

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**SHRI KAPIL SIBAL ADDRESSES THE INDIA-UAE FORUM: CALLS FOR
COLLABORATION TO CONQUER NEW FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE**

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Developing countries would emerge as the providers of solutions for the global community, which would be cost effective, and thus, effective for the entire world, in contrast to high cost solutions emerging from the developed world. This was stated by Shri Kapil Sibal, Union Minister for Human Resource Development while speaking at the India-UAE Forum, in Abu Dhabi last evening, on the subject, ‘Leveraging The Knowledge Economy Paradigm’. The forum was also addressed by Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Minister of Scientific Research and Higher Development for the UAE.

Shri Sibal underlined that expansion in Higher Education is required in the developing world, in order to raise the Gross Enrolment Ratio(GER) to a robust level to generate the creativity and wealth that comes through intangible assets. He opined that the nature of wealth is shifting from acquisition of labour and capital to acquisition of intangible assets. Stating that expansion must be accompanied by quality, he said that in India initiatives are being taken to ensure this. The globalization of higher education has added newer challenges in terms of quality assurance system, issues of mutual recognition and equivalence of degrees and transparency in the regulatory structures of national systems of higher education. These challenges can be largely addressed by increased regional and international collaboration, the minister pointed out.

Shri Sibal stated that the time has come to start a dialogue across countries as new frontiers of knowledge cannot be conquered without collaboration. All of us, in this globalised world, have a stake in each other’s future.

MV-from Dubai/DS/Hb