

**Consulate General of India  
Erbil**

**Press Release**

**Celebration of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day**

On 17 October 2019, the Consulate General of India, Erbil organized a special event to commemorate the 'Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation' (ITEC) programme. Consul General Chandramouli K. Kern in his opening remarks stated that ITEC programme which started from 15 September 1964, is India's flagship programme for delivering technical assistance, technology transfer and capacity building for partner countries. Through this programme, India shares its experience and expertise in various fields with 161 developing countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Pacific Island States. Since its inception, ITEC has offered unique training courses in different centres of excellence in India and prepared the students for an increasingly globalized world. Around 12000 training slots are provided annually through ITEC programme. India offers unique training courses in different centres of excellence. There are currently 47 empanelled institutions conducting 280 short-term, medium-term and long-term courses every year in a wide and diverse range of skills and disciplines. These training programmes have contributed significantly towards capacity building and human resource development of our friendly countries in many parts of the world. Consul General also hoped that the trained ITEC students would be able to disseminate their knowledge further in and around their work place. After opening of the Consulate in August 2016, the Consulate has sent many candidates from Kurdistan Region of Iraq under ITEC programme whose feedbacks have been very encouraging.

The ITEC Day saw participation of approximately 50 ITEC alumni and Government officials from Department of Foreign Relations and Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. H.E. Ms. Siham Jabali Mamand, Assistant Head, Department of Foreign Relations was the guest of honour for the occasion who had also represented Minister and Head of Department of Foreign Relations and Mr. Karwan, Director had represented Minister of Planning of Kurdistan Region of Iraq. In her address H.E. Ms. Siham expressed her gratefulness for imparting advanced training to the officials of Kurdistan. A few ITEC Alumni were also invited to speak and they shared their experiences of training under the ITEC

Programme in India. They spoke about the benefits of ITEC courses not only in providing knowledge and expertise but in giving them an opportunity to interact with trainees from other countries and learn more about India and its culture, traditions and food. A documentary on ITEC Programmes was played during the event and photos taken by the ITEC alumni at the time of their training in India were also displayed.

18 October 2019