Coconut Development Board participated in Dubai Global Convention held in Dubai during 17-19 April 2018. Coconut Development Board was represented by Dr B N S Murthy, Chairman and Shri. E Aravazhi, Deputy Director.

Around 500 delegates, experts and participants from UAE, India, USA, UK, Bahrain, Japan, UAE, Ghana and Singapore participated in the Convention. The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry, Govt. of UAE & the Consulate General of India in Dubai were the official partners of the Convention. The Convention was held in partnership with Abu Dhabi Foreign Investment Office (ADIO), Sharjah Investment and Development Authority – Shurooq, Indian Business and Professional Council (IBPC) also partnered for the Convention. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, UAE (Dubai) and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India were the Institutional Partners of the Convention. The UAE-India Business Council (UIBC) was the Industry Partner.

His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Hon’ble Cabinet Member & Minister for Tolerance, Govt of UAE was the Chief Guest of the inaugural session. His Excellency Abdulla Al Saleh, Under secretary- Foreign Trade & Industry, Ministry of Economy, UAE delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Director General, Education and Training Development, Ministry of Interior, UAE was the Guest of Honour. H E Navdeep Singh Suri, IFS, Ambassador of India to United Arab Emirates was the Special Guest of Honour. Mr. Vipul IFS, Consul General of India in Dubai delivered the Special Address. Ashok Chawla IAS, Chairman, National Stock Exchange of India and former Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, Vijay Karia, Chairman & Managing Director, Ravin Group of Companies, India, His Excellency Ahmed Sultan Bin Sulayem, Executive Chairman, Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC), Abdullah Bin Damithan, Chief Commercial Officer, DP World, UAE and Dr. B. R. Shetty, Founder and Chairman, NMC Healthcare, UAE delivered special addresses.

The Institute of Directors (IOD), India also organized the 28th World Congress on ‘Business Excellence and Innovation’ in Dubai alongwith the Dubai Global Convention. It was the 6th Annual Convention in Dubai. The theme of the Convention was Transformative Leadership for Fostering Creativity, Innovation and Business Excellence’. Around 500 delegates, experts and participants from UAE, India and abroad took part in the programme.

Along with Coconut Development Board, Coir Board and many other prominent leading Indian companies took part in the programme.

Some of the prominent and leading UAE companies that participated included JAFZA (DP World), Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (KIZAD), Dubai Multi Commodity Centre (DMCC), Emirates Airlines, Al Habtoor Group, Sharjah Investment & Development Authority – Shurooq, Protiviti, Shapoorji Pallonji, UAE, BRS Ventures, GEMS Education, Aster Healthcare, Al Dobowi Group, ITNL International, Crowe Horwath etc.

The Plenary Session II was a Special Presentation on KIZAD, ‘Abu Dhabi Ports: The Emirate’s first Industrial Free Zone’, by Edwin Lammers, VP - Commercial, Khalifa Industrial Zone (KIZAD), Abu Dhabi Ports, UAE. The next Plenary Session (III) was on the sub-theme “Boards to lead Business
Excellence: Staying Ahead of the Curve”. It was chaired by Dr. B. R. Shetty, Founder & Chairman, BRS Ventures, NMC Healthcare, UAE Exchange & Travelex, UAE.

The next Plenary Session IV was on sub-theme “Sustaining Business Excellence in a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous (VUCA) economic environment”. The session was chaired by Arindam De, Country Head and Managing Director, Protiviti Middle East Member Firm, UAE.

The next Plenary Session (VI, b) was on the sub-theme “Achieving Growth and Transformation through Quality & Business Excellence Frameworks”. It was a case study presentation by the winners of the Golden Peacock Awards. The session was chaired by Dr. Mukesh Batra, Founder & Chairman Emeritus, Dr Batra’s™ Group. He briefed the history of his group and how they had grown from small beginnings to massive success today.

In the session on Indo-UAE Business Meet, Dr. B. N. S Murthy, Chairman, Coconut Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer’s Welfare, Govt. of India presented the history of coconut development in India and its positive benefits. He invited the participants to the Board’s stall at the venue. He made a presentation of SWOT analysis of Indian coconut sector and the bright prospects of coconut exports to the UAE.

The second day’s deliberations commenced with the Plenary Session on the theme Competitive Strategy in Pursuit of World Class Excellence chaired by Ms. Samira Shaloh, Co-Founder, Brain Quest, UAE.

The next Plenary Session was the Golden Peacock Awards presentation ceremony. His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan Hon’ble Cabinet Member and Minister of Tolerance, Govt. of UAE conferred the famed ‘Golden Peacock Awards for Business Excellence’ and ‘Innovative Product/Service-2018’, to the winners amongst business and Industry from India and abroad. His Highness, in his keynote address highlighted that India and UAE are historic trading partners. He cited the example of late HRH Sheikh Zayed who is rightly regarded as the founder of modern UAE. HRH’s vision integrated the various units and Emirates of UAE. His model was based on Connectivity, Innovation and Business Excellence. He stressed the importance of tolerance, which resulted in mutual benefit through shared ideas. Referring to the theme of the IOD Convention, he said, the company / boards should encourage three key policy initiatives which can lead to Business Excellence-Creativity, Innovation and Tolerance.

His Excellency Sultan Al Habtoor, President, Al Habtoor Motors and Vice President, Al Habtoor Group conferred the Golden Peacock Awards on the winners amongst Indian and Global business and Industry for Quality and Training-2018 along with H.E. Mr Vipul IFS, Consul General of India in Dubai.

The next Plenary Session on the sub-theme Reshaping Business Excellence through Technology was moderated by Abhishek Sen Gupta, Head of Videos, Khaleej Times. After the conclusion of second day sessions, an MoU was signed with Brain Quest, UAE headed by Ms. Samira Shaloh and the CEO, on behalf of IOD, India. The last Session was on the sub-theme Achieving Growth and transformation through Innovation.

Nimish Makvana, Director-UAE Chapter, IOD, India & Past Chairman, ICAI –Dubai and Partner, Crowe Horwath - UAE delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of IOD to all the sponsors, institutional partners, speakers, and the participants from the UAE and other countries during the valedictory session. On the final day of the Convention, a study tour of KIZAD was organized by the IOD in collaboration with the authorities of Abu Dhabi Ports.

An exhibition was also held as part of the programme wherein Coconut Development Board displayed various coconut based value added products. M/s. KL Group, India had their display cum sales counter in Board’s stall. Reliable export enquires were received for various coconut based products especially virgin coconut oil.