Embassy of India Abu Dhabi

Press Release

Day 1 of the Visit of the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to the United Arab Emirates

India and the UAE reaffirmed their commitment to fostering academic excellence through strategic partnerships in higher education as **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, **Hon'ble Minister of Education**, **India** commenced his 2 day visit to the United Arab Emirates earlier today. The visit is aimed at deepening educational and cultural ties and the shared commitment to fostering innovation, collaboration, and inclusive learning in both countries.

The Hon'ble Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan met with **H.E. Ms Sara Musallam, Chairperson, ADEK**. Hon'ble Minister expressed appreciation for ADEK's continued support to Indian curricula schools across the Emirates, ensuring quality education and cultural continuity for the Indian Diaspora. They reviewed operations of Indian schools based in Abu Dhabi; exchanged views on new priorities in education policy and discussed possibilities of curriculum development; teacher & student exchanges; mutual recognition of qualification; and opening of additional Indian curriculum-based schools in the UAE. Hon'ble Minister invited H.E. Ms Sara Musallam to India to explore new avenues for collaboration in STEM education, early childhood development, and teacher training, aligned with ADEK's strategic focus on cultivating home-grown talent and global impact

The Hon'ble Minister had a tour of campus of IIT Delhi-Abu Dhabi, where he also formally launched the first ever overseas Atal Innovation Centre. He also launched Ph.D. program in Energy and Sustainability and the B.Tech in Chemical Engineering (3rd UG stream). He also interacted with the students and staff of IIT Delhi Abu Dhabi. The Hon'ble Minister applauded the commitment and devotion of IIT team in making this landmark project a success.

The Hon'ble Minister visited **BAPS Hindu Temple** and commended UAE's commitment to religious harmony and peace. He referred to the BAPS Hindu Temple as a beacon of harmony and shared humanity, reflecting the spirit of India and UAE in embracing diversity. Later, in the evening, the Hon'ble Minister visited Dubai Campus of Symbiosis University, which marked one year of successful operation in the UAE.

Tomorrow, the Hon'ble Minister will attend a Round Table Conference of the Indian Higher Education institutions in the UAE. This would be followed by the meeting with his counterpart H.E. Abdulrahman Al Awar, UAE Minister of Higher Education to discuss in detail the ongoing collaboration in the education sector between both countries. He later would join the inauguration of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Dubai Campus by **HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**. This would be followed by a meeting with the principals of CBSE schools in the UAE and joined virtually with the principals of CBSE schools in other GCC countries. Hon'ble Minister will also interact with the Indian Diaspora.

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