

Embassy of India  
Abu Dhabi

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In a unique initiative, the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi, under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India, organized the first-ever India-UAE Defence Industry Partnership Forum in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 18 September 2024 in coordination with the UAE Ministry of Defence. The Forum brought together the defence industries of India and the UAE.

2. The opening session of the Forum was attended by Brig General Engineer Ahmad Bin Adi, the Defence Industry Director of UAE MoD, H.E. Muammar Abdulla Abushaheb, the CEO of Tawazun Executive Council, H.E. Shareef Hashim Al Hashmi, the CEO of Operations of Tawazun, Mrs Mona Al Jaber, the Chairperson of Emirates Defence Companies Council (EDCC), H.E. Hamad Al Marar, the MD & CEO of the EDGE group. H.E. Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to the UAE delivered the opening address.

3. The Forum was a useful platform for Indian and UAE delegations to gain greater knowledge about each other's defence industries and promote collaboration between the two countries in the defence sector. The Indian delegation comprised of officials from the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence and 50 defence industry representatives from over 25 private and public sector companies. The companies covered a diverse spectrum of areas in defence manufacturing and showcased the expanse of India's domestic defence manufacturing capability.

4. During the forum, various initiatives and policies of the government of India to boost the defence manufacturing ecosystem and promote international cooperation were presented to the UAE delegation. The B2B discussions focussed on identifying areas of convergence of interests of the two countries. Both delegations also held productive and extensive interactions to explore joint ventures and partnerships.

5. The Forum was coordinated by the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM). SIDM also signed two separate MoUs on Defence Industry Cooperation with the EDCC and the EDGE group.

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