

Embassy of India

Damascus

Press Release

ITEC Day Celebration

Embassy of India, Damascus celebrated ITEC Day (Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme) on 20 March 2024 at Al-Mutanabi Hall, Dama Rose Hotel, Damascus. Approximately 150 guests, including dignitaries of the Syrian government, ITEC alumni and media persons attended the celebration.

2. The Syrian Government was represented by Comrade Huda Al-Homsi, Head of Popular Organizations and Professional Association, Baath party; H.E. Dr. Bassam Ibrahim, Minister of Higher Education & Scientific Research; H.E. Eng. Iyad Al-Khatib, Minister of Communications & Technology; Dr. Fadi Salti Khalil, Head of Planning & International Cooperation Commission; Mr. Hussam Al-Samman, Head of Damascus Branch of Baath Party and others.

3. The programme started with lighting of the lamp followed by the playing of the national anthems of Syria and India. Ambassador Dr. Irshad Ahmad addressed the gathering. He traced the concept of sharing knowledge in the ancient Indian traditions and highlighted the ITEC programme taking its roots from there. He outlined the role of ITEC programme in furthering friendship and bringing people together. The representative of the Syrian Government, H.E. Amb. Emad Mustafa, Director of Diplomatic Institute, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates, also delivered a speech. This was followed by the experience sharing of 6 ITEC alumni.

4. A video highlighting the various aspects of ITEC programme was also shown. The programme concluded with an Iftar hosted on the occasion of Ramadan.

5. The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) is the leading capacity building platform of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. Instituted in 1964, ITEC is one of the oldest institutionalized arrangements for international capacity building having trained more than 200,000 officials from 160+ countries in both the civilian and in the defence sector. Building on India's vast and rich network of governance- and development-related expertise available in higher educational institutions and training facilities, ITEC offers nearly 10,000 fully-funded in-person training opportunities through nearly 400 courses offered at 100+ eminent institutes in India each year, along with a chance to experience the culture and hospitality of India.

Damascus

March 20, 2024
