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## About this newsletter

The Cambridge-India newsletter is a quarterly summary of India-related activity in Cambridge, compiled by the [International Strategy Office](#).

It is intended as an update for colleagues in central offices (Development and Alumni Relations, External Affairs and Communications, International Student Team, Research Operations, Research Strategy) and Schools.

For further information on any item, please contact Dr Mani Shankar Narayanan, India Officer in the International Strategy Office.

## [VISITS](#) [PROJECTS & EVENTS](#) [OPPORTUNITIES](#)

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### Pro-Vice-Chancellor's visit to India

Dr Jennifer Barnes, PVC for International Strategy, will lead a visit involving the International Strategy Office (ISO) and Development and Alumni Relations (CUDAR) to India in February. The visit will cover 5 key cities (New Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata, and Mumbai) and aims to follow-up on the VC's specific discussions with members of his Circle of Advisors for India (CoA). These and other meetings planned in this visit will be instrumental in determining priority focus areas for the coming months. The visit will also include interactions with local UK Science & Innovation Network teams to identify future opportunities for partnership.

#### New Delhi

1. The delegation will meet Prof Srinath Reddy, President of the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), to discuss opportunities for partnership in public health, and to discuss continuation of the PHFI-Cambridge Trust scholarship which supports students selected by PHFI to study at Cambridge.
2. Discussions with Dr Arabinda Mitra, Advisor and Head of International Cooperation at India's Department of Science and Technology (DST), and a CoA member, will continue, exploring in detail possibilities of attracting students via DST's ongoing PhD fellowship programmes.
3. The delegation will meet Mr Ratnesh Kumar Jha, the new Managing Director of Cambridge University Press, India.

#### Hyderabad

1. Meetings will be held with Mr Ajit Rangnekar, Dean, Indian School of Business, and Mr Ranjan Chak, Venture Partner at Oak Investment Partners, to discuss opportunities for partnership in business research.

2. Cambridge will attend the [Bio Asia Forum](#), of which the UK is a country partner as part of the [GREAT](#) campaign. Dr Toby Wilkinson, Head of the International Strategy Office, will deliver an address on 'encouraging innovation', drawing on the experience of the Cambridge Phenomenon.

### **Chennai**

1. The delegation will meet Dr Baldev Raj, President, Indian National Academy of Engineering, to gain an expert view on the Government of India's long-term priorities and needs in engineering.
2. The visit will include a meeting with Mr TK Arunachalam, Regional Director for South Asia, Cambridge English Language Assessment.

### **Mumbai**

1. CUDAR, led by Executive Director Ms Alison Traub, will be meeting with a number of key CoA, to discuss possibilities of philanthropic and corporate support for Cambridge-India activities.

## **Other visits to India**

Prof Sharon Peacock, Professor of Clinical Microbiology at the Department of Medicine, organized a three-day workshop on infectious disease at the Indian Institute of Science, in partnership with the St John's Research Institute, Bangalore in January 2014. The workshop, which was funded by the [India-UK Scientific Seminar](#) award and attended by Prof Duncan Maskell, Head of the School of Biological Sciences, is expected to help initiate a number of longer-term research links between the three partner institutions.

Prof Harry Bhadeshia, Tata Steel Professor of Metallurgy at the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, delivered the opening lecture at the 67<sup>th</sup> annual technical meeting of the Indian Institute of Metals at the Benares Hindu University (BHU) in November.

Prof Lord Rees (Institute of Astronomy) was invited to deliver a keynote lecture at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune.

## **Visits from India**

Dr Vince Cable, the UK's Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, [announced](#) in December the winner of the Bioinnovation competition launched by the Science & Innovation Network in partnership with the Bangalore-Cambridge Innovation Network. The winners, Jubilant Biosys and Metaome Science Informatics Ltd, were judged to be Bangalore's most innovative biotech companies looking to expand internationally, and will visit Cambridge for 2 weeks in March 2014. They will be hosted by [ideaSpace](#).

## **Projects & Events**

Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh [announced](#) on 3 February, at the 101<sup>st</sup> Indian Science Congress, that Prof Azim Surani (Director of Germline and Epigenomics Research, Gurdon Institute) had been awarded the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship, which allows eminent foreign scientists to work in India for 12 months over a 3 year period. Prof Surani [will work for the Fellowship period](#) at the Institute for Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine (inStem) in Bangalore.

A seminar series on "[Education in India: A Multidisciplinary Exploration](#)" will be launched by the Centre for Commonwealth Education at Faculty of Education this term, coinciding with the appointment of Dr Pauline Rose as the new Professor of

International Education at the Faculty. The first talk will be delivered by Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes from the Centre for South Asian Studies on “Visual methods of teaching South Asian history” (11 February 1230 pm). The next talk will be delivered by Dr Sriya Iyer from the Faculty of Education on the “Economics of religion in India” (18 February 1230 pm).

An joint application for funding under the Thematic Partnerships strand put forward by Dr Shailaja Fennell at the Department of Land Economy and collaborators at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras to [UGC-UKIERI](#) has been successful. The project will aim to understand how bottlenecks that limit Internet access for rural agricultural production and community based tourism can be removed.

Cambridge University Press India and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bangalore [announced a new collaboration](#) which will publish a series of new academic titles as part of the Cambridge-IISc Series. The books will be written by eminent academicians, researchers and subject experts in science, technology and engineering. A total of 15 academic titles will be published over a span of three years, all focusing on advanced research in diverse areas of science and technology.

## Opportunities

The EPSRC-DST [Indo-UK Initiative in Applied Mathematics](#) invites joint applications for funding 12-14 workshops to facilitate collaborations between the two countries on topics of mathematical importance to both countries; closing date 31<sup>st</sup> July 2014.

Current funding opportunities for UK-India research collaborations are regularly compiled by the UK Science & Innovation Network. The latest list is available [here](#).

## Feedback

To send us your comments/ suggestions/ enquiries/ content, email [india@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:india@admin.cam.ac.uk)

Further information on Cambridge’s engagement with India can be found at [www.cambridge-india.org](http://www.cambridge-india.org)