

The UAE-India CEPA Council and Galgotias University Join Forces to Build a Start-up Launchpad in Greater Noida

Greater Noida, 28 July 2025: The UAE–India CEPA Council (UICC) and Galgotias University’s Incubation Centre for Research, Innovation, Startups and Entrepreneurs (GIC RISE) co-hosted an interactive session of the UAE-India CEPA Start-up Series Roadshow, an initiative aimed at connecting high-potential Indian start-ups with global scale-up opportunities under the UAE–India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

Located in the fast-growing Greater Noida region, Galgotias University served as an ideal host for the latest leg of the UAE-India CEPA Start-up Series Roadshow. Its flagship incubation centre, GIC RISE, reflects the university’s commitment to fostering the next generation of entrepreneurs through hands-on incubation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and strategic mentorship.

With its concentration of world-class academic institutions, expanding infrastructure, and proximity to the national capital, Greater Noida is rapidly emerging as a regional hub for innovation and entrepreneurial growth. The CEPA Council’s engagement in this region signals a deliberate effort to tap into India’s rising start-up corridors beyond the traditional metro cities.

The event opened with a comprehensive overview of the CEPA Start-up Series, delivered by Mr. Ahmed Aljneibi, Director of the UICC. Speaking on the importance of institutional linkages in driving innovation, Mr. Aljneibi noted: “India’s educational and incubation institutions are producing ventures with global ambition and capability. We see tremendous value in fostering institutional ties that enable these start-ups to access international networks to support their growth.”

Dr. Dhruv Galgotia, Chief Executive Officer of Galgotias University, underscored the university’s dedication to global partnerships and innovation-driven education: “At Galgotias University, we believe in cultivating ecosystems that empower young innovators to lead at a global level. We are proud to align with the UAE-India CEPA Council on this initiative, which resonates deeply with our vision of advancing excellence through international collaboration and strategic thought leadership.”

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the UICC and GIC RISE, marking the beginning of a collaborative partnership focused on advancing shared goals in innovation and entrepreneurship.

The gathering also featured a screening of the official trailer for the UAE-India Start-up Series, offering attendees a first look at the programme’s structure, founder journeys, and the support ecosystem available to shortlisted ventures.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, during which students, founders, and faculty members engaged Mr. Aljneibi in a lively discussion. The exchange provided valuable insights into the CEPA Start-up Series and offered participants a rare opportunity to understand the pathway to selection directly from the Council’s leadership.

Start-ups interested in joining the Series can still apply. Due to unprecedented interest, the application window has been extended until 15 August 2025.

Apply now at: <https://start-upseries.cepacouncil.com>

For media inquiries or further information, please contact:
info@cepacouncil.com

About the UAE-India CEPA Council

The UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) is a dedicated bilateral platform established to advance trade, investment, and innovation under the UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. It facilitates strategic collaborations between businesses, governments, and institutions across both countries to unlock shared economic opportunities.

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About Galgotias University

Galgotias University, based in Greater Noida, is a leading academic institution, known for its focus on innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship. Through its GIC RISE incubation centre, the University provides student and faculty entrepreneurs with mentorship, funding access, and global outreach. It plays a growing role in cultivating ventures that are ready for national and international expansion.