

India signs eight pacts with Oman



Indian Prime Minister is on his maiden trip to South Asia and on Sunday, he held wide-ranging topics while discussion with Sultan of Oman Qaboos bin Said al Said and both signed a total of eight agreements in sectors like defence, health and tourism development.

In the final leg of the four-nation trip to South Asian countries including Palestine, Indian PM Modi arrived at Muscat on Sunday after meeting up the high commissions at Dubai. In Oman, Modi led delegation-level talks with Sultan of Oman Qaboos bin Said al Said to develop stronger relationships between India and Oman. The two discussed about cooperation in trade, investments, tourism, defence, security and other regional issues that will benefit both nations.

After talks, the two country heads signed a total of eight agreements and MoU on legal judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. The duo also signed agreements mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, special, service and official passports. Besides these, the agreements signed includes cooperation between Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, India and Oman's Diplomatic Institute. MoUs signed on Sunday includes cooperation between India and Oman in fields like tourism, health and peaceful uses of outer space. Also, MoU on academic and scholarly cooperation between National Defence College, Sultanate of Oman and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.

Apart from the agreements and MoUs, Modi addresses the Indians living in Oman at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Muscat with a promise to protect the hard-earned money of Indians in Oman; as the country hosts the largest number of Indians living in gulf nations. Modi also said that India and Oman has always remained strong internally, despite political ups and downs. During the two-day visit, Modi also met-up with Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers of Oman Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said and Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tariq Al Said.