

PRESS RELEASE

Chief of Bureau

25 April 2025

**Hon'ble Former President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurates the ICSI
Middle East Conference 2025, in Dubai**



The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) organized its **Middle East Conference 2025** in Dubai, UAE, from **24 – 26 April 2025**, in the august presence of **Chief Guest, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble Former President of India**.

Hosted by **ICSI Middle East (DIFC) NPIO**, the Conference will serve as a platform to deepen the India UAE bilateral ties. Reflecting on the recent visit of **H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum**, Crown Prince of Dubai, to India, the Conference is set to pave the way of furthering the progress made under the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which has boosted trade and investment between the two countries.

Distinguished personages from India and UAE, **Mr. Satish Kumar Sivan**, Consul General, Consulate General of India, Dubai, **H.E. Dr. Maria Hanif Al Qassim**, Assistant Undersecretary of Economic Policies & Studies, Ministry of Economy, UAE, **H.E. Mirza Hussain Al Sayegh**, Director, Office of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and **H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al Kindi**, Senior Vice President, Invescore and Former Minister for Environment & Water, UAE, graced the event as the **Guests of Honour**. The Conference also witnessed the presence of **Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim**, Managing Partner, Ibrahim Partners, as the **Keynote Speaker**.

Envisioning the Middle East Conference as an opportunity to build partnerships, **Shri Ram Nath Kovind** said, "The ICSI has always been at the forefront of growth and development, in both India and abroad. Company Secretary Professionals nurtured by the ICSI not just ensure the highest standards of transparency and competence but promote ethical wealth creation".

Emphasizing the pace and trajectory of India-UAE bilateral relations, **Mr. Satish Kumar Sivan** commended the ICSI for hosting the Conference in Dubai. He stated, "The growth of trade, investments, and diaspora in the UAE, is a testimony to its spirit of facilitating professionals to express their talent".

Calling the ICSI Middle East Conference 2025, a catalyst for change, **H.E. Dr. Maria Hanif Al Qassim** said, “The discussions at the Conference would collectively foster global economic growth and unlock opportunities for increased collaboration between India and UAE, specifically in economy and trade”.

Highlighting the various agreements inked between India and UAE, **H.E. Mirza Hussain Al Sayegh** said, “India and UAE hold a very prominent position today, in the global economy and the enduring partnership between the two countries is a result of years of irrefutable support to each other”.

Stressing upon the importance of collective efforts, **H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al Kindi**, said “I am delighted to be a part of this thought-provoking ICSI Middle East Conference. The discussions would surely provide valuable insights and guidance to the policymakers, corporate leaders, and regulators”.

Organized on the theme, **Good Governance: Empowering Capital Markets**, the three-day Conference began with a **Study Tour of the Dubai Financial Market (DFM)** on **24 April 2025** and orchestrated discussions around the following to equip participants navigate the intricacies of modern finance:

- IPO: Catalyzing Growth in Emerging Capital Markets
- AI in Governance Shaping Corporate Leadership
- Anti-Money Laundering
- India-UAE Bilateral Ties
- The Convergence of Public and Private Equity
- Climate Finance

A specialized Certificate Course on **UAE Business Manager** was also launched at the Conference at the hands of the Chief Guest, that recorded a participation of over **150 delegates in person** and around **2000 delegates virtually**.

CS Dhananjay Shukla, President, the ICSI, in his address, focused on the role and responsibility of Company Secretary Professionals in the context of good governance and the altering dynamics capital markets. He briefed about the ICSI’s initiatives aimed at strengthening the financial and capital markets.

Giving an overview of the UAE’s growing ecosystem, **CS Raghvendra Kumar Verma, Chairman, ICSI Middle East (DIFC) NPIO**, impressed upon the importance of good governance and the role of Company Secretary professionals in building a resilient and robust Capital Market in the UAE.

Ms. Preeti Kaushik Banerjee

Joint Secretary

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI)

Tel: 011-4534 1022

Email: preeti.banerjee@icsi.edu

About ICSI

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) is a premier professional body set up under an Act of Parliament, i.e., Company Secretaries Act, 1980, for the regulation and development of the profession of Company Secretaries in India. It functions under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The Institute, being a proactive body, focuses on best and top-quality education to students of Company Secretaries Course and best quality set standards for CS members. The Institute has over 75,000 members and around 2 lakh students on its roll.