

Meet on business trends in Dhofar

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A symposium on 'Business in Dhofar region: Trends, opportunities and Challenges' was an eye opener for the participants as the speakers came out with many new ideas and facts related to business potential in Dhofar. The deliberations implied that those who wanted to set up new businesses should spend good time in survey and research before deciding to start a business venture.

In his keynote speech, Ahmed Ali Akaak, Deputy CEO of the Port of Salalah, exhorted participating businessmen and students to understand the strength the Port of Salalah (PoS) that keeps on boosting businesses coming to and from Salalah.

“PoS offers significantly shorter supply chain, reduction in ‘on water inventory’ of up to seven days, terminal handling charges about 34 per cent cheaper than competing ports, and significant reduction in haulage cost and time to and from port,” he said while citing many other features and future plans of the port.

Organised by Salalah College of Technology (SCT), the symposium was held under the auspices of Abdullah Aqeel al Ibrahim, Acting Deputy Governor of Dhofar. Present on the occasion were a good number of representatives from the business houses, academicians, students and government officials.

Wael Abdalla, General Manager of Carmeuse Majan, listed many positive points of investment in Oman as opportunities to grow in a peaceful country like Oman “where human relationships still matter, where natural resources are of high quality, supporting the country vision to diversify the economy, and being a pioneer of the development of the Salalah region and the Salalah Free Zone.”

A total of nine papers were presented during the symposium in three sessions chaired respectively by Dr Sayed Ahsan Jamil, Dean College of Commerce and Business Administration Dhofar University; Ashwani Jhamb, GM Audit and Assurance, PoS; and Dr Sandeep Ojha, faculty member of International Business at Salalah College of Applied Sciences. Those who presented papers in the second session included, Dr Anshuman Sharma; TTA Rohanraj, HC Feroskhan, Dr Shouvik Sanyal, Dr Mohammed Wamique Hisam, and Ali Said AliAkaak.

Presenters in the third session were Faris Nasif Alshubiri, Muawaya Ahmed Hussein, Dr Shariq Ahmed, K Subranian, Dr Srin R Srinivasan, Mughees Shaukat, Dr Abdullah al Gzazali, Dr Richard Fairchild, and Dr Yolmaz Guney. In her message, Dr Maryam al Awadi, Dean SCT, thanked the participants and said: “Together let us continue to search for new horizons that will improve our skills and business acumen. This keenness in understanding and dealing with any business situation is key to achieving economic gains and will eventually make our region and our beloved country Oman a stronger, robust and more progressive nation.”