

Presented by



Second Edition

UK WEEK  
2018  
INDIA  
18-22 JUNE 2018

# 100 UK INDIA

MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE  
IN UK INDIA RELATIONS

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## Foreword

Manoj Ladwa  
Founder & Chief Executive, India Inc.

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## Celebrating UK-India change-makers

Robert F. Kennedy famously said: “Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events.”

The rich legacy of the UK-India partnership was shaped by those who influenced the course of history. Now we celebrate the change-makers of today.

With special thanks to our sponsors, Infosys, India’s global technology giant, and the kind hospitality of Taj London, I am delighted to announce the second edition of our popular list – ‘100 Most Influential People in UK-India Relations’.

The winning partnership between these great global powers is fostered and enhanced by inspirational figures at the cutting edge of technology, innovation, business, international relations and culture.

India Inc. Top 100 reflects the breadth and depth of those championing this flourishing and dynamic global relationship. While we can never recognise everyone driving this partnership forward, it is vital that we celebrate the most impressive, outstanding and inspiring work to strengthen the bond between our two nations.

The exchange of ideas between the UK and India – everything from fintech to wellness, fusion cookery to green energy – rejuvenates our historic bond.

It takes energy, zeal and entrepreneurship to nurture our winning partnership for the next generation.

This year’s list gives special recognition to the Tech Gurus, who are helping to drive innovation to the very core of UK-India relations, some young achievers who we predict will set us in a new direction, and the Social Impact Warriors who are making a huge difference in the not-for-profit sector.



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## Politics & Public Life

These are some of the energetic and dynamic individuals who keep the India-UK strategic relationship alive in the political arena. Many are well-known, having been feted for their endeavours, but there are also some who choose to work quietly behind the scenes. This list is a nod to each one of them.

### Rajesh Agrawal

**Deputy Mayor for Business, London**

This successful businessman had the foresight to back Sadiq Khan as Mayor of London and was duly rewarded. As the boy from downtown Indore who came to London with just £200 in his pocket, Rajesh today is the poster boy of the #LondonIsOpen campaign. He chairs the Mayor's trade & investment promotion arm, London & Partners, and has made special efforts to build bridges between his adopted city and his motherland.



### Karan Bilimoria

**President, UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)**

When the UK government was looking for a fresh face to spearhead business relations with India, Lord Bilimoria proved the ideal choice as the founding chair of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC). The man behind the now world-famous less-gassy Cobra beer brand is today equally famous for his strong advocacy of Indian students coming to study in UK universities. Of late, his impassioned anti-Brexit campaign has positioned him as a key voice in the raging debate.

### Bob Blackman

**MP, Conservative Party; Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group for British Hindus**

The MP for Harrow East, a heavily Indian-origin constituency, is one of the most consistent friends of India in the House of Commons. His close connections with organisations in India such as the RSS gives him a unique insight into contemporary Indian affairs which others sometimes shy away from. Bob is a familiar face at Indian festivals, well networked within the community, and is a vocal campaigner against caste legislation being implemented into UK law.



### Sir Vince Cable

**Leader, Lib Dems**

Arguably the most recognisable anti-Brexit voice in British politics, Sir Vince is equally vehement when it comes to support for the free movement of Indian students and professionals to bring talent into the UK. The former Business Secretary, whose Indian connections go back decades, has been campaigning against overseas students being included in the UK government's annual migration cap. His recent outreach to the Indian Diaspora reaffirms the consensus that the community is important enough to deserve special political engagement at the highest levels.

## Swapan Dasgupta

Writer/Member, Rajya Sabha

This erudite political commentator is a self-proclaimed Anglophile. He is often the ruling BJP's go-to person on UK relations. Swapan is respected for his astute observations on often controversial subjects. A regular on television debates, he embodies some of the traditional values of journalism that, at times, can seem in short supply in today's #fakenews world. His well-deserved appointment to India's Upper House has only enhanced his influence on all things UK-India.



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## Navnit Dholakia

Deputy Leader, Lib Dems, House of Lords

Lord Dholakia has been the Liberal Democrat India champion for many years. Someone who has the ear of party leader Vince Cable, he is widely regarded as a key influencer within Diaspora circles in the UK. With his quiet and affable approach to things, Lord Dholakia is a man whose wise counsel across party lines carries weight.

## Jitesh Gadhia

Businessman, Banker & Life Peer

Lord Gadhia is a refreshing addition to the India caucus at the House of Lords. An accomplished financier, he has advised on a wide range of high-profile M&A transactions across developed and emerging markets, including some of the largest investment flows between the UK and India. He is a member of the UK-India CEO Forum. It is only a matter of time before we see the intelligent and affable Conservative peer on the frontbenches.



## Barry Gardiner

UK Shadow Minister for International Trade & Climate Change

As 'Mr India' in Parliament for over two decades, Barry can be best described as one of India's strongest allies within Britain's political corridor. Barry has, under Jeremy Corbyn's leadership, emerged as a formidable and popular voice, both within the Labour party and in the media. A little-known fact is that he has been a friend of Prime Minister Modi, and on first name terms with him ever since he met the then BJP general secretary in 1999.

## Preet Kaur Gill

Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on British Sikhs

Preet made history in the June 2017 UK General Election, when she was elected from Birmingham Edgbaston as the first British Sikh female MP. The Labour party politician has since been a champion of some Sikh Diaspora causes in Parliament, and visited India last year as part of a successful parliamentary delegation to strengthen ties with India. As Shadow Minister for International Development, Preet has been at the forefront of some key development debates, including pushing for a more proactive role for the Commonwealth.



## Politics & Public Life

### Seema Malhotra

MP, Labour Party

Seema has been tipped in recent months to become the new chair of a reinvigorated Labour Friends of India. The Labour MP for Feltham and Heston has never shied away from taking a tough stand, including against her own party leadership and as a member of the high-profile parliamentary Committee on Exiting the EU. She is among a bunch of British MPs consistently advocating renewed efforts for a UK-India trade deal.



### Gavin McGillivray

Head, DfID Office in India

Gavin is the Department for International Development's (DfID) man in New Delhi with the overall responsibility of steering its significant programmes. As the UK seeks to repurpose its overseas development work, Gavin's years of experience in the region will come in handy in managing perceptions at home and in India.

### Priti Patel

MP, Conservative Party

This tough-talking Brexiteer and former International Development Minister has a strong connect with India and significant influence within the Diaspora, having served as the first-ever Indian Diaspora Champion in the previous David Cameron led government. Last year she was recognised at the India Inc. UK-India Awards for her significant contribution to UK-India relations. Priti may have moved to the Tory backbenches following a turbulent year but she remains at the centre of the UK-India dialogue.



### Vinay Sahasrabuddhe

Chairman, India-UK Forum of Parliamentarians

Dr Sahasrabuddhe is the Chairman of the influential Indian Council for Cultural Relations, which amongst many things runs the historic Nehru Centre in London, and over 30 such Indian "soft power" outposts around the world. He also heads the India-UK Forum of Parliamentarians, which is made up of members in the Indian Parliament focussed on enhancing relations with the UK. He is well-known as a political scholar and demonstrates a firm grasp of all facets of India's expanding role on the global stage.



## Alok Sharma

**UK Minister of State for Employment**

This former Foreign Office minister in charge of India was rewarded for his hard work with an elevation to his latest post in the Department for Work and Pensions in January this year. Alok is an affable, consummate professional with a strong understanding of finance, having held senior banking roles in London, Stockholm and Frankfurt over the years. He has had a quiet year on the India corridor, but is known to be busy helping to cultivate the next-gen of British Indian politicians.



## Virendra Sharma

**Chair, Indo-British All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)**

Considered the elder statesman of the India caucus in the House of Commons, Southall's Labour party MP represents the very heartland of the British Indian Diaspora community. The former bus driver's ability to balance competing community lobbies is legendary. His latest campaigns include demanding a formal apology from the UK government for the Jhalianwala Bagh massacre of 1919 and bringing to justice the vandals who tore down the Indian flag at Parliament Square during PM Modi's recent visit to the UK.

## Rishi Sunak

**MP, Conservative Party**

Rishi made his entry into the House of Commons in 2015, from the North Yorkshire market town of Richmond. As the son of Indian immigrant parents, he believes Britain has a brighter future aligning closely with Commonwealth countries. Earlier this year, this Tory rising star took the first step up the ministerial rung by being appointed a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State by British PM Theresa May. He also happens to be the son-in-law of Infosys Founder and Indian IT icon Narayana Murthy.



## Shashi Tharoor

**Politician/Writer**

Suave, articulate, and controversial, the author of 'Inglorious Empire: What the British Did to India' has been pulling no punches about the negative impact of the Empire. If taken in the right spirit, his lucid work is an excellent reference point for the architects of a modern India-UK dynamic. The Congress Party MP and former UN Deputy Secretary General is prolific on Twitter and continues to be a voice worth noting.

## Shailesh Vara

**UK Parliamentary Under Secretary for Northern Ireland**

Since being elected to Parliament in 2005, the Conservative MP has played an incisive, though often behind the limelight, role in enhancing critical understanding between the UK and India. He has also served as co-chair of the Conservative Friends of India, shepherding the fledgling organisation to peak popularity within the Diaspora. In 2014, he was awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman by the Indian government in recognition of his work in promoting closer ties between the UK and India.





## Politics & Public Life

### Sandip Verma

Member, House of Lords

The businesswoman-turned-politician, Baroness Sandy Verma, as she is popularly known, is among the very active Indian peers in Parliament. She has served as minister for the Department for International Development (DfID) and Department of Energy and Climate Change in recent years. The proud Leicester girl is equally proud of her Punjabi roots and has been campaigning for the Indian Diaspora's potential to be tapped to build a stronger post-Brexit alliance between India and the UK.



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
As of 2017, there were 800  
INDIAN COMPANIES operating  
in the UK, with combined  
revenues of £46.4 BILLION.

Source: Grant Thornton Tracker 2018



### Amo Kalar

Deputy Trade and Investment Commissioner,  
British High Commission,  
New Delhi

Amo is a very articulate champion for British industry in India and has been flying the flag for greater investment flows from the UK for a few years now. He believes as entrepreneurship is part of the Indian fabric, the UK is perfectly placed to be part of the country's growth story by tapping into the Start-up India and Make in India initiatives. He has a specific interest in tech and entrepreneurship. Amo has built up an enviable black book, especially amongst NextGen Indian influencers.



## India in Britain

These are the diplomats who keep the wheels of the bilateral relationship well-oiled and constantly turning. From high-profile prime ministerial visits to other lesser-hyped but no less important tours, and constant engagement with the all-important diaspora community, here's the team that bats for India in the UK.

### Y.K. Sinha

**High Commissioner of India to the UK**

Sinha is a seasoned hand at diplomatic affairs and the best man to take to the crease at a time when the UK-India match is set for a crucial innings. He has already overseen a hive of activity around the UK India Year of Culture last year. This year marked another hectic one with the visit of the Indian Prime Minister for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and bilateral discussions in April. The senior diplomat has been firm on the point about the free movement of Indian students and professionals being at the heart of any new India-UK trade dynamic. He has also not minced his words on regional security issues.



### Dinesh Patnaik

**Deputy High Commissioner of India to the UK**

This outspoken outrider of Indian diplomacy in London will shortly be heading back to New Delhi after a memorable stint. Patnaik has been a darling of the media and he has been busy keeping the Diaspora and influencer networks working. The former Indian Ambassador to Morocco has made many friends and equally raised eyebrows for his sometimes-unconventional approach to getting things done.

### Manish Singh

**Minister Economic, Indian High Commission London**

The 1997 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer was hand-picked for this important post to oversee India-UK economic ties at a very significant moment in history. Manish's calm handling of some extremely hectic schedules and issues, including the recent visit of PM Modi to the UK, is exactly what is needed for the economic ties to thrive. He brings a breadth of experience and breath of fresh air to India's economic outreach in the UK.





## Britain in India

Here are some of the top order of British diplomats and officials who bat for the UK on a frequently turning Indian pitch.



**Dominic Asquith**  
High Commissioner of the UK to India

Sir Dominic was brought in to bat and out of retirement from the diplomatic service by former UK Prime Minister, David Cameron. A life-long Middle East expert, Asquith has brought some of the canny diplomacy of the desert to India. He has energised the New Delhi diplomatic scene with a wide range of activities, high-profile ministerial delegations and a determination to propel the India-UK relationship into the fast lane. In his own words: "India's economic success and development are vital to the global economy, to UK interests across South Asia and to global priorities like the sustainable development goals."

**Fergus Auld**  
Head, South Asia Department, FCO

Fergus is based at Whitehall as the India Policy Coordinator and Head of the South Asia Department in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). Affable yet clear and firm, he is an important link in the India-UK chain of events. As a new incumbent to the office, he says: "Together, the UK and India are a force for good in the world – our shared values magnified by the Living Bridge formed of countless personal, professional, cultural and institutional ties."



**Crispin Simon**  
British Deputy High Commissioner for Western India & Director General of the Department for International Trade (DIT)

Crispin is the man from outside. He was appointed the UK's Trade Commissioner for South Asia in February 2018 and currently represents the UK government at its Deputy High Commission in Mumbai. He spent 20 years as chief executive of medical technology companies, operating in the fields of cardiology, cancer and neurological rehabilitation and brings the added expertise to his role in India. He is charged with growing the overall bilateral trade and investment relationship with India and improving market access for British companies in the region.

# Realising INDIA - UK Economic Partnership



**Rashesh Shah**  
President, FICCI

“The India-UK bilateral relationship has only strengthened over the time. Even after that, there are several unexplored opportunities which can be mutually rewarding for both businesses and investors. I firmly believe that a continued commitment from both sides will play a vital role in taking the relationship between India and UK businesses to the next level.”

Established 90 years ago, FICCI is the largest and oldest apex business organization in India. Its history is closely interwoven with India's struggle for independence, its industrialization, and its emergence as one of the most rapidly growing global economies.

FICCI is the voice of India's business and industry. From influencing policy to encouraging debate, engaging with policy makers and civil society, FICCI articulates the views and concerns of industry, reaching out to over 2,50,000 companies. FICCI serves its members from large (domestic and global companies) and MSME sectors as well as the public sector, drawing its strength from diverse regional chambers of commerce and industry.

The organization with its presence in 14 states and 9 countries provides a platform for networking and consensus-building within and across sectors and is the first port of call for Indian industry, policy makers and the international business community.

- A long-standing and vibrant institutional network with key UK business associations, universities & think tanks
- Sustained efforts through FICCI's UK office and India Advisory Group in the UK
- Promoting regional and state level cooperation
- Promoting track two diplomacy through FICCI's India-UK Forum of Parliamentarians
- Engaging with the Indian Diaspora in the UK
- Facilitating business synergies for UK industry by promoting their participation in FICCI's sectoral flagship events and exhibitions
- Expert B2G dialogue under India-UK JETCO in the area of Smart Cities
- Nurturing cooperation in key sectors: Infrastructure, Smart Cities, Innovation and Start-ups, Technology collaborations, Fintech, Healthcare, Manufacturing, ICT, Tourism, Culture, Media and Sports

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## Business & Professionals

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Britain on the road to Brexit and India on the road to rapid globalisation means that professionals and business leaders working within this corridor have some real opportunities and challenges to deal with. We highlight some of those who have stood out for us in the past year.



**Anil Agarwal**

**Founder & Chairman, Vedanta Resources**

Despite a growing wave of protectionism across the world and local resistance, the largest natural resource producer in India remains bullish on the market. Known for his astute business acumen, the London-based metals and mining tycoon is also a significant contributor to a variety of philanthropic causes in the UK and India. His widespread business interests and deep connect with India continue to make him a force to be reckoned with.

**Adeeb Ahamed**

**Managing Director, Lulu Financial Group**

This multi-faceted entrepreneur has spearheaded several companies, including Lulu Exchange Holdings, Twenty14 Holdings and Tablez. He is credited with taking the Lulu Group conglomerate into new areas and growing the Lulu Financial Group into one of the largest worldwide remittance and foreign exchange service providers. With the acquisition of Great Scotland Yard, the former police HQ in London, and the historic Caledonian Hotel in Edinburgh, ably led by Adeeb, the eyes of the hospitality arm of the company are now firmly set on the UK.



**Percival (Percy) Billimoria**

**Senior Lawyer**

Percy heads the New Delhi office of top-tier Indian law firm Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas and is the National Chair of Disputes, Regulatory, Advocacy and Policy. He specialises in legal services to global companies doing business in India. His expertise includes commercial and anti-trust litigation. Percy is known for his nuanced and clear-headed counsel on very complex issues. In recent years, he has developed a strong UK corporate following advising on landmark cases.

**Philip Bouverat**

**Director, JCB**

The British construction giant's Mr India is known for his straight-talking and sharp-shooting. He is nothing short of evangelical when it comes to spreading the word about JCB's amazing 'Make in India, Export Globally' growth story. An active member within the trade promotion landscape of the UK and India, Bouverat is also a great asset on the board of the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC).



## Business & Professionals



### Sanjiv Chadha

**Regional Head – UK, State Bank of India (SBI)**

As the UK head of India's largest bank, Sanjiv is the most influential Indian banker in London. He sits on the board of the India Infrastructure Finance Corporation UK (IIFC-UK) and chairs the Association of Indian Banks in the UK. Dubbed the elder statesman of Indian banking in Britain, Sanjiv oversaw the bank's smooth transformation from a branch to a subsidiary in the UK this year, winning him accolades from regulators and fellow banking professionals.

### Anuj Chande

**Partner & Head of South Asia Group, Grant Thornton**

He is a seasoned hand in UK-India affairs and a curator of the relationship over the years at Grant Thornton. Anuj is among the drivers of the early listings boom for Indian companies on the London Stock Exchange and has been tracking their growth trajectory as part of the annual 'Britain Meets India Tracker' for five years now. Some high-profile transactions he has been involved with include Tata Motors' acquisition of Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) and re-entry plans for Pizza Express into India.



### Ben Digby

**Director of International Trade & Investment, Confederation of British Industry (CBI)**

Ben is responsible for the CBI's work on trade and investment, managing offices in India, China, and the US. He also represents the CBI on the Group Board of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC). In recent years, the CBI has upped its game on India, and Ben and his colleague in India, Shehla Hasan, should take much of the credit.

### Sudhir Dole

**MD & CEO, ICICI Bank UK**

Sudhir has steered India's largest private bank in the UK ably through some tough times. ICICI had launched with a big bang in Britain but shifted into a cautious mode to tide over the financial crisis. However, under Sudhir's capable leadership, the bank remains fully engaged and keen to play a pivotal role in many UK-India deals.



## Vijay Goel

Founder, Indo-European Business Forum (IEBF)

The ubiquitous Vijay, known for his close proximity to Indian businessmen like the Hinduja brothers, is a permanent fixture at many Indian business events in the UK. Wearing multiple hats, including that of UK head of ASSOCHAM, Vijay is a busy beaver promoting deal flows between the UK and India. He also runs the London office of one of India's most well-known law firms, Singhanian & Co.



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## Richard Heald

CEO, UK India Business Council (UKIBC)

The ex-Rothschild banker has dedicated several years to sharpen the focus and effectiveness of the UKIBC into a well-oiled trade promotion machine. His characteristic low profile hides the fact that he is the real engine behind UKIBC's gravitas. He was rightly appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) by the Queen in 2016, in honour of his service to economic and trade relations between UK and India. Richard has assumed greater prominence and influence following the retirement of Patricia Hewitt as Chair of UKIBC.

## G.P. Hinduja

Co-Chairman, Hinduja Group

The sprightly G.P. Hinduja now leads the New Zealand House based Hinduja Group. There has been a fair share of controversies over the years. But GP, as he is known, remains one of the go-to people for big Indian businessmen and politicians of all shades passing through London. Among Britain's richest families, the Hinduja's have a wide array of investments in India – from automotive and healthcare to finance and banking.



## Narayan Iyer

Head of India Group, Linklaters

This London-based legal eagle at one of the City's best-known firms is a leading international lawyer for the Indian market. As head of the firm's India practice, he advises corporates and financial institutions on outbound and inbound investments, projects and financings. Besides his expertise in acquisition and structured financing, Narayan has significant experience in the energy and infrastructure sectors. A leader in every respect.

## Neeraj Kanwar

Managing Director, Apollo Tyres

Neeraj is best known for creating a remarkable global footprint for the Indian tyre manufacturer by choosing to establish his company's international base in London. As vice-chairman of Prince Charles' British Asian Trust, the London-based businessman is a worthy ambassador for enhancing the scope of India-UK collaborations across different sectors. He is responsible for the company's lead in research and development as well as a focus on CSR initiatives.



# The home of India-related foreign direct investment

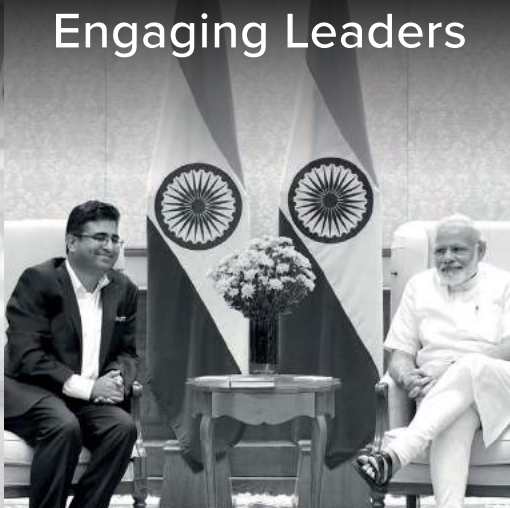
Up-to-date insight into India's accelerating globalisation story  
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“We deliver business opportunities  
and insights for our clients, by  
engaging senior leaders, and  
producing incisive content and  
impactful events, globally.”

Manoj Ladwa, Founder, CEO & Managing Editor, India Inc.



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### Rahul Munjal

Managing Director, Hero Future Energies

Rahul's belief that what is good for the environment can also be good for business is at the heart of his work at Hero Future Energies, one of the champions of renewable energy in India. He chose to carve out his own niche within a family empire founded by his grandfather and is well on the way to achieving ambitious targets within the renewables space. This year he has been busy setting up a formidable base in the UK to tie up technology, talent and capital for his huge global aspirations.





## Business & Professionals



### Rakesh Kapoor

CEO, Reckitt Benckiser (RB)

One of the few Indians to lead an FTSE 100 firm, Kapoor is well respected as the head of the global consumer healthcare major with household names like Dettol among its ranks. The India-born chief has dedicated much of his professional life to RB, driving a strong India agenda among big British business along the way. A prominent member of the UK-India CEO Forum, RB under Kapoor has also emerged as a strong force behind PM Modi's Swachh Bharat (Clean India) mission.

### Nik Khanna

Managing Director, BAE Systems India

BAE Systems announced the appointment of Nik Khanna as the Managing Director of its India operations last year. He has the remit to steer the British defence manufacturing giant in this lucrative yet tricky sector by building on the company's track-record of sharing its knowledge, skills and technology in air, land, sea, cyber and advanced electronics with Indian industry.



### Mohan Kaul

President, Indian Professionals Forum

A seasoned campaigner in the UK-India arena, Dr Kaul is passionate about bringing Indian and UK professionals together to help shape the policy agenda of Brexit-bound Britain and ensure that India remains top of the list when it comes to exploring new trade and investment opportunities. As the Executive Chairman of the Commonwealth Investment Corporation, he continues his focus on Commonwealth issues, with a particular expertise within the India-Africa-UK corridor.

### Lakshmi Kaul

Representative – UK, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

This feisty campaigner for Kashmiri Hindu rights took charge of CII's UK operations recently and has hit the ground running. From coordinating Indian industry's strong presence at the Commonwealth Business Forum during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London in April 2018 to welcoming the Prime Minister of Portugal, Antonio Costa, to address Indian businesses based in Britain, Lakshmi has fast emerged as an effective port of call for UK-India business collaborations.



**David Landsman**  
Executive Director, Tata Limited

Besides being the Tata Group's man in the UK, the unassuming Dr Landsman also chairs the influential Confederation of Indian Industry's 'India Business Forum (UK)'. His prolific work on enhancing bilateral trade and investment extends to his role as Director of the UK India Business Council, making him a repository of knowledge for Indian companies with a global appetite or British companies eyeing the Indian market.



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**Jonathan Marland**  
Chair, Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC)

Lord Marland is a former UK government Trade Envoy who chairs the Commonwealth's business promotion arm. He has displayed immense determination to build strong and crucial linkages between the Commonwealth and its largest member-country – India. This suave and witty lover of cricket has taken to the crease at exactly the right time and he, and his team, delivered a hugely successful Commonwealth Business Forum during the recently-concluded Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London.

**Ramesh Mehta**  
Chair, President, British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO)

Dr Mehta has helped strike many a deal between the National Health Service (NHS) and the Indian medical sector with the aim of Indian doctors gaining crucial UK training and the NHS benefiting from qualified short-term medical staff that it sorely needs. Under his stewardship, BAPIO also fought a landmark case for Indian doctors to be treated fairly in the UK job market. He is a very effective champion of closer healthcare ties between the two countries.



**Lakshmi N. Mittal**  
Chairman & CEO, ArcelorMittal

The Indian Man of Steel is the perfect brand ambassador for stronger business ties between the two countries. His company remains the world's largest steelmaker at a time when the industry has been undergoing some of its toughest challenges. After years of ambivalence, India is back on the radar in a big way for the Mittal family. Rumour has it that as his son takes greater charge of their business empire, Mittal Senior is turning his attention to a much bigger profile beyond business.

**Zia Mody**  
Founder & Senior Partner, AZB & Partners

The winner of the 2017 UK-India Award for Professional of the Year, Zia is one of India's foremost corporate attorneys with some solid credentials in the India-UK sphere as a member of the City of London Council. The University of Cambridge and Harvard Law School alumnus established her own practice in India in the 1980s, a firm which today has offices in Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore and Pune with an integrated team of hundreds of professionals. As and when the Indian legal market opens up, Zia will undoubtedly feature as one of the most coveted.



## Business & Professionals



### Lopa Patel

**Digital Media Entrepreneur**

Lopa has a self-confessed love of science and technology, which has turned her into an evangelist for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), helping to bridge the skills gap in the India-UK business sphere. She founded the online website NewAsianPost.com and South Asian portal Redhotcurry.com and also collates the 'Asian Stars in UK Tech' index. As the Founder & CEO of equality and inclusion think tank Diversity UK, she has been a powerful voice in the community for a level playing field and was also recognised with the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion.

### Ajay Piramal

**Co-Chair, UK-India CEO Forum**

The Chairman of Piramal Group is one of India's leading industrialists, philanthropists and social entrepreneurs. He, alongside Sir Gerry Grimstone of Standard Life, lead the all-important UK-India CEO Forum. He strongly believes in the "meaningful" role to be played by the forum in enhancing bilateral ties. Of late, Ajay has been spending more time in London, which has been leading to all sorts of speculations about this tycoon's future ambitions.



### Nat Puri

**Founder, Purico Group**

The Nottingham-based businessman has been a long-standing supporter of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and is known to have many top Indian politicians on speed dial. Professor Puri is passionate about promoting Nottingham as a hub for Indian investments, going as far as to offer free office space to new start-ups in recent years. He also invests an equal amount of energy and funds into promoting education and skills initiatives in the UK and India.

### Raminder Singh Ranger

**Chairman, Sun Mark Ltd**

Rami Ranger is one of the UK's most successful and outspoken Indian-origin businessmen, whose interests range from beverage manufacturing to property development. The 'rags to riches' millionaire has the distinction of winning five consecutive Queen's Awards for Enterprise. He is a staunch supporter of the Conservative party, and tipped to join the red benches. Rami has also been appointed by the Indian government to the board of the India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians.





**Nikhil Rathi**  
CEO, London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG)

A meeting with this mild-mannered and astute chief of one of the world's foremost stock exchanges is on the agenda of nearly every Indian minister who passes through London. Nikhil has tirelessly cultivated a strong India focus at the LSEG and is well-known as the high-flier behind Masala Bonds – a crucial finance tool for India's mega infrastructure needs.

**Param Shah**  
Director – UK, FICCI

Dr Shah has been a welcome addition to the London scene when it comes to nurturing the India-UK business relationship. With years of experience helping Indian small and medium enterprises (SMEs) realise their global ambitions, he is the right choice for the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) as their man in Britain. His expert views have also found a permanent home in a regular 'The Small Print' column in our flagship publication 'India Global Business'.



**Ben Story**  
Strategic Marketing Director, Rolls-Royce

Ben is the self-confessed Indophile strategic marketing director of the UK engineering giant, who is leading the charge to make India intrinsic to Rolls-Royce's future growth story. His huge interest in India translates into a passion for Make in India and brings with him over 25 years of investment banking experience, working with clients around the world on privatisations, M&As, restructurings, equity raisings and financings. With Rolls-Royce showing signs for greater and deeper engagement in India, Ben will play a pivotal role.

**Jyotsna Suri**  
Chairperson & Managing Director, Bharat Hotels Limited

Dr Suri has been the friendly face of Indian hospitality in London ever since The Lalit set up a stone's throw from City Hall and London Bridge. From hosting ministers and dignitaries on a UK visit to deliberations on the intricacies of a post-Brexit world, her hospitality is a welcome feature within the UK-India arena. Whether it is the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, joining in with Diwali prayers or Indian Commerce & Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu making a pitch for a Commonwealth trading bloc, Dr Suri's hotel has been a hive of UK-India activity over the past few months.



## Regional Tigers

Here are some regional India enthusiasts who ensure Indian businesses look beyond London when they eye Britain as an investment destination. They are also instrumental in taking their regions' business investments into India.



**Robin Mason**

**Head, Birmingham India Institute**

Professor Mason is Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Birmingham, and recently launched the new Birmingham India Institute, to increase the visibility, impact and coherence of the university's engagement in India. More broadly, his aim is to encourage a greater awareness of India in the Midlands and the UK, building academic, cultural and business ties with India.

**Jiva Odedra**

**Chief Executive, Leicestershire Asian Business Association**

This business enthusiast from the region is passionate about promoting partnerships at all levels, local, national and international, to help foster a culture of enterprise. His work as Business Investment Manager at Leicester City Council and experience in the food and beverage sector have proved useful in making Indian connections with the heavily Indian populated region of the UK.



**Amrita Sadarangani**

**Regional Director - South Asia, Edinburgh India Regional Centre**

Based in Mumbai, Amrita is playing an active role in promoting University of Edinburgh's links across South Asia, including India. Sadarangani set up the office in Mumbai and leads the South Asia team to deliver a diverse portfolio of activity, including teaching, research and innovation partnerships, mobility and student experience, alumni engagement and student recruitment.

**Andy Street**

**Mayor, West Midlands Combined Authority**

The man in the driving seat of the Midlands Engine is the ideal ambassador for the region as an investment hub. Since being elected as the first Mayor of West Midlands last year, Andy has been working incessantly to strengthen the India connect. He brings with him valuable experience from his time at John Lewis, Britain's most successful workers' co-operative, as well as a host of high-profile economic development roles. He has shown keen interest in engaging the region with India.





### Andrew Cowan

Chair, Manchester-India Partnership

The CEO of Manchester Airport was the ideal choice as the chair of this new partnership set up alongside the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to build on Manchester's growing links with Indian companies. This unique public-private initiative features some of the region's leading organisations. As Andrew says: "Forging closer relationships with the world's most important markets is key to the future prosperity of Manchester and the wider region."



## The Deal Makers

These savvy deal-makers are the people behind the many India-UK tie-ups that eventually hit the headlines and are celebrated as a sign of the robust health of the relationship.



### Vindi Banga

**Senior Partner, Clayton Dubilier & Rice**

Manvinder Singh Banga, popularly known as Vindi, is a shrewd yet affable financier who has diligently invested into India over the years. The former Unilever India chief is now an advocate of greater two-way investment flows between India and the UK and a familiar face at many a seminar on the potential of greater collaboration between the two countries. His quiet exterior betrays one of the sharpest minds in India-focussed investing.

### Anmol Nayyar

**Partner, DMI Finance**

Anmol represents the UK government as their Entrepreneur in Residence in India, where he advises disruptive companies going global through the UK. In a previous avatar, he practised as a lawyer in India and the UK and founded the global India practice at international law firm Ashurst. One can count on him as a safe pair of hands with a strong grasp of the global Indian landscape. The entrepreneur is a strategic thinker and known for his unassuming style of building lasting networks and opportunities for both UK and Indian companies.



### Alpesh Patel

**CEO, Praefinium**

This intellectual extrovert has an uncanny ability to identify Indian companies that need some hand-holding into the UK. The former barrister moved into the field of hedge funds and, as a FinTech specialist, his companies provide award-winning trading algorithms. This well-established UK Government Deal-Maker, has penned 18 books on business and investing and is a Visiting Fellow in Business at Oxford University, his alma mater. He is a regular feature on the BBC as a witty and popular news reviewer.

### Mihir Kapadia

Founder & CEO, Sun Global Investments

Mihir runs a thriving investment house based in London and is well plugged into the Indian business scene. He is respected for his discretion and viewed as a trusted adviser to big money clients, with an impressive knack for knowing exactly what they want. Under his stewardship, Sun Global Investments has been behind a string of Masala Bonds and also the world's first "curry bond" ETF on the London Stock Exchange.



## The NextGen

This is the promising crop of Next Gen leaders who are upping their game to get ready to run with the baton of enhancing India-UK collaboration across all fields.



### **Pranav Bhanot**

**Co-Chair, India-UK Legal Exchange Programme**

This energetic lawyer is working to set the stage for India's wider engagement with the UK in the legal sector. Pranav recently published a forward-looking anthology of essays by a wide range of writers titled 'A Living-Bridge – The UK-India Diaspora and the Millennials'. He is an active local politician and community activist, having served as President of the National Hindu Students Forum during his university days.

### **Arbinder Chatwal**

**Head, India Advisory Services, BDO**

This Young Turk from the world of corporate consultancy has shown incredible focus and persistence in driving BDO's India services into prominence. Arbinder has over 15 years' experience, during which he has advised a broad portfolio of clients on their international expansion strategy. He specialises in advising companies on all aspects of doing business in India and has helped design their India entry and growth strategy. His efforts have been recognised and he was recently made Partner at his firm, where he will remain at the helm of their growing India-focused advisory practice.



### **Resham Kotecha**

**Policy Ambassador, Conservative Policy Forum**

This proud Conservative party activist and a former prospective parliamentary candidate (PPC) for the party, works tirelessly with businesses to shape their equal opportunities strategy. She also serves as the Head of Engagement for Women2Win, the campaign to elect more Conservative women to Parliament. This dynamic young politician may not have won in the June 2017 General Election, but she remains a one to watch. Resham remains active in enhancing Diaspora engagement in UK politics.

### **Sachin Nandha**

**Chief Executive, PillboxCapital 3**

Sachin founded his first business while completing his post-graduate studies in 2005. He set up PillboxCapital 3 as a private equity fund dedicated to investing in healthcare assets in the UK and India. Away from his business interests, Sachin is the National Coordinator of Vichaar Manthan (VM), which literally means the "churning of ideas" – a platform bringing together the brightest minds to discuss contemporary challenges facing British society through a Hindu lens.





## Hitan Mehta

Executive Director, British Asian Trust

Along with his lead role in establishing the British Asian Trust, Hitan served as Head of Operations for The Prince's Charities Events, organising commercial activities to raise funds with a programme of music, sports, films and exhibitions. He has first-hand volunteer experience with Indian organisations and is adept at handling some of the most high-profile fundraisers over the years. The British Asian Trust has made its mark on thousands of lives in South Asia, thanks in large part to Hitan's passion for its many activities.



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India's Foremost Trade & Investment Magazine

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'India Global Business' (IGB) is a fortnightly magazine offering the latest, in-depth analysis on foreign direct investment in and out of India, trade and policy initiatives, including a UK-focused edition published once a month.

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- Outbound & Inbound Foreign Direct Investments
- Trade & Trade Policy
- Sector and Regional Hotspots
- India's strategic role in the world
- Global Indians

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## Media, Arts & Culture

Both the UK and India have recognised that in an increasingly competitive global environment, a country's soft power can often provide the edge. These prominent individuals not only help nurture the cultural ties of the two countries but also ensure that the relationship doesn't get stuck in a transactional dead-end.

### **Sriram Aylur** Celebrity Chef

This culinary genius' magic touch has resulted in London's Quilon holding on to the distinction of being the only South Indian restaurant in the world with a Michelin star for years. Chef Sriram, as he is popularly known, is an unassuming master of his craft who has succeeded in firmly establishing a respect for the flavours of South India among British foodies. He strongly believes in the soft power of Indian food and also gives back to society through his association with the British Asian Trust and Tata Medical Centre.



### **Gurinder Chadha** Filmmaker

Gurinder is credited with bringing the Indian Diaspora into mainstream cultural consciousness in Britain. The bubbly filmmaker behind the hugely successful 'Bend It Like Beckham' set off on her media career as a reporter before moving on to making films. Her wacky sense of humour and writing partnership with husband Paul Mayeda Berges have resulted in some of the most memorable British Asian slices of life films, including the more recent Partition saga 'Viceroy's House'.

### **James Erskine** Filmmaker

With 'Sachin: A Billion Dreams', a biopic of India's legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, this British filmmaker has firmly established himself as the man who brought the shared love of cricket in India and the UK on to our screens. The Emmy-nominated director is developing a slate of specifically Anglo-Indian commercial film projects with an ambition, through collaboration, to close the gap between Bollywood and Hollywood.



### **Patrick French** Writer/Historian

The author of 'India: A Portrait' has an instinctive connect with the country that symbolises the strength of the India-UK relationship in all its facets. The award-winning writer was appointed Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University in 2017 and is also Professor for the Public Understanding of the Humanities, advocating for their importance in a well-rounded, modern education. The founder-member in 2000 of the UK-India Round Table is also a Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University.



### Anita Anand

Broadcaster & Author

Anita is among the most outspoken and respected BBC journalists who made waves as the author of 'Sophia: Princess, Suffragette, Revolutionary', the biography of Sophia Duleep Singh – the daughter of Maharaja Duleep Singh and the god-daughter of Queen Victoria. Anita currently presents the popular BBC Radio 4 'Any Answers' programme and has also been chosen to present the prestigious Reith Lectures on the channel this year. Rumour has it that this celebrity journo is working on another blockbuster book featuring India.



## Media, Arts & Culture

### Alan Gemmell

Director, British Council in India

Alan is the dynamic face of British Council's wide range of activities in India. He was awarded an OBE in the 2016 Queen's New Year's Honours List for services to Arts and Science and included in 'GQ' Magazine's list of the "100 Most Connected Men" in the UK. And, when it comes to making the right India-UK cultural connections, he is most certainly the go-to man. Alan most recently spearheaded the hugely successfully India-UK Year of Culture.



### Mira Kaushik

Artistic Director, Akademi

Mira is a familiar face on the arts circuit in London and across the UK, having organised some of the most iconic Indian choreography masterpieces over the years, including bringing Indian dance on to the steps of Buckingham Palace for the first time in history. Under her directorship, Akademi has taken South Asian arts to hundreds of schools and unconventional spaces in the UK. In 2007, she was awarded an Honorary Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to dance. Her most recent dance musical production was a widely acclaimed and moving tribute to India's sacrifices in World War I.

### Atul Kochhar

Chef, Restaurateur & Author

This Michelin-starred celebrity chef behind London's famous Benaras restaurant has taken curry into the confines of the British royal palaces, with Prince Charles among the many fans of his recipes. Atul, a regular on British TV, is the perfect ambassador for India and Indian food in Britain and is actively involved in initiatives to give back to the country of his birth.



### Ashok Malik

Press Secretary, President of India

Last year, this prominent journalist became the first person outside the civil service to be appointed Press Secretary to the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind. As someone known for his unflappable approach to tough issues, he is certainly the perfect choice for this prestigious role. As Distinguished Fellow at one of India's leading think-tanks, Observer Research Foundation, Ashok will have his hands full as he navigates through complex policy matters. He, however, remains a keen observer of UK-India ties and has been a strong advocate for a greater Indian role in the Commonwealth.

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## Media, Arts & Culture

### M.N. Nandakumara

Executive Director, The Bhavan Centre

Dr Nandakumara is the cultural bridge between India and the UK in London, heading the premier hub of Indian music and dance in the British capital. Nanda, as he is known, has watched over many talented students master different Indian disciplines and become ambassadors of India in their own right. His humble approach has proved a big success in pushing forth India's soft power agenda.



### C.B. Patel

Publisher, Asian Business Publications Ltd (ABPL)

Chandrakant Babubhai Patel, or CB as he is popularly known, is the editor of one of Britain's leading ethnic media houses which publishes 'Gujarat Samachar' and 'Asian Voice' among many other titles. He is a veritable encyclopaedia on Indian Diaspora matters and among the friends of PM Modi in the UK who was instrumental in the launch of direct flights between London and Gujarat. The young at heart CB, is still going strong as one of the most effective community campaigners.

### Usha Prashar

Deputy Chair, British Council

Baroness Prashar has been a tireless campaigner of equal rights for minorities in the UK for many years. Besides her very active political life, she led the charge for the UK India Year of Culture 2017, which she is confident has helped create cultural linkages between the two countries that will stand the test of time. The cross-bencher is often the voice of reason in many a debate on UK-India relations.



### Suhel Seth

Marketing Guru & Author

This sharp-witted marketing guru is best known for speaking his mind as a regular in newspaper columns and on television channels. Besides advising some of India's biggest corporates on their global expansion strategy, he is a guest lecturer at various educational institutions around the world. During his frequent visits to the UK, he brings with him some forthright views on India and the world.



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## Social Impact Warriors

Making a palpable impact and bringing about lasting social change is never an easy task. Here, we celebrate some of the men and women who have taken on this agenda on a war-footing and are making a great social impact.

### Shalni Arora

CEO, Savannah Wisdom

Shalni leads this independent charitable foundation to support projects based around social inequality, tackling issues such as corruption in the delivery of healthcare and gender rights, by investing in women and girls at local community level in India and the UK. She also manages the CSR division at B&M Retail, the successful chain headed by husband Simon. Shalni has grown in stature and influence in CSR circles over the years for her focus and dedication in the projects she leads.

### Kishwar Desai

Chair, Arts and Cultural Heritage Trust

Lady Desai set up this trust to create the world's first Partition Museum. After months of hard work and fundraising activities, the museum is now up and running in Amritsar. As a repository of one of the darkest periods of India-UK history, the aim of the project is to serve as a reminder for both countries to not shy away from uncomfortable truths but to learn from them and emerge stronger as partners in the future. In many ways, Kishwar's work too should be recognised for its lasting social impact.



### Will Muir

Co-Founder/Director, Equal Community Foundation

Will leads the foundation's many activities focussed on raising boys to be gender equitable. Project Raise and Action for Equality (AFE) are among the key programmes of the foundation, which reaches thousands of people in communities across Pune, Maharashtra, and West Bengal. The foundation, which has 130 partners across India, also conducts research to highlight best practice in the country.

### Tom Singh

Founder, New Look

This UK-based retail entrepreneur is active in the social impact arena as Chairman of the UK Advisory Council of the British Asian Trust. Tom also founded the Artha Platform, an online community dedicated to building relationships between impact investors and donors, and social entrepreneurs and capacity building support organisations working on or in India. Artha offers a secure space for all sector participants keen on supporting the work of small and growing enterprises in India.

### Manoj Badale

Chair, British Asian Trust

This businessman behind venture capital firm Blenheim Chalcot is best known as the brain behind the British Asian Trust, founded at the suggestion of Prince Charles in 2007. Manoj is regarded as the closest British Indian to the heir to the British throne and has used that influence to further the UK-India cause immeasurably. He has now thrown his weight behind the concept of Development Impact Bonds to back educational projects in India. He happens to also co-own (in his spare time!) the Indian Premier League (IPL) cricket team, Rajasthan Royals.



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## Science, Technology & Innovation

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The year 2018 led to the launch of a new UK-India Tech Alliance, announced by Prime Ministers May and Modi in London. These are some of the individuals who are helping to elevate the bilateral relationship to this new level.



### **Amarjeet Bhamra**

**Secretariat, All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Indian Traditional Sciences**

Amarjeet is a prominent lecturer, practitioner and author on India's traditional sciences. As a Fellow of the Ayurvedic Medical Association UK, he has been instrumental in ensuring Ayurveda remains at the heart of the soft power alliances between India and the UK. Most recently, he oversaw the launch of a new Ayurvedic Centre of Excellence by Prince Charles and PM Modi as a first-of-its-kind global network for evidence-based research on Yoga and Ayurveda.

### **Ian Blatchford**

**Director, Science Museum Group**

The Science Museum, under Ian's leadership, presented the hugely successful 'Illuminating India' exhibition – a celebration of Indian influence on science and innovation over the ages as well as an ambitious survey of photography in India. It was also a key stop in PM Modi's packed schedule during a recent visit to the UK. The initiative was linked with the UK India Year of Culture 2017 celebrations and marks an unprecedented scientific showcase between the two countries, which will resonate for decades to come.



### **James Dyson**

**Inventor, Industrial Designer & Founder, Dyson**

Sir James is a staunch pro-Brexiteer who views Britain's move away from the EU as an opportunity for closer business ties with Commonwealth countries like India. As the head of one of the UK's largest technology companies, he recently oversaw the company's entry into the Indian market and has plans to set up a research & development (R&D) facility in the country too. In his own words: "We intend to become part of the Indian community in time."

### **Arvind Kapur**

**Chairman, National Space Centre**

Known as Mike Kapur, this well-known Leicester-based entrepreneur has been leading the charge for science and technology promotion through the National Space Centre – a popular museum and educational resource in the city. The Founder-Director of Signum Corporate Communications Ltd was recognised with an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 2017 for services to Science, Technology, Business and Enterprise. He takes a keen interest in developing and promoting Leicester as a business destination for Indian companies.

## Science, Technology & Innovation



**Venkatraman Ramakrishnan**

**President, Royal Society**

Professor Sir 'Venki' hit the headlines worldwide not only for his Nobel Prize in Chemistry but also as the first Indian-origin scientist to hold the most important post in British science. Born to scientist parents in Tamil Nadu, Venki grew up in Gujarat. The research for which he shared his 2009 Nobel was commenced in the US, where he has spent much of his working life before moving to Cambridge in 1999. He has since been a great advocate of global alliances in the field of science, and recently received a nod for his work from PM Modi.

### **DID YOU KNOW?** **The world's first 'MASALA'** **Bond was launched on the** **LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.**

Source HM Treasury Report



## Nawal Prinja

Technical Director (Nuclear), Wood Group

Professor Prinja is the very understated nuclear scientist genius who has an intimate understanding of India's civil nuclear programme. The Manchester-based professor is known for his formidable intellect as the technical director of one of the UK's big engineering companies. He holds a series of honorary professorships at leading UK universities and is also a member of the Nuclear R&D Advisory Board to the UK government.



## Tech Gurus

Tech has been identified as the heart of the India-UK dynamic and there are some very savvy gurus who are leading the charge in the sector. Their activities and expansion plans will serve as the foundations of an innovative and transformative global partnership.

### Julian David

CEO, techUK

Julian was appointed the Director-General of Intellect in March 2012 and led its transformation to techUK in November 2013. He leads techUK's 60-strong team in representing more than 950 member-companies, including multinationals and more than 500 SMEs to ensure that the digital tech industry is at the heart of a modern society and economy in Britain. Julian was instrumental in recent tech collaborations announced with India during PM Modi's visit to the UK.



### Ashish Kumar Gupta

Corporate Vice-President, EMEA, HCL Technologies

Under Ashish's leadership HCL has grown to become one of the most recognised IT service providers in Europe, growing the business at a CAGR of over 70 per cent. He is widely respected as one of the more disruptive voices in the IT Outsourcing and Cloud space. He addresses many prestigious industry platforms and continues to drive thought leadership for HCL and the IT industry at large.

### Shankar Narayanan

Vice-President & Country Manager (UK & Ireland), TCS

Shankar heads up this Indian tech major's second-largest country operation. He is responsible for driving business strategy and operations for the company's UK & Ireland business, delivering IT and consultancy services to over 150 UK clients, including Aviva, Boots, British Airways, BT, Diageo, National Grid, NEST, Marks & Spencer, Thames Water and Virgin Atlantic. In total, TCS works with 38 of the UK's FTSE 100 firms.



### Vikram Nair

President, EMEA, Tech Mahindra

The jovial Vikram is at the helm of this Indian software major as it breaks new ground in the UK, including the opening of its new centre in Salford, Greater Manchester. He is overseeing these key investments are part of Tech Mahindra's TechMNxt Charter – its global programme to explore emerging technologies like AI, blockchain, cyber security and AI-infused IoT solutions, designed to pre-empt evolving and dynamic needs.



Head – Europe, Wipro



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**Mohit Joshi**

President, Infosys

Mohit is one of the most senior executives of this Indian global tech giant. He spearheads significant operations in the UK and Europe. Mohit has been busy charting out a post-Brexit strategy for the company in recent months, and no doubt will be weighing up the opportunities. His area of expertise lies in the intersection of financial services and technology, two crucial areas for both the UK and India. Mohit was also selected as a Young Global Leader (YGL) by the World Economic Forum, Davos.



## Research & Academia

Giving some considered direction to the changing landscape of India-UK ties is a complex task that some of the names on this list have been undertaking with great verve. Their expert views will no doubt help shape many a debate to come.

### Mukulika Banerjee

**Director, South Asia Centre, London School of Economics (LSE)**

Dr Banerjee is the force behind LSE's India focus as the founder of the university's South Asia Centre. The Associate Professor in Social Anthropology, who has authored a series of books on India, was instrumental in setting up the "100 Foot Club" with the Indian High Commission in London, about 100 feet across the road from the LSE, to keep India-related topics central to the university's speakers' agenda.



### Kumar Bhattacharyya

**Chairman, Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG)**

Lord Bhattacharyya is a passionate proponent of the power of manufacturing and innovation and has turned the Warwick Manufacturing Group into the UK's leading research and innovation hub. Britain's first Professor of Manufacturing also brought in Tata Motors to invest in a National Automotive Centre at the Warwick University campus to lay the foundations of technical education for years to come.

### Pawan Budhwar

**Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor, International, Aston Business School**

A member of the Work and Organisational Psychology Group, Joint Director of the Aston India Centre for Applied Research and Joint Co-Editor-in-Chief of the 'British Journal of Management', Pawan is globally renowned for his research and has held many visiting professorships worldwide. He conducts the majority of his empirical work in emerging markets, especially in India. He maintains a strong and incisive engagement with all things Indian.



### Meghnad Desai

**Economist/Writer**

Lord Desai is a well-known economist and Emeritus Professor at the London School of Economics who has written extensively on UK-India matters. He is a familiar face in the Indian media and debates on UK-India relations, not least as one of the few people who predicted the huge margin with which Narendra Modi will sweep to Prime Ministership in 2014. He spearheaded the campaign for the newest statue on Parliament Square – of Mahatma Gandhi.



## Patricia Hewitt

**Chair, International Advisory Board, Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development**

Patricia was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award at last year's India Inc. UK-India Awards. She injected some much-needed vigour into the sometimes-staid trade promotion environs of Britain while she was Chair of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC). Patricia has been a relentless champion of deeper India-UK collaboration ever since her days as the UK's Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Now in her new role at the Oxford India Centre, Patricia brings her immense knowledge and connects into the research and academic arena.



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## Asha Khemka

**Principal and CEO, West Nottinghamshire College**

Dame Asha was awarded one of the UK's highest civilian awards for her services to deprived areas of the West Midlands as principal of West Nottinghamshire College. The Bihar-born educationist has also been working actively in the field of India-UK education and skills collaborations and is a strong believer in the power of education to transform lives. She is a strong advocate of promoting colleges as serious players in the world of business and commerce.

## Antonia Moon

**Lead Curator, India Office Records, British Library**

Dr Moon has the exciting task of curating some of the most famous highlights of India-UK history. She has been Principal Investigator for major India Office Records projects, 'Botany in British India', 'India Office Medical Archives' as well as a landmark project to digitise the medical records of the period. Her main research interests centre around the record-keeping practices of the East India Company, India Office, and pre-1947 government of India, and the archives of the history of science in British India.



## Gareth Price

**Senior Research Fellow, Asia Programme, Chatham House**

Gareth is one of the most respected commentators on Indian affairs in the UK. He has a canny finger on the India pulse and an intricate understanding of the nuances of the country's political and social landscape. He is often the one to sound a balanced note of caution at any over-hyped notion of what India and the UK should be doing to strike a closer partnership.

## Rahul Roy-Chaudhury

**Senior Fellow for South Asia, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)**

The go-to man in the UK on all matters relating to security and strategic affairs with India. Rahul is well networked and respected, both in Britain and India, for his expertise in the field of regional security and stability. Rahul remains a strong advocate for UK-India security cooperation. His regular 'Bird's Eye View' column in 'India Global Business' – the flagship magazine of India Inc. – is both popular and incisive.



### **Champa Patel**

**Head of Asia-Pacific Programme, Chatham House**

As an expert on the region, Dr Patel has been involved in some incisive research during her time at Amnesty International and is an active human rights campaigner. At Chatham House, she has been instrumental in shaping the debate around some key developments in the Asia-Pacific region. Her inclusion along with colleague Gareth Price in this list underlines the influence of Chatham House at the forefront of the international relations debate with India.





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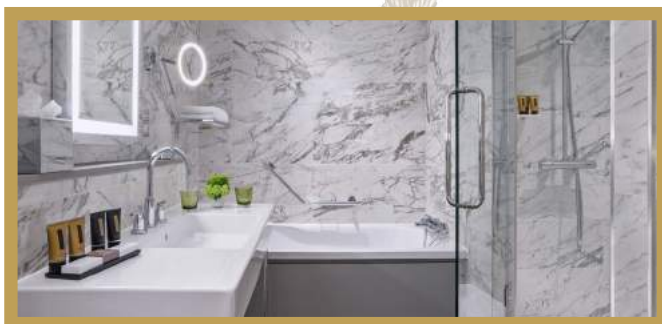
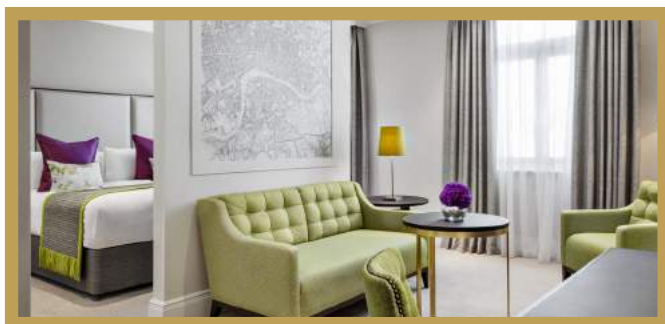
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