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100

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MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN UK INDIA RELATIONS

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Foreword

Manoj Ladwa

Founder & Chief Executive, India Inc.

Celebrating the drivers of UK-India relations

For over 25 years, I have been engaged in promoting stronger relations between the UK and India. During this time, I have had the pleasure of meeting many people from across the UK who are doing great things to take this relationship to the next level. I have often been amazed and inspired at the passion they bring to their sometimes lonely mission.

The UK-India relationship is truly multi-faceted. I am therefore delighted to introduce this list of some of the most active and influential people in UK-India relations that our India Inc. editorial team has compiled. The list focusses on UK-based individuals in public life, business, the professions, and education, arts and culture who are making a real impact.

Given the dynamism and breadth of bilateral relations between the UK and India, such a list will remain incomplete. But as relations between our two great nations enter a new era in a post-Brexit world, I am confident that through India Inc.'s unique platform of online and print publications and impactful events we will create many more occasions to celebrate the contributions that make the UK and India a 'Winning Partnership'.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Politics & Public Life



Rajesh Agrawal

Deputy Mayor of London for Business

The successful businessman had the foresight to back Sadiq Khan as Mayor of London and was duly rewarded. As someone who came to the city with just £200 in his pockets, Rajesh today is the strongest advocate for entrepreneurial Indians in London. As the chair of the investment arm of the Mayor's Office, London & Partners, he has made significant efforts to build bridges between the British capital and India.



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 and closer education and skills collaboration between India and the UK.



Bob Blackman

MP, Conservative Party

The MP for Harrow East, a heavily Indian-origin constituency, is one of the friends who speaks out during House of Commons debates in favour of India. He has made common cause with the plight of Kashmiri Pandits, made homeless as a fallout of the troubles in Jammu and Kashmir. Bob is a familiar face at Indian festivals, be it at temples, gurdwaras or mosques. He is a vocal campaigner against caste legislation being implemented into UK law.



Rahul Roy-Chaudhry

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. Rahul is well networked and respected, both in Britain and India, for his expertise in the field of regional security and stability. He never shies away from putting political leaders on the spot on some tough topics with his in-depth knowledge on South Asia.



Laura Clarke

Head, South Asia Department, Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Laura is based at Whitehall as the India Coordinator and Head of the South Asia Department in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). She thrives in the ever-changing and challenging nature of her work and is an important link in the India-UK chain of events. In her own words: "In an era of disruption, this relationship becomes all the more important. The relationship is robust and resilient enough that we can talk frankly and openly about issues of concern."



Meghnad Desai

Economist, writer

Lord Desai is a well-known economist who has written extensively on UK-India matters. He is a familiar face in the Indian media, 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, and is now creating yet another legacy with the Partition Museum along with Lady Kishwar Desai.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Politics & Public Life



Navnit Dholakia

Deputy Leader, Liberal Democrats,
House of Lords

Lord Dholakia has been the Liberal Democrat India champion for many years. Given the expected anti-Brexit resurrection of the Lib Dems in the upcoming June general election, he will prove a great asset as someone who has the ear of party leader Tim Farron. He is widely regarded as a key influencer within Diaspora circles in the UK.



Christopher Hopkins

Business Relations Adviser,
Downing Street

Chris is a valued adviser to Prime Minister Theresa May, having served her predecessor David Cameron previously. He is considered instrumental in building the UK-India bridge at Downing Street among those in the know. He was in the news for highlighting the strong business support for Britain remaining in the European Union (EU) in the lead up to the June 2016 referendum and is respected for his thorough knowledge of Britain's business engagement with the world.



Jo Johnson

UK Minister of State for Universities
and Science

The Conservative party MP for Orpington and younger brother of the UK's sharp-shooting foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, has been at the heart of several key UK-India education and skills tie-ups, most recently an announcement of research partnerships worth £80-million. Jo's India bond dates back to his time as the New Delhi based South Asia Bureau Chief for 'The Financial Times' newspaper between 2005 and 2008, giving him a unique insight into Indian political and economic life.



Lakshmi Kaul

Founder, Kashmiri Pandits Cultural
Society UK

A feisty campaigner for the rights of Kashmiri Pandits, Lakshmi has emerged as an effective political operator and the one to watch. She is currently the parliamentary aide to Bob Blackman MP, but clearly has her sights set on a parliamentary seat – and rightly so. The June general elections could mark an important turning point for her political career.



Seema Malhotra

MP, Labour Party

The Labour party MP is among a few British Indian female MPs in the House of Commons and lobbies effectively on issues related to female entrepreneurship and diversity on public boards. The London-based Feltham and Heston MP has never shied away from taking a tough stand, most recently as a member of the Brexit Select Committee in Parliament. She is among the bunch of British MPs with a keen interest in seeing a UK-India trade deal through.



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 currently has her hands full with the UK India Year of Culture preparations, which she believes will create cultural linkages between the two countries that will stand the test of time.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Politics & Public Life



Gareth Price

Senior Research Fellow, Asia Programme,
Chatham House

He is one of the most respected commentators on Indian affairs in the UK. Gareth has a canny finger on the India pulse and an intricate understanding of the nuances of India's political 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.



Diljit Rana

Founder, Andras House

Lord Rana has been on a determined mission over the years to put Northern Ireland on the map of Indian companies looking to invest in the UK. This Belfast-based hotelier and president of the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry most recently lobbied for the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) summit to be held in his home city in 2018. He may have failed in that endeavour but he ensures Northern Ireland's voice is never ignored within the India-UK scenario.



Alok Sharma

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

A natural choice as British Prime Minister Theresa May's Foreign Office minister in charge of India. 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. As a champion for closer India-UK ties, he has already made several visits to India since taking charge of his new post in July 2016.



Virendra Sharma

Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group
on India

Southall's Labour party MP represents the very heartland of the British Indian Diaspora community in the UK. The former bus driver is among the most vocal Indian-origin politicians in the House of Commons and among the few, much-needed voices of support against rare anti-India Bills tabled in the UK Parliament.



Shailesh Vara

Co-Chair, Conservative Friends of India

This former justice minister plays a pivotal role in the UK Parliament on India-related matters. First elected in 2005, Shailesh has made a mark as a very vocal politician on issues that matter to both India and the UK. 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.



Sandip Verma

Chair, House of Lords European External Affairs Committee

Baroness Sandy Verma, as she is popularly known, is among the very active Indian peers in Parliament who is also a member of the Lords EU Select Committee. She has served as minister for the Department for International Development (DfID) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change in recent years. The proud Leicester girl is equally proud of her Punjabi roots.

Priti Patel

Secretary of State, Department for International Development, UK

Profile

This tough-talking Brexiteer has emerged as one of the most powerful names in international development, with a considerable budget to effect change against the backdrop of aid cuts in the US.

Priti became the first British Indian to sit at the top table of the UK Cabinet and 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.

Her personal rapport with several senior Indian leaders, including Prime Minister Modi and external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj, dates back long before she took over the Department for International Development (DfID), putting her in the driving seat to push forth a shared prosperity agenda with India.



The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Anil Agarwal
Founder & Chairman, Vedanta Resources

Under his stewardship, Vedanta Resources recently acquired 26 per cent in De Beers and stunned the markets with the \$2.44-billion share purchase. Known for his astute business acumen, the London-based metals and mining tycoon is also known as a significant contributor to a variety of philanthropic causes in the UK and India. His significant business interests and deep connect with India make him a force to be reckoned with.



Subodh Narain Agrawal
Chairman, Euromax Capital

An experienced hand in UK-India deal-making, Subodh has 22 years' experience in international business development across Asia. He embodies the tag line of Euromax Capital – “Deals Beyond Boundaries” – and is a specialist in the field of finding the perfect fit for cross-border transactions. Most recently, he has been aggressively pursuing projects in India's burgeoning defence sector.



Nina Amin
Head of Asian Markets, KPMG UK

Nina is a partner with one of the largest international professional services firms and was appointed KPMG's Head of Asian Markets in January 2013. Her role is to build relationships with Asian businesses and to create a significant offering around this community. She has worked with many diverse businesses, including some of the largest Asian family businesses in the UK, PE backed businesses and fast growing companies on their many issues.



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 for a greater confluence of the growth agenda of both countries. Vindi has extensive consumer brand knowledge and an in-depth knowledge of both UK and international trade and industry.



Raj Bhatt
Vice Chairman & CEO, Elara Capital

Raj heads the boutique investment bank Elara Capital and has been prolific in the field of financial re-engineering and raising equity and debt in international markets. As a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India, Raj is well placed within the India-UK space and believes India stands out as the economy to drive world growth. He has been a pioneer in bringing Indian MSMEs to the UK capital markets.



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 India 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).



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The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Richard Branson
Founder, Virgin Group

Sir Richard is a popular name in Britain as one of the country's most flamboyant businessmen. The founder of the Virgin Group recently discovered his Indian connection thanks to a paper trail left by his father's family in Chennai, then Madras. Branson, whose great-grandmother was Indian, attributes his entrepreneurial instincts to this family history. He is a strong supporter of closer India-UK ties and is a big supporter of the Loomba Foundation, founded to promote the economic empowerment of disadvantaged widows in India.



Jonathan Brayne
Partner, Allen & Overy

Jonathan is the chair of Allen & Overy's India Group, with a vantage point to many key deals and initiatives over the years. As founding-chair of the firm's Innovation Panel, he has put Allen & Overy at the forefront of disruptive developments to remain ahead of the curve.



Sanjiv Chadha
Regional Head UK, State Bank of India (SBI)

As the head of India's largest commercial bank, Sanjiv is arguably 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 the UK, Sanjiv has over 25 years' experience in banking, with expertise in corporate finance, investment banking, mergers and acquisitions, structured finance and private equity.



Anuj Chande
Head - South Asia Group, Grant Thornton
UK LLP

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 Deal Tracker. 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.



Suma Chakrabarti
President, European Bank for
Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Sir Suma, given his Indian roots, has been keen on promoting India's role as a donor rather than recipient of development finance ever since he took charge at EBRD. He is a strong proponent of global development efforts becoming more agile and private sector focused, rather than reliant on Western government grants, and was most recently in India to sign a pact with the new BRICS Bank to collaborate on sustainable development and infrastructure projects in emerging markets.



Vittorio Colao
CEO, Vodafone

Vittorio has overseen some of the UK telecom giant's biggest upheavals in the Indian market, including the recent merger of its India unit with the Aditya Birla Group's Idea Cellular. The two giants, ranked at two and three respectively in the Indian market, will now serve nearly 400 million customers and capture a 35 per cent customer market share and 41 per cent revenue market share. In his own words, India has proved a "complicated environment" but he has steered Vodafone through it impressively, becoming a reference point on India for other UK plc CEOs.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Arbinder Chatwal

Director & Head of India Advisory Services,
BDO Southampton

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. His expertise lies both as an auditor and as financial controller in industry.



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 zone. However, under Sudhir's capable leadership, the bank remains fully engaged and influential to play a pivotal role in many UK-India deals.



Vijay Goel

Chair, London Chamber of Commerce
Asian Business Association

The ubiquitous Vijay is a permanent fixture at all Indian business events in the UK. Besides the Asian Business Association, he chairs Assocham UK and had founded the Indo-European Business Forum (IBEF) to promote two-way trade between India and the EU. He runs the London office of one of India's largest law firms, Singhania & Co. and is seen regularly by the side of the Hinduja brothers as their close confidant.



Udayan Goyal

Co-Founder & Managing Partner,
Apis Partners

Udayan has been a leading UK fintech investment force into India and has clinched some major Indian deals in recent months – Star Health, a leading provider of retail health insurance in India, and EPS, a retail banking technology and automated teller machine (ATM) services provider. He is a keen proponent of technology-driven reformation in banking and financial services and has exceptional domain expertise in this space.



Gerry Grimstone

Chairman, Standard Life

Sir Gerry chairs one of the UK's largest savings and investments businesses and also sits on the board of HDFC Life in India. Standard Life has two major businesses in India, life insurance and asset management, both in partnership with HDFC. His India connect dates back to his days as UKTI's Special Representative to India for Financial Services, and is now the UK Chairman of the India-UK Financial Partnership.



Arun Harnal

Director, Business Development,
The Taj Group

Arun is the face of Indian hospitality in London as the man behind one of the city's most popular Indian hangouts – The Taj at St. James' Court. His affable personality is not just reserved for the celebrity guests of the grand hotel, making his friendly face the one most regulars recall. He, along with wife Zeenat, are actively involved with a foundation set up in the memory of the late Lord Gulam Noon – the Noon Memorial Legacy Trust – to support causes in India and the UK.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



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 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 last year in honour of his service to economic and trade relations between UK and India.



G.P. Hinduja
Co-Chairman, Hinduja Group

GP now leads the New Zealand House based Hinduja Group. There has been a fair share of controversies over the years. But GP, who has recently been all-praise for PM Modi's pro-NRI initiatives, remains one of the go-to people for big Indian businessmen and politicians passing through London. Among Britain's richest families, the Hindujas have a wide array of investments in India – from automotive and healthcare to finance and banking.



Chandru Iyer
Head - International Business Development,
Kingston Smith

He is an enthusiastic head of the India business strategy at mid-sized accountancy firm Kingston Smith. He has maintained a strong focus on attracting business from the Indian small and medium enterprise (SME) sector into the UK. Chandru is an experienced cross-border International Trade and Investment specialist having worked on transactions between India, Scandinavia, Australia and UK for over 15 years.



Dixit Joshi
Group Treasurer, Deutsche Bank

This quiet operator has scaled the heights of the global banking industry to be recently appointed to the plum post of Group Treasurer at Deutsche Bank. In that role, he will have a part to play in developing and managing Deutsche Bank's funding and capital strategy. Dixit is known to keep a close eye on the intricacies of Indian and UK politics and has been plugging the India economic promise for years.



Mihir Kapadia
CEO & Director, Sun Global Investments

Mihir runs a thriving investment house 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 uncanny knack of knowing exactly what they want. He honed his financial industry skills in the City of London and went on to set up a series of successful investment advisory teams.



Rakesh Kapoor
CEO, Reckitt Benckiser plc

The only Indian to lead a 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 force behind PM Modi's Swachh Bharat mission.

Patricia Hewitt

Chair, UK India Business Council
(UKIBC)

Profile

Patricia has injected some much-needed vigour into the often-staid trade promotion environs of Britain. She has been a relentless champion of deeper India-UK collaboration ever since her days as a trade and industry minister. In her UKIBC role, she has won over many deals, and hearts, with her sombre and measured approach to cutting through the red tape.

Her time as a Labour MP for Leicester West has most definitely enhanced her special connect with India. She famously delivered her speech in Gujarati before Prime Minister Modi at the Vibrant Gujarat summit in 2013. She remains an effective behind-the-scenes advocate for many UK companies doing business in India.



The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Deepak Lalwani
Founder-Director, Lalcap Ltd

An expert stockbroker with an insight into the Indian markets, Deepak is a regular commentator on the ups and downs of the Indian economy. He diligently produces a weekly 'India Report' as an independent and objective analysis of the unfolding Indian economic story. He is among a few Indians to be elected as a Member of the London Stock Exchange over 25 years ago. Not surprisingly then, he was awarded an OBE in 2010 for services to UK's financial services industry.



David Landsman
Director, Tata Limited

As the head of India's biggest conglomerate in the UK, David is well-known within UK business circles as the man with an inside track on all matters UK-India. He was recently appointed chair of the Confederation of Indian Industry's India Business forum, which provides an avenue for Indian company representatives in the UK to work on strengthening business cooperation between India and Britain.



Salman Mahdi
Global Vice-Chairman, Deutsche Bank
Wealth Management

With over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, Salman is a well-known name in the field of corporate and investment banking, private wealth management and private equity in India and the UK. He is passionate about making grassroots connects between the two countries as a very active member of the British Asian Trust.



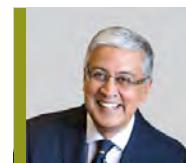
Jonathan Marland
Chair, Commonwealth Enterprise &
Investment Council (CWEIC)

Lord Marland is a former UK government Trade Envoy who chairs the business arm for Commonwealth affairs in its new CWEIC avatar. 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 to make a difference against a post-Brexit backdrop.



Ramesh Mehta
Chair, 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 key champion of closer healthcare ties between the two countries.



Ivan Menezes
Chief Executive, Diageo

Ivan has been spearheading Diageo's growth story in India and around the world for many years. As member of the Advisory Council of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC), the India-born spirits chief has injected great energy into the India-UK relationship and continues to cheer for closer ties.

A world leading IPO market

£5.5bn

2016 saw a total of £5.5bn raised through IPOs on the Main Market and AIM

65

There were 65 IPOs in 2016

40

There are 40 Indian companies quoted on the London markets with a combined market value of £158bn

78%

78% of 2016 IPOs have ended the year above their IPO price

42

Over £7bn raised by 42 green bonds

17

There are 17 Masala bonds listed in London



London

Stock Exchange Group

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Shankar Narayanan

Country Head, UK & Ireland,
Tata Consultancy Services

Shankar heads up TCS' 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.



R.S. Narayanan

Chief Executive & Director,
SBICAP (UK) Ltd

Rajagopalan Sowmya Narayanan has over a decade of experience in project advisory and corporate finance. He has been overseeing the Indian investment bank's UK arm with a keen eye on promoting the India-UK financial connect and making a mark for the Indian subsidiary in Britain. The London-based executive is a proactive member of the small band of well-respected Indian banking chiefs in the City.



Chris Parsons

Chairman, India Practice,
Herbert Smith Freehill

Chris counts India as a second home, having spent years cultivating his vast knowledge base on the country. He has over 10 years' experience of adding value to both Indian groups and to global businesses looking to invest in India. Chris also sits on the board of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC) and helps guide his company's social initiatives in India.



Aekta Mahajan Patel

Head of Venture Capital Unit, Department
for International trade

Aekta has been responsible for bringing investments from VC firms, Sovereign Wealth Funds, Family Offices and Ultra High Net Worth individuals to fund British companies. She is also the co-founder of the Young Asian Social Enterprise, a unique initiative aimed at empowering young people, particularly from Britain's ethnic minority communities.



Alpesh Patel

CEO, Praefinium & UK Government
Dealmaker

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. Alpesh, a regular face on media channels, has penned 18 books on business and investing and is a Visiting Fellow in Business at Oxford University, his alma mater.



Stuart Paver

Managing Director, Pavers

This York-based company was founded in 1971 by Stuart's mother Catherine Paver and is today a global retailer of branded and own brand footwear. Under his stewardship, Pavers was the first 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) entry as a single-brand retailer into India when it launched a joint venture to sell Pavers England products. Stuart and his team at Pavers have won many awards, including the prestigious Ernst & Young Business and Consumer Entrepreneur of The Year. Stuart has been a great ambassador for India within the UK's SME sector.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Politics & Public Life

Barry Gardiner

Chair, Labour Friends of India

Profile

As Mr India in Parliament for almost two decades, Barry can be best described as one of India's strongest and long-standing friends in the British Parliament.

Barry, who currently serves in the UK Shadow Cabinet as International Trade Secretary and Minister for Climate Change, is also the founder and current chair of Labour Friends of India. He has unrivalled in-depth knowledge of British Indian diaspora politics.

A little-known fact is that he has been a steadfast friend of Prime Minister Modi in the UK ever since he met the then BJP general secretary in 1999 and was the leading political voice in recalibrating the relationship between the UK and the future Indian PM.



The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Uday Phadke
Co-founder & Executive Chairman,
AcceleratorIndia

Uday has been working closely with companies in India and the UK to generate new revenues, create access to advanced technologies and build strategic alliances for many years. His core talent lies in the creation and development of innovative technology-enabled businesses and he has been very active within the hi-tech ecosystem in Britain. As Chief Executive of Cartezia, a business he founded in 1997, he also helps build IP-enabled technology businesses in the UK.



Ramesh Phillips
Head - Europe, Wipro

Ramesh oversees the administration for Wipro's European operation, including set up process and policy for the smooth and efficient running of all the company's offices across Europe. He has set up over 20 Development Centres across Europe, with the UK being among the Indian software services company's important centres.



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.



Nawal Kant Prinja
Technical Director, Clean Energy,
AMEC Foster Wheeler

Professor Prinja is the very understated and astute 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.



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 tool to finance India's infrastructure needs.



Joginder Sanger
Chairman, Mastcraft Ltd

This amiable hotelier has a unique style of making any Indian feel at home in London. As chair of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in London, he is a very energetic supporter of Indian art and culture in the UK. He has reinvigorated the Indian arts scene and is widely respected as a proactive champion of India's soft power in the UK.



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The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals



Percy Sethna
Country Head UK, Indiabulls

The man behind the Indian corporate's UK presence has steered the group's global footprint ever since the November 2015 announcement of the firm's acquisition of a 39.8 per cent stake in Britain's OakNorth Bank for \$100 million. His intensive knowledge of the real estate and financial markets makes him a repository of advice in the sector.



Kamal Shah
Partner, Stephenson Harwood

Kamal is the head of Stephenson Harwood's Africa and India groups. He specialises in complex, cross-border international arbitration, litigation and fraud and asset tracing. The legal world's "charming practitioner" has acted for governments, banks, private corporations and high net worth individuals in a range of matters. He is well placed to promote the emerging UK-India-Africa corridor.



Sirjiwan Singh
Managing Director, Wockhardt UK

Sirjiwan has built a robust business for the Indian pharma major by exploring alliances, tapping new business opportunities and optimising the operations of the manufacturing facilities in the UK and Ireland. He has also played a major role in due diligence, acquisitions and integrations of various companies into the Wockhardt Group and has been one of the flag-bearers of India in Wales.



Raminder Singh Ranger
Chairman, Sun Mark Ltd

Rami Ranger is one of the UK's most successful and vocal Indian businessmen, whose interests range from beverage manufacturing to property development. Dr Ranger has the distinction of winning five consecutive Queen's Awards for Enterprise. He is a staunch supporter of the Conservative party and was recently appointed by the Indian government to the board of the India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians.



Shuchita Sonalika
Director – UK, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

The energetic representative of India's leading trade association has made her mark on the UK-India landscape in London in the short time since she took charge of the post. She has taken some very significant steps to enhance the Scottish-India links and make the small and medium enterprise (SME) voice heard. Shuchita, who also steers CII's India Business Forum in the UK (IBF-UK), is a strong advocate for Indian business interests in the UK and is known as someone who gets things done.



Martin Stuart Sorrell
CEO, WPP

Sir Martin set off by taking a controlling stake in Wire & Plastic Products (WPP), a small UK manufacturer of shopping baskets and teapots. Today WPP is the world leader in advertising and marketing services, and proud parent to many of the industry's biggest and most admired agencies. As a board member of the UK Indian Business Council (UKIBC), he actively supports the advancement of international business schools, including the Indian School of Business.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals

**Benjamin 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.

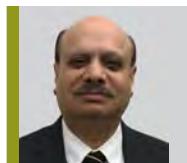
**Julian Taylor**Executive Director, Asia Pacific,
Scottish Enterprise

As Scottish Enterprise's international arm, Scottish Development International (SDI) attracts foreign investment into Scotland and enhances the global expansion capabilities of companies through international strategy development. Julian helps drive and promote Scotland's interests in the Asian markets and vice versa. Under his watchful eye, India features most prominently on Scotland's political and business agenda. A space to watch.

**Subhash Thakrar**

Consultant, CBW

Subhash Vithaldas Thakrar is a professional chartered accountant with over 35 years of experience in the field. He sits on the Boards of various companies in executive and non-executive positions. He has been extensively involved in joint ventures and investment funds in India. Subhash, as chair of the London Chamber of Commerce, was among some of the early professional voices to call on the UK to engage with Narendra Modi – then Gujarat chief minister.

**Dhimant Trivedi**Chief Executive (European Operations),
Bank of Baroda

The fun-loving head of India's second-largest bank in London is a lively addition to any Diaspora event in the UK. Dhimant has a strong connect with the Gujarati community in Britain, besides being at the heart of many UK-centric Indian finance deals. He is well-versed in financial matters and has been among the drivers of the India-UK finance partnership over recent years.

**Sanjay Thakkar**

UK Head of Deal Advisory, KPMG UK

Sanjay became a UK partner in 2005, working closely with both Goldman Sachs and Virgin Media. In 2008, Sanjay was asked to help the Indian practice drive its Transactions & Restructuring business forward and was country lead partner for KKR, Vodafone and the Aditya Birla Group. In recent times, Sanjay has become a banking and telecoms market recognised partner working closely with Vodafone, Barclays, assisting a Private Equity consortium on the Williams & Glynn buyout and advising Bob Diamond's investment vehicle (Atlas Mara) on its investments into African banking.

**Nandita Sahgal-Tully**CEO, IL&FS Global Financial Services
(UK) Ltd

Nandita qualified as a chartered accountant with Deloitte & Touche, where she was a member of the Deloitte India desk. In August 2015, she joined IL&FS Global FS – the UK subsidiary of IFIN, the investment banking arm of IL&FS, one of India's leading financial institutions focused on infrastructure development for 25 years. Over the past 15 years, Nandita has floated numerous Indian companies on the London Stock Exchange and is an expert on Indian companies coming to London.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals

**Kevin Wall**

Chairman, UK Corporate Banking, & Vice-Chairman, Investment Banking, Barclays

Barclays is a major UK-based international bank with a well-established presence in India. Kevin has over 30 years' experience in banking, having joined Barclays after graduating from Warwick University with a degree in Accounting and Financial Analysis. He is a member of the UKIBC Advisory Board and an India enthusiast who backed Modi as the man to deliver results when he took over as Prime Minister in 2014.

David Whittleton

Deputy Chairman & CEO, Arup Group

As part of the famous engineering and design consultancy, David has been instrumental in the planning, design and management of a wide variety of high-profile projects worldwide, including industrial plants, infrastructure works and commercial facilities. He has been influential as a member of many senior delegations to India, the most recent being with British Prime Minister Theresa May to India in November 2016.



The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Business & Professionals

Jitesh Gadhia

Businessman, banker &
Life Peer

Profile

Lord Gadhia is a refreshing addition to the India caucus at the House of Lords. An accomplished financier, he has been involved in many high-profile cross-border deals including Tata Steel's acquisition of Corus back in 2007. Most recently, he was instrumental in India's Intas Pharmaceuticals acquiring the UK assets of Actavis from Teva – making it the largest supplier of generic medicines in the UK.

He is young, smart and determined to make an impact in British society and to the wider UK-India relationship. Lord Gadhia made worldwide headlines when he marked his entry to the House of Lords in 2016 by swearing his oath of allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II on a copy of the 'Rig Veda' – the ancient collection of Vedic Sanskrit hymns dating back to around 1,200 BC.



The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Arts & Culture

**Sriram Aylur**

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 Indian among British foodies. He strongly believes in the soft power of Indian food and has been instrumental in proving it in the UK.

**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.

**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 Journey Club" with the Indian High Commission in London, about 100 feet across the road from the LSE, to keep India-related topics central to LSE's speakers' agenda.

**Kumar Bhattacharyya**

Chairman, Warwick Manufacturing Group

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.

**Ian Blatchford**

Director, Science Museum, London

The Science Museum under Ian's leadership recently launched "Illuminating India" – a celebration of Indian influence on science and innovation over the ages as well as an ambitious survey of photography in India. The initiatives were the result of the UK India Year of Culture celebrations and have kick-started an unprecedented scientific collaboration between the two countries, which will resonate for decades to come.

**Leszek Borysiewicz**

Vice-Chancellor, University of Cambridge

Professor Sir Borysiewicz has made numerous visits to India in recent times to promote the academic bonds between the two countries. He has just launched the world-famous university's year-long celebration of its ties with India as part of the UK India Year of Culture. He is also responsible for taking the Cambridge admissions and interview process to India and is an active champion of the cause of Indian student access to UK universities.

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Arts & Culture



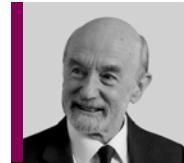
Gurinder Chadha
Filmmaker

She is credited with bringing the Indian Diaspora into the mainstream cultural consciousness in Britain. The 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 funniest British Asian slice of life films, most recently the Partition saga 'Viceroy's House'.



Alice P. Gast
President, Imperial College London

Professor Gast is a very vocal champion of entrepreneurial Indian students coming to study at UK universities. To circumvent the negative rhetoric around the tough visa norms that have been turning Indian students away from the UK to other destinations, she has been advocating a lesser-known entrepreneurial visa in the UK and India, resulting in Imperial not mirroring the wider drop in Indian student figures.



Michael Gregory
Head, Institute of Manufacturing,
Cambridge University

Sir Mike's work at Cambridge is closely linked with industry and government and he is involved in manufacturing strategy, technology management, international manufacturing and manufacturing policy. He led the establishment of the IfM, whose mission is to link science, engineering, management and economics with education, research and practice to improve and innovate manufacturing and industrial systems. He is a very active proponent of the great India-UK potential.



Tristram Hunt
Director, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

This former Labour MP sent shockwaves with his announcement to step away from political life to embrace his artistic side earlier this year. The historian, writer and broadcaster is an expert on the 18th and 19th centuries, with a focus on Victorian urban history which can scarcely escape the strong India connect with that period. Dr Hunt will oversee much of V&A's UK India Year of Culture agenda for 2017.



Michael Hutt
Director, South Asia Institute, SOAS

Professor Hutt has been driving the India agenda at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) for many years. Besides Hindi, Hutt is equally fluent in subjects of relevance within the UK-India academic space. Under his directorship, the South Asia Institute has hosted a wide array of India-related events, talks and research. It was recently also awarded a prestigious UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) thematic partnerships grant under the e-partnerships and research incubation scheme.



Anish Kapoor
Sculptor

Sir Anish is one of Britain's most celebrated India-born artistes, having won the prestigious Turner Prize in 1991. His iconic Orbit became the symbol of the London 2012 Olympics and led to a knighthood from the Queen in 2013. Besides his art, Kapoor is passionate about several political causes and does not shy away from speaking his mind.

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Politics & Public Life

Profile

The double act of Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha and Dinesh Patnaik in India House, London, has undoubtedly injected much-needed vigour into Britain's diplomatic circles.

Sinha, of course, is a seasoned hand at diplomatic affairs and the best man to take to the crease at a time with the UK-India match is set for a crucial innings.

His deputy, Patnaik, is a spirited and affable wily operator who never shies away from speaking his mind.

A creditable pairing that reflects that Indian diplomacy is all set for the Brexit era challenges ahead.



Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha
Indian High Commissioner to the UK



Dinesh K. Patnaik
Indian Deputy High Commissioner to the UK

The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Arts & 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. Most recently, she led the UK India Year of Culture launch celebrations to bring 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.



Asha Khemka
Principal and CEO, West Nottinghamshire College

Dame Asha was awarded one of the UK's highest civilian awards for her services to the 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.



Atul Kochhar
Chef, Restauranteur & 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 spicy recipes. Atul, a regular on British TV, is the perfect ambassador for India and Indian food in Britain and is actively involved in initiatives like the British Asian Trust to give back to the country of his birth.



M.N. Nandakumara
Executive Director, The Bhavan, London

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 Limited (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 its many 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. Even in his late 70s, he remains young at heart and is still going strong as one of the most effective community campaigners who has mastered the tough art of mobilising the Diaspora for worthy causes.



Venkataraman Ramakrishnan
President, Royal Society

Professor Venki hit the headlines worldwide not only for his Nobel Prize in Chemistry but most recently 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.

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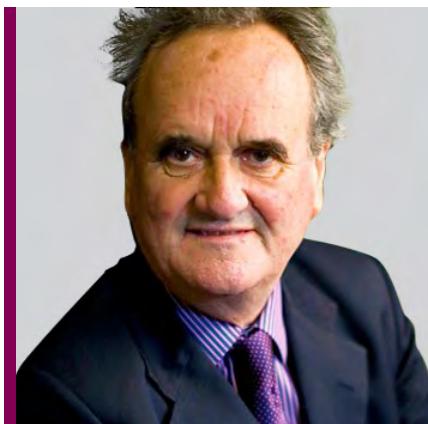
The 100 Most Influential People in UK India Relations

Arts & Culture

Shaunaka Rishi Das

Director, The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

This Irishman was drawn towards Indian philosophy very early on and has been spreading his deep understanding on the subject through the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, a recognised independent centre of Oxford University, since 1997. He is a very vocal supporter of what he believes are very rational arguments offered by Hinduism and their relevance within the wider UK-India political discourse.



Mark Tully

Veteran Journalist & Writer

Sir Mark was the voice of the BBC in India for many years as the former BBC Bureau Chief in New Delhi. Equally well-versed in Hindi and English, he is a stalwart of British journalism in India, having covered some of the most important events of history in his 20-year career with the BBC. He is still recognised as an insightful commentator on Indian matters and has written a series of well-received books on the subject.

Richard Whish

Emeritus Professor, King's College London

Professor Richard Whish QC is an Indophile who has contributed immensely to India's nascent Competition Law landscape with his expertise in the field. The man behind the definitive textbook on the subject has been a welcome influence on the genesis of the Competition Commission of India into an entity suited for a fast-maturing Indian economy. Besides regular visits to top law firms in India to lecture on key policy matters, the country is also his annual holiday destination of choice for decades.



LAUNCHING SOON



'Winning Partnership' is a collection of essays on what a modern India-UK partnership could mean.

The book comes at a critical juncture in global affairs. India and its engagement with the world is being transformed under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Whilst the United Kingdom, one of the most prosperous nations in the world, is going through tumultuous change following its epic decision to leave the European Union.

Contributors

- Manoj Ladwa ■ Sadiq Khan
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- Jitesh Gadhia ■ Ranjan Mathai
- Michael Arthur ■ Asoke Mukerji
- Ashok Malik ■ Syed Ata Hasnain
- Rahul Roy-Chaudhury ■ Gareth Price
- CB Patel ■ Chandrajit Banerjee
- Jyotsna Suri ■ Nikhil Rathi
- Anuj Chande ■ Rajiv Memani
- Nawal Prinja ■ Richard Gubbins
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