

# Oman may get more Indian schools



E Ahamed addressing the Indian community at the embassy (Muscat Daily)

## Our Correspondent Muscat

---

More Indian schools are likely to come up in Oman, according to E Ahamed, India's Minister of State for External Affairs, who paid an official visit to the sultanate this week.

A reception was hosted in

Ahamed's honour by H E Anil Wadhwa, the Indian Ambassador to Oman, on Saturday.

At present, there are 18 Indian schools operating in Oman. The Indian schools in Buraimi and Thumrait were the most recent ones to open, in 2010 and 2011 respectively. Another one is expected to open in Masirah soon.

"During my stay here, I have a series of meetings lined up. I will seek permission for a few more Indian schools in Oman, and am hopeful that they will be sanctioned," Ahamed said.

He added that in the whole GCC, Oman stands out for its special relationship with India. "The bilateral trade is an indicator of the robust relationship between the two countries. In 2008-09, it stood at US\$2bn, and went up to US\$4.5bn in 2009-10," said Ahamed.

"The Indo-Oman Joint Investment Fund launched in 2008 with a seed capital of US\$1bn has recently increased to US\$1.5bn."

Earlier on Saturday, Ahamed held a meeting with H E Yousuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs, and discussed ways to enhance cooperation.