

Press Release

Day 3 of the Visit of the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to the United Arab Emirates

On the last day of his 3-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan continued meetings and discussions to promote cooperation in the fields of skill development. UAE hosts the largest number of Indian nationals anywhere outside India, having around 3.5 million Indians who constitute approximately 35% of the total population of the UAE. This makes the cooperation in skill development a key pillar of our Strategic Partnership.

Education and Skills cooperation was a prominent part of the Vision Document unveiled by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed in February last year. The leaders recognised the value of upskilling on enhancing workforce productivity, and value the contribution of the skilled workforce from India in various economic sectors in the UAE. They agreed "to enhance their cooperation in order to develop a mutually agreed professional standards and skills framework". They also agreed "to closely work together to ensure that the UAE labour market skill needs from India are met by ensuring workforce access to training programs that are in alignment with the market needs and address the changing needs for the future of work".

Taking forward the Joint Vision of the two leaders, the Hon'ble Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan met with DP World CEO Mr Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem. During the meeting, both discussed the recruitment of Indians for the global operations of DP World and streamlining the recruitment mechanism which addresses the challenges faced by the Indians to getting their dream jobs and also helps in bringing right workforce for right job from the employers' perspective. They also agreed to work together skill development and upskilling of the workforce that meet the requirements of the rapidly changing nature of the workplace. People are a central pillar of the India-UAE historic relationship and skill development is also a key element of the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

The Hon'ble Minister also mentioned about the New Education Policy of 2020 which pays special attention on linking skilling and training with education. The Hon'ble Minister said that the Government was aiming to integrate qualifications framework of skills and training with higher education, and developing short-term and long-term training programs to provide skilling, re-skilling and upskilling opportunities to meet the rapidly evolving landscape of technology and required skills at the workplace.

DP World already has strong partnership with National Skill Development Corporation. Their collaboration last year resulted in upgradation of the Skill India International Centre at Varanasi. Today, WE ONE from DP World and NSDC signed another MoU to take forward this partnership and formalising a long-term agreement in the fields of skill development and supply of manpower.

The Hon'ble Minister concluded his 3-day official visit to the UAE today which delivered a number of fruitful outcomes including the signing of two important MoUs – one for cooperation in the field of education and another in the field of skill development. As the 3.5 million strong Indian nationals in the UAE are one of the most important pillar of our historic relationship, the visit remained focused to further strengthen people-to-people ties between India and the UAE to fulfil the vision of our leaders PM Modi and UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed.

Dubai
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