

Cambridge-India newsletter

May 2014

Issue 3



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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.

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Announcements

Dr Yusuf Hamied, pharmaceutical chemist and Chairman of Cipla Limited, an Honorary Fellow of Christ's College, and a member of the Vice-Chancellor's Circle of Advisors for India, will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University, on 18 June 2014.

Three collaborative research projects at the Cambridge have been [awarded funding](#) in the latest round of Thematic Partnerships awards from the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI), announced in March 2014.

Elections in India: the voting phase to elect India's new Lower House of Parliament is currently underway. It is expected that there will be a change in government, which will result in significant new opportunities and challenges for Cambridge's continuing engagement with India. The International Strategy Office will play a key role in briefing Cambridge colleagues and leadership about the implications of the results, following their announcement on 16 May.

Visits to India

The Vice-Chancellor's annual visit to India will take place in September 2014.

Alongside meetings and events in Mumbai and Delhi, the annual Vice-Chancellor's Circle of Advisors for India meeting will be held in New Delhi on 18 September, and will be followed the next day by the Global Cambridge: India day, with the theme of Cutting-Edge Collaborative Research in Health, Education and Society.

Helen Pennant, Director, Cambridge Trust, visited New Delhi in April 2014 where she discussed PhD and Postdoctoral scholarships with the Indian Department of Science and Technology and the Science and Engineering Board. She also had a productive conversation with the Public Health Foundation of India, wherein both sides expressed their interest in renewing the previously active PHFI-Cambridge Scholarship, and will work together to identify potential funding sources.

Visits from India

Professor MS Swaminathan, the distinguished geneticist and Cambridge alumnus hailed as the "Father of the Green Revolution" in India, will be delivering a lecture on "The transformational role of plants in meeting the zero hunger challenge" at the Sainsbury Laboratory at **2 pm on 17 May 2014**. He will be hosted at dinner by the Master of Fitzwilliam College, Nicola Padfield.

Professor Dhruv Raina from the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi, is a visiting scholar in Cambridge during Easter term. He collaborates closely with Dr Sujit Sivasundaram (Faculty of History) and Professor Simon Schaffer (Department of History and Philosophy of Science) via their AHRC Network Grant on 'Global histories of science'.

The winners of the Science & Innovation Network and Bangalore-Cambridge Innovation Network's [Bioinnovation competition](#), the Bangalore-based biotech companies Jubilant Biosys and Metaome Science Informatics Ltd, [visited Cambridge](#) for 2 weeks in March 2014.

A delegation from the International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore (IIIT-B), a partner in the Bangalore-Cambridge Innovation Network, visited Cambridge in the week of 10 March. A number of threads have emerged, from a series of meetings across the University and the wider Cambridge cluster, which will be pursued in the coming months.

Projects & Events

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Cambridge's Department of Engineering and the Department of Instrumentation and Applied Physics at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The parties have agreed to collaborate in the field of nano-bio systems for use in healthcare applications, and will be supported by the [recently awarded](#) UKIERI grant.

Changing Dynamics of Innovations in India – an informative seminar organized by the UK-India Business Council (UKIBC) will be held at the Institute of Manufacturing on **20 May 2014**. Further details and registration [here](#).

A joint research team from Cambridge's Institute for Manufacturing (led by Professor Sir Mike Gregory, Head of the IfM); the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar; and the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow; kick-started a £1

million project grant awarded by the UK's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and India's Department of Science & Technology (DST) with a [workshop in New Delhi](#) on 9 April. The project will investigate engineering-driven sustainable supply networks in four industries of national importance – Aerospace, Automotive, Pharmaceutical and Food Processing.

Opportunities

[India-UK Scientific Seminars scheme](#) for mid-career scientists wanting to organize a 3-day seminar in India or in the UK; closing date **10 June 2014**.

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 July 2014**.

The National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore announces the [NCBS Summer Internships](#) for talented undergraduate students studying at Cambridge wishing to undertake a project in a lab in [NCBS](#) specializing in research areas ranging from the study of single molecules to systems biology.

It is anticipated that details of the new **Newton-Bhabha Fund**, presently being developed by the UK-India Science and Innovation Policy Dialogue's special Task Force, will be announced in Autumn 2014. At present, it is known that funds will be available for research in addressing 3 'grand societal challenges' – Sustainable Cities and Urbanization; Public Health and Wellbeing; and the Energy-Water-Food Nexus.

Funding opportunities for UK-India research collaborations are regularly compiled by the UK Science & Innovation Network. The latest list, which includes details on **new EU-India cooperation opportunities**, is available [here](#).

Feedback

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

Further information on Cambridge's engagement with India can be found at www.cambridge-india.org