

Indian Minister hails community members for cementing Bahrain-India bilateral ties

TBT | Manama

V Muraleedharan, India's Union Minister of State for External Affairs, yesterday hailed the role of the Indian Community in strengthening the bonds of friendship with Bahrain.

The minister, who is on a two-nation visit to Saudi Arabia and Bahrain that concluded yesterday, said that he interacted with Indian community members in Bahrain.

"It is a pleasure to meet the representatives of various Indian associations in Bahrain in Manama," Muraleedharan tweeted, praising their dedication to serving the Indian Community.

The Union minister also appreciated community members for their social and cultural activities and preserving the cultural spirit of India in Bahrain.

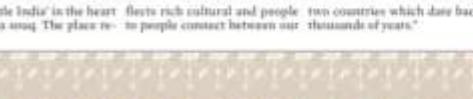
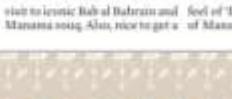
Later in the day, the minister also interacted with students of several Indian Schools in Bahrain at premises of The Indian School Bahrain in Manama.

He also held interactive sessions with Indian Medical Fraternity in Bahrain. During talks, Muraleedharan praised them for their professionalism and high-quality services.

The Union Minister also visited 200-year-old Lord Sri Krishna (Shrinathji) temple in Bahrain. "I am blessed to pray at the 200-year-old Lord Sri Krishna (Shrinathji) Temple in Bahrain. The temple is one of the oldest in the Gulf region," he wrote in another tweet.

Yesterday, the minister also visited the historical Bab al Bahrain and Manama Souq.

Following the visit, Muraleedharan tweeted: "Paid a



visit to iconic Bab al Bahrain and Manama Souq. And it's also nice to feel "Little India" in the heart of Manama Souq. The place reflects a rich cultural and people-to-people connection between our two countries that dates back thousands of years."

Later in the day, the minister held talks with Indian and Bahraini businessmen at an event organised by the Bahrain India Society in Manama. On the occasion, the minister urged the businesses to utilise the growing business opportunities in India.

"Glad to meet several Indian and Bahraini businesses at an event organized by @BIS_Society in Manama, Bahrain."

"I thank them for their contribution to strengthening bilateral trade and economic relations. Encourage companies to take advantage of the growing business opportunities in India," the minister tweeted following the meeting.

The minister yesterday inaugurated the Indo-Bahrain Dance and Music Festival organised by Bahrain Kala-eva Samajam and the Embassy of India with the support of Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities as part of Acadi Ka Amit Mahotsav.

During the event, the minister presented Vishwakalaratna Award to Surya Krishnamurthy aka Narasimha Namamurthy for his contribution to Indian arts. The award included DKK 500,000, a sculpture and a citation. On Thursday, the minister had meetings with several ministers and top officials on various aspects of partnerships, regional and multilateral developments.

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