

Cambridge-India newsletter November 2014

Issue 4



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## About this newsletter

The Cambridge-India newsletter is a termly 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

## Vice-Chancellor's visit to India

The Vice-Chancellor visited India from 12-20 September, accompanied by a senior Cambridge delegation. He visited Bangalore, Mumbai, and New Delhi to strengthen and deepen the University's links with Indian academia, business and government.

## **Bangalore**

- The Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and five senior Cambridge academics
  participated in UK-India round tables on <u>Advanced Manufacturing</u> and <u>Anti-Microbial</u>
  <u>Resistance</u> (AMR), organised by the British Deputy High Commission.
- 2. Researchers from the Infectious Diseases Strategic Initiative have submitted a bid with the National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (Chennai) in response to the Newton

Fund's MRC-DBT Centre Partnership call in AMR.

### Mumbai

1. The Vice-Chancellor was guest of honour at the Cambridge International Examinations Celebration of Achievement, which brought together 150+ headteachers and governors from CIF's schools across India.

#### New Delhi

- 1. The Vice-Chancellor hosted the second annual meeting of his Circle of Advisors for India
- 2. The Vice-Chancellor met with India's Minister of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, and issued a joint statement on cooperation, agreeing to work on the following key areas:
  - jointly investing with the Indian Government in research posts working on priority areas of science and technology in order to attract the best scientists from Cambridge to Indian institutions;
  - forging a partnership between the cluster of plant sciences research centres in and around Cambridge and leading Indian institutions, to drive research in agriculture technology to boost food security;
  - creating an ecosystem that will encourage Indian industry to invest in research leading to innovation through academia-industry connections.
- 3. An <u>agreement</u> was signed between India's Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and Cambridge Trust, to launch the Cambridge-India Ramanujan Fellowships, which will fund 20 PhD scholarships for Indian students to study in Cambridge over the next 5 years.
- 4. On a visit to the National Law University, Delhi, the Vice-Chancellor met with the Union Minister of Human Resource Development (whose portfolio includes Education and Higher Education), Mrs Smriti Zubin Irani, and presented the first <a href="Pratibha M. Singh">Pratibha M. Singh</a> <a href="Cambridge Scholarship">Cambridge Scholarship</a> which will enable an outstanding law student from India to read for the Master's of Law degree at Cambridge.
- 5. The Vice-Chancellor hosted <u>Global Cambridge: India</u>, the University's most ambitious alumni event ever staged outside the UK. This brought together distinguished speakers from Cambridge and India to discuss and debate issues in the three key areas of health, education and society, with an audience of over 300 Cambridge alumni and friends. The opening plenary included contributions from the British High Commissioner to India, Sir James Bevan, and the national spokesperson for India's governing BJP party, Mr M J Akbar.



6. The Vice-Chancellor formally opened CUP India's new premises in Delhi, and met staff in the new office.



# **Visits to Cambridge**

His Excellency Mr <u>Ranjan Mathai</u>, High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom, visited Cambridge on 27 October. After meeting with the Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for International Strategy, he attended a <u>round-table discussion</u> at the Judge

Business School on teaching and innovation around business in India. He then visited the Centre of South Asian Studies where he met with the Director and interacted with Indian students, before visiting the Institute for Manufacturing where he gave a public lecture on "Make in India", a new campaign launched by the Government of India.



<u>Arnab Goswami</u>, a prominent journalist and Editor-in-Chief of the Indian news channel *Times Now*, will be <u>visiting</u> Cambridge on Sunday 9 November from 5-7 pm. He will give a lecture on "Indian Media and Politics" at St Catharine's College.

<u>Manish Tewari</u>, former Minister of Information and Broadcasting in the previous Indian government, and current Congress MP, will be <u>visiting</u> Cambridge on Wednesday 12 November from 2-4 pm. He will give a talk on "Media and Censorship", in conversation with Dr Shruti Kapila, at Corpus Christi College.

Raghuram Rajan, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, will give the Clare Distinguished Lecture in Economics and Public Policy on Wednesday 3 December at 5.30 pm in the Riley Auditorium, Lerner Court, Clare College.

## **Projects & Events**

Dr Sujit Sivasundaram (Faculty of History) and Professor Simon Schaffer (History and Philosophy of Science) have organised a workshop on exploring the histories of medical, astronomical, and natural science in Delhi at the Nehru Memorial Library and Museum from 16-17 December.

Dr Shruti Kapila (Faculty of History) has been awarded a grant from the Vice-Chancellor's Endowment Fund to put on a major academic conference in Delhi in February 2015 to assess the legacy of former Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

## **Opportunities**

The **Cambridge-Hamied Visiting Lectureship Scheme**, which was first established in 2009 to stimulate academic collaboration between leading Indian institutions and Cambridge, is undergoing a significant expansion. The expansion, from autumn 2014, will aim to strengthen and deepen research collaborations between Cambridge and Indian partners. Since its inception, the scheme has supported over 20 distinguished academics and in many cases has facilitated partners to develop successful proposals for major funding from other sources. Further details and information on how to apply are available <a href="here">here</a>.

The <u>National Centre for Biological Sciences</u> (NCBS), Bangalore, the <u>Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine</u> (inStem), Bangalore, and the University of Cambridge are pleased to announce the **NCBS-inStem-Cambridge Postdoctoral Fellowship**. The fellowships allow for the joint-appointment of 4 Postdoctoral Fellows per year to work in Cambridge for half the period of a 4 year term, and covers full salary costs. Further details and information on how to apply are available <u>here</u>.

The <u>BBSRC-India Partnering Awards</u> are available to set up links between UK researchers and laboratories functioning under India's Department of Biotechnology or the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Closing date: 13 November. The <u>BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme</u> (ISIS) is also open for applications.

## **Feedback**

To send us your comments/ suggestions/ enquiries/ content, email india@admin.cam.ac.uk

Further information on Cambridge's engagement with India can be found at <a href="https://www.cambridge-india.org">www.cambridge-india.org</a>

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