

Arab - Asia Business Partnership Summit

## **U.P. delegation visits Bahrain to accelerate investments and reach out to Indian Diaspora**

**9-11 December, 2014**

With the objective of strengthening investment and collaboration ties with Bahrain institutions, industry bodies and companies focusing on opportunities in the Food, Leather and Infrastructure sectors, a delegation **led by Special Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development, Ms Kanchan Verma** visited Bahrain to participate in the Arab – Asia Business Partnership during Dec 09 to Dec 11, 2014. The delegation included **Special Secretary in the office of Chief Minister, Mr Ajay K Singh** and officials of Udyog Bandhu.

The event was organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce.

In her special address, the **Indian Ambassador to Bahrain, Dr Mohan Kumar** spoke eloquently about the region and how India and Bahrain have to work together for a brighter future.

**Special Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development – U.P., Ms Kanchan Verma** in her speech mentioned about the various opportunities that exist in Uttar Pradesh. She also invited the members of the Indian Diaspora to visit U.P. to see rapidly improving infrastructure and changing industrial scenario in the State. Knowledge Partners from EY made a detailed presentation on opportunities in Uttar Pradesh.

The programme was attended by prominent personalities like deputy chairman of Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Minister of State for health and family Welfare, Bangladesh, Ministers from the Bahrain, the chairman of Bahrain India society, etc.

Although India and Bahrain enjoy economic and trade relations for over several centuries, these relations have received fresh impetus since the oil boom of the early seventies. Relative prosperity and higher standard of living in Bahrain boosted global imports of goods and services, including from India. Bahrain government's policy of industrial diversification also played an important role in enhancing economic cooperation between India and Bahrain. More than anything else, new job opportunities attracted a large number of Indian expatriates to Bahrain. The number of Indian expatriates in Bahrain is now estimated at around 3,50,000 and constitute more than one third of Bahrain's population. India's total trade (non-oil) with Bahrain for the fiscal year 2012-2013 stood at Rs. 6880.37 crores (US \$ 1268.13 million) while India imported oil worth US \$ 366,085 thousand (January-December 2013).



■ *Mr Almoayyed opens the event, watched by officials and guests*

**By AVINASH SAXENA**

Zayed Al Zayani, the summit themed CII is spotlighting available investment ing common strengths and o

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