

Remarks by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Vinod K Jacob on the occasion of celebration of ITEC Day, Indian Alumni meet and Technology Conclave 2025 held at Embassy of India, Bahrain on 12 October 2025

Your Excellency, Mr. Abdulnabi Al Shoala, Dr. Jassim Haji, Dr. Abdulhassan Al Dairi, Counsellor Rajiv Kumar Mishra, ITEC alumni from Kingdom of Bahrain, Indian Universities Alumni, school students, my colleagues from the Embassy,

I am happy to see such an distinguished audience at my Embassy today. We have so many friends and supporters of strong India-Bahrain relations. Thank you all for taking time out to be here.

As you know that, over the years, the ITEC scheme has not only become a visible tool of India's bilateral diplomacy but has also become a recognized name in the global capacity-building landscape. ITEC has been able to offer courses ranging from conventional development subjects like agriculture and entrepreneurship to advanced technology oriented subjects like AI, biotechnology and cyber. There has been strong interest in courses pertaining to good governance, data for development and Digital Public Infrastructure. As of our latest data, nearly 100 Bahraini nationals have availed of these ITEC courses.

Friends,

We have been fortunate that there are so many distinguished alumni of Indian Universities from Bahrain. They have been an important pillar of collaboration between India and Bahrain over the decades. Many of them have held important positions and continue to guide the development of bilateral relations. I thank all of them for their support.

On our part, we are keen to have even larger number of Bahraini students choosing to study in India. Many of you are aware that I have started an initiative called "Visit Embassy" programme by which we introduce India and the working of the Indian Embassy to Bahraini school students. We have received excellent support from Ministry of Education in this regard.

We also have in our midst school students who have come up with their ideas on tech-related working models. This is part of my Embassy's fresh and new initiative to promote the potential for technology as a medium of cooperation and collaboration. As you are all aware, the Government of India places a special emphasis on the three "Ts", namely trade, tourism and technology as important pillars for strengthening engagements with countries and societies around the world. I hope, we can take this aspect further in the days and months to come.

I thank you all.