



UIBC NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



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UIBC ACTIVITY

UIBC VISIT TO NATUUR MANUFACTURING PVT. LTD., GURUGRAM



The Head of Business Development -UIBC, Mr. Mukesh Kalra, visited the manufacturing facility of Natuur Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd. in Gurugram as part of UIBC's continued efforts to engage and support SMEs in expanding their reach to global markets.

Mrs. Sunmeet Taluja Marwaha, Co-founder of Natuur Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd., offered a comprehensive overview of the manufacturing processes and presented the brand's premium portfolio of luxury wellness and personal care products. The engagement opened up promising avenues for collaboration, reinforcing UIBC's commitment to enabling SMEs growth and global market access.

Notably, the company is actively seeking to expand its presence in the UAE market and is exploring partnerships with importers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers for its diverse product range.

ABOUT NATUUR:

Natuur is a premium natural wellness and personal care brand rooted in Ayurveda and elevated through modern conscious formulations. We create high-quality products using clean, thoughtfully sourced ingredients, with a strong focus on purity, safety, and sensory experience. We have 200+ SKUs spread across 10 categories.

At Natuur, we believe self-care is a ritual, not a routine. Every product is designed to deliver both efficacy and a moment of calm - blending traditional wisdom with contemporary luxury. Our formulations are free from harsh chemicals, and we prioritise transparency, sustainability, and mindful consumption.

What sets Natuur apart is our founder-led approach, small-batch craftsmanship, and deep commitment to ingredient integrity. We don't just create products - we curate experiences that support holistic wellbeing.

The UAE market is a natural fit for Natuur's philosophy. With a growing demand for premium, clean, and wellness-driven personal care, the region presents a strong opportunity to introduce authentic Ayurvedic luxury to a discerning audience. Our expansion into the GCC is aligned with our vision to take India's rich wellness heritage to a global stage, while building meaningful, long-term relationships in the region.



MEMBER ACTIVITIES

DP WORLD LAUNCHES 'SWASTHYA CENTRE' PROGRAMME, THE FIRST STEP IN A MISSION TO SUPPORT 1 MILLION TRUCKERS ACROSS INDIA



DP World on April 23, 2026, announced the launch of its flagship Swasthya Centre in Gujarat, marking the first step in a nationwide mission to build a network of accessible wellbeing hubs for India's trucking community. With an initial ambition to positively impact one million truckers and their families, the programme reflects a long-term vision to progressively serve trucking communities across the country.

India's trucking community forms the backbone of the nation's supply chains, enabling over 70% of the country's freight movement and connecting industries, businesses, and households across geographies. With more than 6.5 million registered trucks on Indian roads, access to quality healthcare, financial security, and welfare support continues to remain a significant challenge for many within the sector. Through the Swasthya Centre programme, DP World seeks to address these longstanding gaps by creating accessible wellness hubs across key freight corridors, bringing essential services closer to where truckers live and work.

The first centre in Gujarat, strategically located near the Mundra International Container Terminal, spans 7,000 square feet and has been developed as an integrated wellbeing hub designed to serve the trucking community over the coming years. It will provide access to healthcare services, preventive screenings, rest and recovery spaces, sanitation facilities, and assistance in navigating welfare and social security schemes.

The initiative has been developed in partnership with Plan International India, combining DP World's logistics and infrastructure expertise with deep community engagement capabilities to deliver meaningful and sustained impact. Support services will also extend to truckers' families, underscoring a broader commitment to holistic wellbeing and community resilience.

As part of its long-term vision, DP World plans to expand the Swasthya Centre network across India, creating a scalable platform that improves quality of life for truckers, strengthens road safety, and helps future-proof the nation's logistics backbone. Complementing this effort, DP World will continue to advance its Mission for Vision programme through preventive eye-care initiatives along major transport routes, contributing to safer roads and healthier communities nationwide.

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Speaking at the launch, Mr Rizwan Soomar, CEO and Managing Director, Subcontinent, Central Asia, Levant and Egypt, DP World said, “India’s growth story will be shaped not only by world-class infrastructure, but by how we support the people who keep trade moving every day. Truckers are the backbone of our supply chains and vital to the nation’s progress. At DP World, we believe infrastructure development must go hand in hand with social impact. The launch of the first Swasthya Centre in Gujarat marks the beginning of our long-term vision to build a network of support that progressively serves trucking communities across India, ensuring those who drive economic growth are supported with dignity, wellbeing, and opportunity.”

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Mr Naveen Gupta, Secretary General, All India Motor Transport Congress, commented: “Truck drivers are the backbone of the transport industry and key contributors to the nation’s economy. They often operate under demanding conditions with limited access to adequate rest, leading to fatigue. The pan-India Swasthya Centre initiative goes beyond infrastructure - it recognises their contribution and seeks to improve their wellbeing. Through this partnership, drivers will have access to essential amenities, critical information, and healthcare support helping to bring greater comfort, safety, and dignity to their lives.”

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Mr Mohammed Asif, Executive Director- Plan International India, said: “By transforming the rest stop at Mundra into a hub of healthcare, wellbeing, and essential services, this initiative marks a significant step towards inclusive development, with a special focus on truckers and, by extension, their families and communities. Plan India is proud to partner with the district government and local community, with the support of DP World, to deliver integrated assistance and promote wellbeing for truckers on the move.”

A BROADER COMMITMENT TO INDIA’S LOGISTICS ECOSYSTEM

Complementing the physical centres, DP World's multilingual, mobile-first application is now available for download on the Google Play store and has already garnered an impressive response with close to 1000 truckers actively using it nationwide within just one month of launch. The app helps truckers and their families locate health facilities, ATMs, petrol pumps, and mobile health units, while an in-built wellness tracker monitors key vitals and delivers real-time fit-to-drive status. A gamified learning module promotes safe driving practices, and integrated digital tools connect truckers to benefits, rewards, and social security support, ensuring comprehensive on-road assistance well beyond the walls of the centres. [READ MORE](#)

VFS EDUCATION SERVICES AND TU AUSTRIA'S FOCUS INDIA INITIATIVE STRENGTHEN AUSTRIA-INDIA TALENT MOBILITY WITH SUPPORT FROM AUSTRIA'S FEDERAL CHANCELLOR



Marking a significant milestone in strengthening the Austria-India partnership, H.E. Mr. Christian Stocker, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, visited New Delhi last month for a series of engagements underscoring Austria's commitment to expanding international academic collaboration and talent mobility as drivers of long-term cooperation and economic growth.

A highlight of this collaboration is the successful intake of 200 Indian students into Austrian universities, facilitated through VFS Education Services. This achievement builds on the Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement (CMMPA) signed in 2023, which entered into force in September that year, and demonstrates how policy intent is being translated into tangible outcomes through structured execution.

The initiative follows earlier efforts led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, including the Advantage Austria delegation's visit to New Delhi to advance bilateral economic cooperation. Together, these engagements signal a shared intent to deepen structured collaboration across education, skills, and industry.

Through the Focus India initiative, Austrian institutions, Indian students, and industry partners are connected via transparent and reliable pathways to high-quality international higher education. VFS Education Services plays a pivotal role in operationalising these ambitions by offering end-to-end education and mobility solutions that support governments, universities, and students alike.

Austria continues to attract a growing number of Indian students in specialised, future-oriented disciplines such as sustainability, artificial intelligence, and advanced engineering. Leading technical universities including TU Wien, TU Graz, and TU Leoben are actively engaged in integrating education, research, and industry. Parallel efforts are underway to expand joint research programmes, faculty exchanges, and long-term institutional partnerships.

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Commenting on the momentum, a senior Austrian official noted, *“The Indian market is a very strong market in terms of potential students for Austria and Europe. Demography speaks for itself.”* She added that policy alone is insufficient without execution: *“In just one year, we’ve successfully enabled 200 students to study in Austria. It’s remarkable how quickly this has come together, and there’s much more to come.”*

As the enabling partner, VFS Education Services ensures that these ambitions are realised by providing structured solutions for student recruitment, application processing, and mobility facilitation. This collaboration is expected to significantly strengthen the Austria–India education and talent corridor, supporting innovation, workforce readiness, and sustained bilateral cooperation.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER DR. S JAISHANKAR CONCLUDES HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar has concluded a two-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates, wrapping up high-level meetings with Emirati leadership. During the visit, Dr. Jaishankar met UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and conveyed a personal message from Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Discussions focused on strengthening energy cooperation, expanding trade, and advancing the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

Crown Prince of Dubai H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum was also present during the meeting. Dr. Jaishankar also held separate talks with the UAE Foreign Minister H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The discussions covered regional stability and the ongoing West Asia conflict, along with efforts to ensure the safety of Indian nationals in the region. Earlier, upon arrival on April 11, 2026, Dr. Jaishankar interacted with members of the Indian community in the UAE.

He addressed concerns related to their safety and well-being amid rising regional tensions and highlighted the government's efforts to support the diaspora. The visit comes as part of India's broader diplomatic outreach to secure energy supplies from Gulf nations. Petroleum Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri simultaneously held talks in Qatar. The UAE remains India's third-largest trading partner globally. [READ MORE](#)



“INDIA SETS COURSE FOR ATMANIRBHAR SHIPPING; PLANS 62 VESSELS IN FY 2026–27 WITH ₹51,383 CRORE INVESTMENT:” SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL

In a decisive push towards self-reliance in the maritime sector, a high-level inter-ministerial review meeting on the Strait of Hormuz situation pivoted to accelerating India's shipping capabilities, with a renewed focus on building a robust, future-ready maritime ecosystem.

Chaired by **Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**, the meeting brought together

senior officials from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), oil PSUs, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Directorate General of Shipping, National Shipping Board and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

Speaking on the occasion, **Sh. Sarbananda Sonowal** said, “Under the visionary leadership of Sh. Narendra Modi, we are positioning shipping at the core of India's economic resilience. Our journey towards Atmanirbhar shipping is a strategic necessity, and we are advancing a roadmap to add 62 vessels in FY 2026–27, backed by ₹51,383 crore, creating an additional 2.85 million GT capacity.” Reviewing the current global scenario and its implications on maritime trade routes, the Minister called for urgent expansion of India's shipping capacity, including container vessels, LPG and crude carriers, and green tugs, to ensure resilience against external disruptions. Sh. Sonowal also reviewed cargo flows, vessel movements and operational preparedness across key maritime segments. [READ MORE](#)



ADANI GREEN SUBSIDIARY SIGNS PACT WITH UAE COMPANY FOR INDIA RENEWABLES PROJECTS

Adani Green Energy Ltd announced on April 9, 2026, that its wholly-owned stepdown subsidiary, Adani Renewable Energy Middle East Ltd, has entered into a joint venture agreement with Minerva Holding RSC to develop renewable energy projects in India, marking another step in its international partnership strategy.

In a regulatory filing, the company said that EPointZero Holding RSC Ltd - the energy and infrastructure platform of International Holding Company PJSC - has partnered with

Adani Green Energy to establish the joint venture focused on the development, construction and operation of renewable energy assets in India.

Minerva Holding RSC, which is wholly owned by EPointZero, will serve as the joint venture platform through which the projects will be pursued. The JV is expected to play a role in advancing clean energy capacity in India, aligning with broader sectoral growth and investment momentum.

International Holding Company PJSC, the parent of EPointZero, is the largest listed company in the UAE, with a market capitalization of over USD 230 billion, underlining the scale and financial backing behind the partnership.

As part of the agreement, Adani Renewable Energy Middle East Ltd will acquire up to 20 pc stake in Minerva Renewables Holding RSC, the joint venture entity. The shareholding structure reflects a strategic minority participation by Adani Green Energy, while operational collaboration is expected to be driven jointly. [READ MORE](#)



UAE-BASED VALURA.AI MAKES INDIA DEBUT WITH A RS 3,000 CRORE AUM PIPELINE

AI-native investment platform Valura.ai on April 6, 2026, announced the onboarding of over 1,000 wealth advisors across India ahead of its official launch, with a collective asset

under management (AUM) pipeline exceeding Rs 3,000 crore over the next 12-18 months. The onboarded network includes Independent Financial Advisors (IFAs), Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs), Mutual Fund Distributors, and Chartered Accountants.

The pre-launch response signals strong demand for a credible global investing infrastructure at a time when India's outbound investment surged 67% to USD 41.6 billion in FY25, and the rupee has depreciated over 8% against the US dollar in the past twelve months. Valura.ai is a multi-asset investment platform, allowing exposure across equities, ETFs, global mutual funds, bonds, REITs, structured products, pre-IPO opportunities, and Shariah-compliant investment solutions.

The platform provides access to over 100,000 global securities with client assets held in local custody within the IFSC at GIFT City under IFSCA regulation, rather than being routed through offshore brokers. [READ MORE](#)

Commenting on the development, Mr Priyesh Ranjan, CEO, claimed Valura combines AI-driven research and portfolio construction with seamless execution, compliance automation, and local custody, and it is the reason why 1,000 advisors committed ahead of the launch. "The demand for global access is real, and the infrastructure to serve it has not existed until now," he said.



GOVERNMENT PLANNING TO DEPLOY SCI IN MIDDLE EAST TO COMMENCE SHIPPING SERVICES

The government on April 29, 2026, announced that the state-run Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) is actively working to commence shipping services in the Middle East amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia.

"Starting shipping services takes time as it involves multiple factors. The government is working on this so that the Shipping Corporation of India can start services to the Middle East. This will benefit our exporters," Shri Mukesh Mangal, Additional

Secretary in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Shri Mangal added that India is currently in discussions with Iranian authorities to facilitate the movement of Indian vessels out of the Strait of Hormuz. A high-level meeting was held on April 28, 2026, involving officials from the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

The meeting reviewed the current status of operations across sectors, discussed emerging issues, and deliberated on measures to ensure sustained production, supply chains and operational mechanisms.

On the safety of Indian seafarers, Sh. Mangal informed that 29 Indian seafarers were repatriated from the Gulf region in the last 24 hours. The Shipping Ministry has so far facilitated the safe repatriation of 2,829 Indian seafarers, he said. [READ MORE](#)



UAE INDIAN CONSULAR SERVICES TO MOVE FROM BLS TO ALHIND FROM JULY 1

Indians in the UAE will need to use a new service provider for passport renewals, visa applications, and other consular services from July 1, 2026, after tour and travel firm Alhind Tours and Travels won a three-year contract to replace the long-standing operator BLS International.

The Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi has awarded its outsourced consular services contract to Alhind Tours and Travels Private Limited, it confirmed in a public notice shared on the mission's website on Monday, April 20, 2026.

The contract, covering services at both the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi and the Consulate General of India in Dubai, was awarded after Alhind submitted the lowest financial bid of Dh19 per transaction — an all-inclusive fee that the company says will cost applicants less than the current arrangement. Other bidders included VFS Global, DU Digital and SGIVS Global.

"Even if we take your photo, it is included in that charge," Arun Radhakrishnan, Head of Operations at Alhind Group of Companies, told *Gulf News*. The contract covers passport renewals, visa applications, OCI cards, Police Clearance Certificates, Surrender Certificates, Global Entry Programme verification and miscellaneous attestation services.

BLS International has been handling passport, visa and OCI applications for the UAE's 4.3 million-strong Indian community since 2011.

WHAT CHANGES — AND WHEN

Alhind plans to operate from 16 locations across the UAE starting July 1, 2026, covering Abu Dhabi city, Al Ain, Dubai, including Bur Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, and Fujairah. Radhakrishnan said it was in the final stages of confirming leases for all sites. The appointment booking process will remain broadly similar, Radhakrishnan said, but Alhind is planning to introduce online applications and further digitalise the backend. "The website will change, the process will be similar, but we are planning to digitise everything," he said. More details should be revealed shortly. [READ MORE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



[11-13 June 2026](#)

SS Convention Centre
Vijayawada
INDIA



[18-21 June 2026](#)

Yashobhoomi
New Delhi
INDIA



[01-03 July 2026](#)

Chennai Trade Centre
Chennai
INDIA



[14-17 July 2026](#)

Bharat Mandapam
New Delhi
INDIA



[01-03 September 2026](#)

Dubai World Trade Centre
Dubai
UAE



[03-05 November 2026](#)

Dubai World Trade Centre
Dubai
UAE



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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