

From: India
Subject: Cambridge-India Newsletter



Cambridge-India newsletter

October 2013

Issue 1



Image reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library (MS-ADD1277.4).

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](#)

Welcome from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for International Strategy

Welcome to the first issue of the **Cambridge-India Newsletter**, a quarterly bulletin for colleagues with an interest in Cambridge's engagement with India.

Partnership with India is integral to Cambridge's global engagement, and collaboration with Indian colleagues and institutions continues to develop.

I hope that you will find this bulletin useful in learning more about India, Cambridge projects with India, and opportunities to extend your work in India.

Jennifer Barnes



The Vice-Chancellor's visit to India

The Vice-Chancellor made a two-week visit to India in September, accompanied by a senior Cambridge delegation. He visited New Delhi, Bangalore, and Mumbai with the overarching objectives of taking Cambridge's engagement with India to a new level, and enhancing the University's profile and opportunities for partnership with Indian academia, business, and government.

New Delhi

1. The inaugural meeting of the Vice-Chancellor's [Circle of Advisors](#) brought together leading figures from Indian academia, business and government to discuss Cambridge's current engagement with India and the opportunities for further partnership. The [meeting](#) raised the profile of Cambridge's activities in India among key Indian decision-makers, and identified priority areas for further collaboration – notably plant sciences, cancer research, industrial technology and supply chains, education, humanities and social sciences – and mechanisms for collaboration, including virtual network centres and PhD fellowships.



2. Meetings with the Secretaries of the Departments of Health and of Biotechnology, and the Minister of Science and Technology identified specific opportunities and sources of funding for partnership between Cambridge and India in research.
3. The Judge Business School organised a symposium for members of the Indian civil service who had already participated in the JBS leadership programme. The Vice-Chancellor gave a keynote address on leadership and met with participants who are likely to be running Indian government departments and state-owned enterprises in the next 5-10 years. The relationship between Cambridge and the IAS will

be important strategically in terms of the University's ability to strengthen its partnership with India.

4. The Vice-Chancellor had private meetings with the Prime Minister of India and the Speaker of Lok Sabha (the Lower House of the Parliament of India), spoke at the Gates Cambridge Alumni Emerging Leaders Summit, and attended a reception for Cambridge alumni and friends in Delhi.

Bangalore

1. At the National Centre for Biological Sciences/Institute for Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine (NCBS-inStem), the Vice-Chancellor officially opened the new collaborative Centre for Chemical Biology and Therapeutics ([CCBT](#)). The Pro-Vice-Chancellor for International Strategy signed a postdoctoral exchange agreement under which NCBS-inStem will fully fund up to 4 postdoctoral fellows per year for a period of ten years, to support ongoing collaborations between NCBS-inStem and Cambridge. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor also met with the organising committee of the Student Conference on Conservation Science ([SCCS-Bangalore](#)) to discuss building a closer relationship with SCCS-Cambridge and the Cambridge Conservation Initiative.



2. The Cambridge delegation met with the Chairman and senior executives of Infosys to identify areas of mutual interest; these included research in cyber security, big data and online learning technologies. It was agreed that Infosys' flagship [Instep](#) internship programme could be promoted more effectively to increase the number of successful Cambridge applicants.
3. The Vice-Chancellor and his team met with the Chief Minister of Karnataka and senior officials. The state government expressed its in-principle support for further development of the [Bangalore–Cambridge Innovation Network](#) (BCIN), including funding for thematic workshops, and twinning the cities of Bangalore and Cambridge.

4. At a business networking event in Bangalore organised by UKTI, the Vice-Chancellor had discussions with UK Cabinet Office Minister Francis Maude MP, gave a keynote speech on the Cambridge-India partnership, and launched the [Bioinnovation Prize](#). The prize is funded by the UK government, the winners of which will be hosted in Cambridge by IdeaSpace.
5. The Vice-Chancellor also attended a reception for Cambridge alumni and friends.

Mumbai

1. The Vice-Chancellor visited the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IIT-B) in support of an ongoing collaboration in nanoscience and nanotechnology headed by Professor Sir Mark Welland. It was agreed that Phase 2 of the collaboration, to extend over 10 years, should provide support for PhD studentships at both institutions.
2. Two meetings were held with senior executives of the Tata Group, to follow up a visit by Tata Group companies to Cambridge on 31 July-1 August.
3. The Vice-Chancellor gave a keynote speech at the Indian Young Leaders Forum, organised by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Vice-Chancellor chaired and participated in panels on innovation, education and research at the [British Business Group National Convention](#).
4. The Vice-Chancellor also attended a reception for Cambridge alumni and friends.

Other visits to India

1. Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Research Fellow and Affiliate Lecturer at the Centre of South Asian Studies, visited the Azim Premji University in Bangalore between 16-20 September, where she organized the 'Teaching South Asian History with Visual Research Methods' [workshop series](#) for South Asian teachers and teacher educators.
2. Professor Patrick Maxwell, Regius Professor of Physic and Head of the School of Clinical Medicine, is visiting the National Centre of Biological Sciences, Bangalore, in the week of 14 October 2013.
3. Professor Sir Mike Gregory, Director of the Institute for Manufacturing, will represent the University of Cambridge at the Government of India National Innovation Council's Global Innovation Roundtable in New Delhi on 18-19 November 2013.

Visits from India

The Hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha (the Lower House of the Parliament of India), Mrs Meira Kumar, visited Cambridge on 10 October. In this visit, which was in response to an invitation to visit from the Vice-Chancellor whom she met in Delhi last year and again last month, she met with a number of leading Cambridge academics in a lunch hosted at Clare College by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for International Strategy. She then met with the Vice-Chancellor before ending her visit by delivering a

lecture to a packed hall at the Sidgwick site on ['Parliamentary Democracy in India'](#).



Projects & Events

A bid put forward by Prof Sharon Peacock, Professor of Clinical Microbiology at the Department of Medicine, to the Infectious Diseases Initiative: [India-UK Scientific Seminar](#) Award jointly supported by the Royal Society and India's Department of Science and Technology (DST) has been successful. A three-day workshop on various aspects of infectious disease has been scheduled by collaborators at Cambridge, King's College London, the Indian Institute of Science, and the St John's Research Institute, Bangalore, in early 2014.

Opportunities

The International Strategy Office is currently collating information about collaborative research between Cambridge and India in the arts, humanities and social sciences, in order to assess the opportunities for a significant programme based in India. All information will be gratefully received.

The UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) are [jointly funding](#) a programme of workshops in applied mathematics organised by the ICMS.

BBSRC announces the [India Partnering Awards](#) to help support travel, subsistence and other activities, such as workshops or exchanges, with partners in India.

InStep, the flagship global internship programme run by the leading

Indian multinational Infosys, is open for [applications](#) into its 2014 cohort. The fully paid-for programme traditionally attracts a mix of students from across disciplines such as management, technology, and liberal arts and in previous years has seen a number of Cambridge students completing internships successfully.

Feedback

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

Copyright 2013 University of Cambridge
The Old Schools, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TN, UK

[Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#)

Dr Mani Shankar Narayanan

International Officer (India)
International Strategy Office
University of Cambridge
t +44 (0)1223 761853
e msn28@cam.ac.uk
www.cambridge-india.org