge initiatives exemplify the Council's role in strengthening institutional linkages, enabling industry partnerships, and advancing the long-term objectives of both governments."

TRANSLATING VISION INTO ACTION: UIBC SIGNS FIVE LANDMARK MoUs



UIBC and the UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC), committed to closer institutional collaboration, ensuring greater coherence in advancing the objectives of the UAE-India CEPA, and deepening the UAE-India economic partnership.

The MoU was signed by **Mr. Sharad Agarwal**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, UIBC and **Mr. Ahmed Aljneibi**, Director, UICC

UIBC and Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), deepening cooperation across priority services sectors including logistics, healthcare, IT/ITES, education, tourism, and engineering, while promoting B2B and B2G engagements and addressing market access challenges.

The MoU was signed by **Mr. Sharad Agarwal**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, UIBC and **Dr. Upasana Arora**, Vice Chairperson, SEPC





UIBC and Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCCI) signed a MoU. The UAE companies have deep interest in the state in sectors like logistics, financial services etc. The state, known for its Gems & Jewellery industry—a key sector for Indian exporters to the UAE—will benefit from this MoU, which aims to facilitate increased B2B and B2G interactions and expand outreach in other sectors such as renewable energy, food processing, tourism etc.

*The MoU was signed by **Mr. Sharad Agarwal**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, UIBC and **Mr. Chirag Jasani**, Secretary General, GCCCI*



UIBC and Bombay Industries Association (BIA) entered into an MoU. One of the key areas of focus is to get the SMEs from the region to engage more actively in the UAE market. Sectors in focus, engineering, plastics, renewable energy, logistics, IT/ITES, healthcare, tourism, financial services, etc.

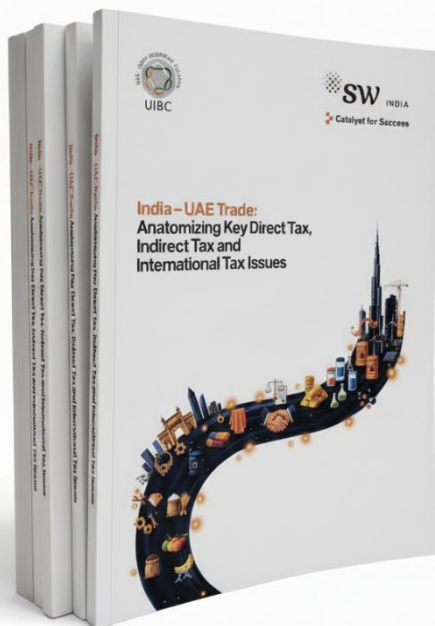
*The MoU was signed by **Mr. Sharad Agarwal**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, UIBC and **Mr. Rajesh Doshi**, Vice President, BIA*

UIBC and Calicut Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI) entered into an MoU to promote trade and investment between UAE & India with focus on Calicut and the Malabar region, through joint initiatives across priority sectors such as spices, food processing, renewable energy, logistics, IT/ITES, healthcare, tourism, etc.

*The MoU was signed by **Mr. Sharad Agarwal**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, UIBC and **Mr. Vineesh Vidhyadharan**, President, CCCI*



RELEASE OF HANDBOOK



On the occasion, a handbook titled **“India-UAE Trade: Anatomizing Key Direct Tax, Indirect Tax and International Tax Issues”** was released. The publication has been compiled by **SW India**, a leading global advisory firm, with the support of the **UAE-India Business Council (UIBC)**.

It explores the scale and strength of the India-UAE economic partnership, highlighting opportunities under CEPA, India’s evolving regulatory landscape, and real-world case studies to guide businesses and policymakers in deepening trade and investment ties.

Mr. Atul Puri, Managing Partner and Co-founder, SW India, said: *“The publication insightfully highlights the India-UAE CEPA’s potential for trade and services, offering an economic snapshot, regulatory insights, and industry voices post-agreement. This handbook serves as a valuable guide for understanding FDI trends and entry strategies in both markets”.*

DP WORLD AND THE UAE-INDIA CEPA COUNCIL OPEN GLOBAL GATEWAY FOR INDIAN START-UPS



New Delhi, 23 September 2025: The UAE-India start-up ecosystem has received a powerful boost, with DP World partnering with the UAE-India CEPA Council on its flagship Start-up Series. Designed to spotlight India's most promising ventures and provide a gateway to international opportunities, the Series has already attracted unprecedented interest, with more than 10,000 Indian start-ups applying to participate.

The partnership was formalised in New Delhi through the signing of an MoU between Mr. Hemant Kumar Ruia, Country Manager, India Subcontinent DP World and Mr. Ahmed Aljneibi, Director of the CEPA Council, in the presence of His Excellency Abdunnasser Alshaali, PhD, the UAE Ambassador to the Republic of India.



*Reflecting on the collaboration, **H.E. Abdunnasser Alshaali, PhD, UAE Ambassador to the Republic of India, said:** "The UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement is already creating new possibilities for businesses in both countries. The Start-up Series is a powerful example of how collaboration can translate policy into opportunity. By supporting Indian entrepreneurs through platforms like this, we are strengthening not only our economic ties but also the spirit of innovation that drives them."*

Mr. Rizwan Soomar, CEO and Managing Director, Middle East, North Africa and India Subcontinent, DP World, commented: "India's start-up ecosystem stands among the most dynamic and inspiring in the world. At DP World, we take pride in supporting entrepreneurs who aspire to take their ideas to the global stage. I look forward to partnering with the UAE-India CEPA Council Start-up Series, which will unlock opportunities, open access to new markets, and empower founders to build enterprises whose impact will resonate far beyond India's borders."



Mr. Ahmed Aljneibi, Director of the CEPA Council, added: “The response to the Start-up Series has been remarkable, reflecting the strength and ambition within India’s entrepreneurial community. Partnering with DP World brings invaluable expertise and international reach to the initiative. Together, we aim to enable Indian start-ups to use this platform as a springboard to global markets.”

The Start-up Series will identify and accelerate the global ambitions of India’s most promising ventures. Following a rigorous evaluation process, 20 start-ups will be shortlisted to present at a high-profile pitch event in New Delhi, where five winners will be chosen to receive incubation support and fast-track access to the UAE market.



As part of the initiative, DP World will support one of the five winning start-ups by sponsoring a comprehensive soft-landing package in the UAE. The winners will gain entry into the UAE’s dynamic trade and innovation ecosystem, benefiting from incubation, mentorship, and investor networks. With world-class infrastructure and unrivalled global connectivity, the UAE offers Indian founders a launchpad to test, refine, and expand their businesses internationally.

As the first initiative of its kind under the CEPA framework, the UAE-India Start-up Series is turning bilateral commitments into action.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

13TH MEETING OF THE INDIA-UAE HIGH LEVEL JOINT TASK FORCE ON INVESTMENTS



His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Managing Director of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (“ADIA”), and Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, Co-Chaired the latest meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments (“Joint Task Force”) in Abu Dhabi on 18th September 2025.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from relevant government authorities, investment entities and companies from both countries. The UAE delegation included H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of Foreign Trade, H.E. Ahmed Jassim Al Zaabi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Chamber and Chairman of UAE Chambers, H.E. Dr. Abdalnasser Alshaali, UAE Ambassador to India, and H.E. Younis Haji Al Khouri, Under Secretary of UAE Ministry of Finance.

The Indian delegation included Ambassador of India to the UAE, H.E. Sunjay Sudhir, and senior representatives from various Government of India departments/organizations such as Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Food Processing Industry, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Department of Commerce, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Revenue, Reserve Bank of India, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Department of Space, and Invest India.

The Joint Task Force was established in 2013 as a key forum for strengthening economic ties between India and the UAE. Since its formation, it has provided an effective mechanism to discuss and promote opportunities and prospects for further investments in India and the UAE, while acting as a forum to resolve issues and challenges faced by investors of the two countries, seeking to bring these matters to a mutually beneficial conclusion.

This latest meeting considered a range of trade and investment topics, including ongoing initiatives to enhance bilateral investment flows and new areas of joint cooperation.

The Co-Chairs recognised the positive momentum of bilateral trade which continues to build following the implementation of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in May 2022. In the first half of 2025, bilateral non-oil trade reached nearly USD38 billion, representing a 34% increase compared to the first half of 2024 and a significant step towards the UAE's 2030 trade targets.

By facilitating market access and private-sector collaboration, the India-UAE CEPA serves as a cornerstone of the UAE and India's economic alliance and a model for constructive cooperation in a complex and rapidly evolving global trading landscape.



The Joint Task Force reviewed the positive progress of several joint investment projects, including the **Bharat Mart, a 2.7 million square foot complex located in Jebel Ali Free Zone in the UAE.**

Designed to enable Indian manufacturers and exporters to showcase their products to the world, this landmark project reflects the economic synergies between the two nations.

The two sides considered the potential for various areas of future cooperation, including opportunities in the maritime and space sectors in India.

Ongoing strategic initiatives between the Central Banks of India and the UAE to enable **bilateral trade in local currencies**, the integration of payment systems in the two countries and cooperation on Central Bank Digital Currencies were also discussed, with both sides commending the strong progress made to date while reiterating their commitment to finalising their implementation in the near future.



The Joint Task Force reviewed a number of current issues and challenges faced by investors of the two countries, and the Co-Chairs directed their teams to work together, in collaboration with the relevant government entities, to resolve them in a timely and mutually acceptable manner.

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At the conclusion of the meeting, His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Managing Director of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (“ADIA”) and Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force, said: “The trade and investment relationship between the UAE and India continues to grow at an impressive rate, anchored by the dual principles of shared goals and joint success. Today’s Joint Task Force meeting included positive progress updates on a number of important initiatives and also raised new areas for future cooperation. Through the ongoing commitment of the Joint Task Force delegations, this forum will continue to play a key role in broadening and deepening the economic partnership between the UAE and India.”

Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, said: “India has been on a remarkable journey as the world’s fastest growing large economy and is committed to inclusive, sustainable, and resilient growth. UAE is an important partner in India’s growth story. The partnership stands on the pillars of innovation, investment and sustainable development and it will witness great transformation under the visionary leadership of both sides.” [READ MORE](#)

INDIA'S RANA GROUP TO INVEST USD10 BILLION IN UAE MANUFACTURING HUB



India's Rana Group has begun construction of a USD10 billion smart manufacturing hub in Ras Al Khaimah, marking one of the largest industrial investments in the UAE.

The project will house 150 industries and is expected to generate USD5 billion to USD6 billion in annual turnover while creating 4,000 jobs.

The Erisha Smart Manufacturing Hub, spread across 335 acres in Al Ghail Industrial Area, aims to reduce the UAE's reliance on imports and increase its manufacturing sector's contribution to the country's USD483 billion GDP.

The industries will focus on advanced sectors including:

- Electric and hydrogen vehicles
- eVTOL flying taxis
- Semiconductor production
- Renewable energy technologies

Once completed within five years, the hub will feature over 25 million square feet of industrial space. It will also integrate commercial, residential, and community facilities, such as hospitals, colleges, shopping complexes, banks, and warehouses.



Dr. Darshan Rana, Chairman and Managing Director of Erisha E Mobility, said: "This project will stand at the forefront of the green energy revolution, significantly contributing to the UAE's net-zero ambitions while fostering a self-sustainable future." [READ MORE](#)

L&T WINS MULTIPLE POWER GRID INFRASTRUCTURE ORDER WORTH RS 2,500-5,000 CRORE



Larsen & Toubro's (L&T) Power Transmission & Distribution (PT&D) business has secured multiple grid infrastructure orders in India and overseas, worth between Rs 2,500 – 5,000 crore.

In India, L&T will revamp power distribution in two towns by integrating SCADA systems and smart technology. The project also includes upgrading distribution transformer stations and converting overhead electrical lines into underground cabling to enhance efficiency and reliability.

L&T BAGS KEY ORDERS IN UAE AND OMAN

The company has also won a key order in the UAE to design, deliver, and construct two ± 300 MVar STATCOM systems. These systems will be installed at existing 400 kV substations to provide dynamic reactive power compensation. STATCOM systems automatically inject or absorb reactive power in real time, stabilising voltage and improving overall power quality. [READ MORE](#)

INDO-UAE JV ICOMM-CARACAL SECURES CONTRACT TO SUPPLY SNIPER RIFLES TO CRPF



An Indo-UAE joint venture has bagged a contract to supply advanced sniper rifles and ammunition, marking a notable domestic defence procurement. Icomm-Caracal, the Indo-UAE joint venture between Abu Dhabi-based Caracal and Hyderabad's Icomm Tele Ltd. (a Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Ltd company), has been awarded a Rs 17 crore contract by India's Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) for the supply of advanced sniper rifles and ammunition.

The first order includes 200 precision-

engineered CSR 338 rifles chambered in .338 Lapua Magnum, along with 20,000 rounds of ammunition-highlighting the growing impact of UAE-India defence collaboration and domestic manufacturing under the "Make in India" initiative.

COMPETITIVE WIN IN A CROWDED FIELD

Icomm-Caracal bagged the contract after outperforming several established players in both technical and financial evaluations. Israeli-backed PLR Systems was eliminated at the financial stage, while domestic contenders, including SSS Defence, Kalyani Strategic Systems, Hughes Precision, and Neco Desert Tech, failed to clear the technical trials. [READ MORE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

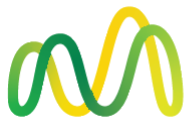
EVENT

DATE



**INDIA
MARITIME
WEEK
2025**

[27-31 October 2025](#)
Bombay Exhibition Center
Mumbai
INDIA



Renewable Energy
India Expo



[30 October - 01 November 2025](#)
India Expo Mart
Greater Noida
INDIA



**GULFOOD
MANUFACTURING**
4-6 NOVEMBER 2025
DUBAI WORLD TRADE CENTRE

[04-06 November 2025](#)
Dubai World Trade Centre
Dubai
UAE



[19-21 November 2025](#)
KTPO Convention Centre
Bengaluru
INDIA



2nd edition
ntraPac India
Packaging and Processing

[10-13 December 2025](#)
India Expo Centre
Greater Noida
INDIA



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 Late Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs of India during 11th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on September 3, 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

UAE-India Business Council (UIBC)

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