

UK Alumni Meet

Friday 18th March 2016

Tango 1 – Vivanta by Taj Surya, Coimbatore

1630 - 1700 **Registration**

Welcome and Introduction

1700 - 1705 **Mr. Saju Mathew**, Regional Adviser - British Deputy High Commission, Chennai.

Opening Remarks

1705 - 1710 **Mr. Bharat Joshi** – British Deputy High Commissioner, Chennai

Chevening Scholarships

1710 - 1720 “Developing Global Leaders” – Presented by **Ms. Shweta Midha** – British High Commission, New Delhi

The ‘Chevening’ Experience

1720 - 1730 Mr. Ranjit Kumar, Co-Founder – Institute of Communicational Excellence, Coimbatore.

Vote of Thanks

1730 - 1735 Ms. N V Sreejaya – Chevening Alumnus and Secretary, Association of British Scholars, Coimbatore.

Panel discussion: “Employability Skills for the Future – Addressing Industrial Demands”

- Followed by Q & A.

Panelists:

- 1735 - 1815**
- **Mr M Selvaraj** – Principal, Kasturi Institute of Management, Coimbatore
 - **Mr K K Ramachandran** – Vice-Principal, GRD Institute of Management, Coimbatore
 - **Mr K Ilango** – Joint Managing Director, RSM Autokast, Coimbatore

Moderated by **Mr C R Swaminathan** – Founder & CEO, Lakshmi Ventures. Managing Trustee, Ramalakshmi Trust

1815 - 1830 **Networking High Tea**

Panel discussion: “Innovation in Coimbatore – Way Forward”

1830 - 1915 - Followed by Q & A.



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Panelists:

- **Mr Mohan Kandasamy** – Director, Oriental Aquamarine Biotech, Coimbatore
- **Mr Mahendra Vellingiri** – Co-founder, Coitor IT Tech, Coimbatore
- **Mr G Guru Prasadh** – CEO, Medsby Healthcare and Engineering Solutions, Coimbatore

Moderated by Dr P Radhakrishnan – Director, PSG, NRIIC-Nanotech Research, Innovation and Incubation Centre, Coimbatore

1915 - 1920 Concluding Remarks

Glocalising Innovation – Coimbatore's Story

Globally, as nations are warming up to the fact that innovation is the key to sustainable future and inclusive development, Coimbatore is a living example of a city built on entrepreneurship and innovation. The innovation factor of Coimbatore has always been alive and consistent making it one of India's most entrepreneurial cities showing undying zeal to adapt and innovate. Besides traditional industries, such as automobile components, textile machinery and pumps, Coimbatore's entrepreneurs are now leaders in healthcare, education, retail and agriculture. This city is an emerging hub for digital innovation and technology based start-up community. With increasing demands for innovative products to meet both local and global challenges, this session explores the following questions:

How can we now encourage innovation for societal development?

What are the skills required from youth to face next generation industrial demands?

What are the challenges in imparting the right skills for the right profession?

How to encourage a unique innovation platform in Coimbatore?

What are the best practices we can learn from other countries?

At the same time this event will showcase select young innovators from Coimbatore who are pioneering new technologies and models and who will share lessons learned.



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UK Alumni meet 2016

The aim of the UK Alumni meet 2016 is to better engage with Chevening scholars and UK alumni in South India, as well as strengthen Britain's bilateral relationship at the regional level. This year's alumni meet in partnership with Association of British Scholars, Coimbatore and British Council intends to network with the city based educational and industrial leaders to explore mutually beneficial partnerships. The overarching theme for the alumni event is 'Glocalising Innovation'. The event brings two interactive panel discussions led by Coimbatore based leaders and innovators focussing on employability skills for the future and innovation ecosystem of Coimbatore.

Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP)

The CSFP is aimed at students of Commonwealth countries who can make a significant contribution to their home country after the completion of a higher education programme in the UK. This is a source of funding made available to all Commonwealth countries by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission.

Goa Education Trust Scholarships 2016

The Dempo and the Fomento Group collaboratively formed the Goa Education Trust with the British Council in the year 2009. In 2015, a decision was taken to open the scholarship up for all Indian nationals. This Scholarship is now open to ANY Indian national applying for a Master's Programme in the UK.

Hornby Scholarships

The Hornby Educational Trust offers scholarships to study a one-year full-time Masters degree in an English Language Teaching (ELT) related subject in the UK.

Charles Wallace India Trust Scholarships

CWIT enables Indians in the early to mid stages of their careers to spend time in the UK, helping them to achieve artistic, academic and professional ambitions and to broaden their international contacts.



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The Chevening Scholarships

Chevening is the UK government's international awards scheme aimed at developing global leaders. Funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and partner organisations, Chevening offers two types of award – Chevening Scholarships and Chevening Fellowships – the recipients of which are personally selected by British Embassies and High Commissions throughout the world.

Chevening offers a unique opportunity for future leaders, influencers, and decision-makers from all over the world to develop professionally and academically, network extensively, experience UK culture, and build lasting positive relationships with the UK. Chevening programmes have supported over 32,000 potential leaders from 130 countries.

The Chevening India Programme has already sent over 2000 Indians to study in the UK. The Chevening Alumni comprises leaders from civil society, academia, government, NGOs and business. Every alumnus works in partnership with other alumni, spread across the globe, on issues of mutual interest, strengthening ties between the UK and India. The alumni group in India has now successfully formed a nationwide Chevening Alumni India Association.

Please refer www.chevening.org/India (or) www.educationuk.org

The programme includes an experience sharing session from one of our Chevening alumnus from Coimbatore.

Ranjit Kumar Ramasubramaniam pursued B.E in Mechanical Engineering from Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore. He was awarded with Chevening scholarship to continue his higher studies at the University of Cambridge for the M.Phil programme in Micro and Nanotechnology Enterprise. He is a design engineer by profession. He is also the co-founder of Institute of Communicational Excellence, Coimbatore. This non-profit institute was established in 2014 with an aim to train undergraduate students in improving their communication skills, with specific focus in improving their group discussion and interview skills, which are essential for their campus recruitments.



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PANEL DISCUSSION 1

Employability Skills for the future – Addressing Industrial Demands

This session will discuss about the essential skills those need to be imparted in the academia to meet the industrial requirements for the future and the challenges to be tackled in addressing the skills gap between higher education and job market.

MODERATOR: DR C R SWAMINATHAN

Mr C R Swaminathan, BSc (Ag) MBA, has put in over 41 years of service in PSG Institutions. He is actively involved in the development of education and industry by serving as Director in several companies and in the Governing Council of several educational institutions.

He is the Past National President of the Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association, The Institute of Indian Foundrymen and the Coimbatore Productivity Council, Coimbatore Management Association, Tamilnadu Electricity Consumers Association, Small Industries Testing & Research Institute (Si'Tarc), The Southern India Engineering Manufacturers Association, Coimbatore Industrial Infrastructure Association (COINDIA), Rotary Club of Coimbatore East, Solar Energy Society of India (SESI), The Coimbatore Club and the Past Vice President of The Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Coimbatore.

A Former Member of the State Planning Commission, Govt of Tamilnadu, he was the Co-Chair of the CII National Committee on Higher Education and the Chairman of CII (SR) Sub Committee on Higher Education and the Past Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry – Southern Region. He is an active committee member of CII - Industry Institute Interaction for skill training and upgrading the under graduates. He is also a Governing Council Member of Board of Apprenticeship Training, Southern Region.

Panelists

Mr M Selvaraj is Principal of Kasturi Institute of Management, Coimbatore. Kasturi Institute of Management is an Aviation Business School focusing on the development of careers of young professionals in the aviation industry. Registered and accredited by IATA, it was established as an Authorised Training Centre (ATC) at Coimbatore, where the need and demand for such training courses are high.



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He has over 32 years of experience holding various positions across South India in AIR INDIA. He is ex-chairman of Travel Club, Madurai Airport and Airlines operators Committee, Coimbatore and also the past secretary of Airlines Operators Committee, Madurai. He is a guest lecturer at Institutions including Sri Avinashilingam Home Science College for Women, Anna University and Nehru Aeronautical College, Coimbatore.

Mr K K Ramachandran is an educator, an acclaimed author, and a passionate performer in his field. He is a triumvirate in Commerce, International Business and Management with a Ph.D. He is currently the Director of one of the top graded management Institute and is a senate member of a University. He has many publications to his credit: the very well received book on Business Communication and From Campus to Corporate thru Macmillan. He also developed and published cases through Elsevier Publication.

He was nominated from the United States for the International Visitors Leadership Programme held in the USA. He has also gained an impressive list of awards. The latest are: Creative leadership from the World Educational Summit and an Award for Achievement of Trade from the United States Department of Commerce in recognition of his services in expanding U.S. India Trade Partnerships. He also was awarded the Best Management Educator by the World Management Congress. He has been trained by Dr. John Mullins, London School of Business on Entrepreneurship mentoring programme "Tools for Growth". He is the founder of www.brandthinkmarketingdo.com. He is a career consultant mentoring students and doctoral candidates.

Mr K Ilango is Joint Managing Director, RSM Autokast Ltd, the flagship company of RSM Group that has diversified interests in Auto Components, Castings, Sheet Metal Components, Horticulture and Wind Power Generation. Their Windmills generate almost all Power requirements for its Manufacturing Activities.

He was the President of Coimbatore District Small Industries Association -CODISSIA, for 2008-10 and Convenor of the SME panel of CII, Coimbatore and Member of SME Panel for CII at State and National level. He has presented a paper on Cluster Based Development at the Commonwealth Small Business Meet organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London. He was the Regional Chairman for the Asia Pacific Region of Round Table International and Chairman of Asia Pacific Region of World Council of Service Clubs. He is a B.E. - Electronics and Communication Engineer.



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PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Innovation in Coimbatore – Way Forward

This panel will observe innovative commercial institutions based out of Coimbatore discussing about the ecosystem of entrepreneurship in Coimbatore, the challenges faced by young innovators and future of start-up environment in this city.

MODERATOR: PROF P RADHAKRISHNAN

Prof P Radhakrishnan studied at Govt. Engineering College, Thrissur, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and PSG College of Technology. He was the Principal of PSG College of Technology and Vice Chancellor, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore. Currently he is the Director of PSG Institute of Advanced Studies.

The focus of this institute is global outreach in education and nanotechnology based research, innovation and incubation. He is Chairman: Advisory Panel – Manufacturing, Technology Vision 2035, Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), Department of Science and Technology and Chairman of Expert Advisory Committee, iSTEAD, National Science and Technology Entrepreneurial Development Board and Research Advisory Committee of Central Machine Tool Institute, Bangalore.

Panelists

Mr Mohan Kandaswamy is Director of Oriental Aquamarine Biotech India Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore. He has nurtured a patented innovative technology in aquaculture – The nitrifying bioreactor technology for the establishment of recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS). This award winning technology has gained wide recognition in the innovation domain of India and at the International level as well.

The organisation was awarded with best innovation by Department of Science and Technology – Lockheed Martin Innovation Competition 2007, Technium International Challenge 2008, UK and winner of India-Wallonia Tech Program 2011. The firm was chosen as one of the seven finalists at the business plan competition for green business by New Ventures India. He is a TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Fellow of the fellowship year of 2009.



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Mr Mahendra Vellingiri is Co-founder of Coitor IT Tech. An organisation based out of Coimbatore focusing on delivering cutting edge products in augmented reality domain. Established in 2013, the aim of this firm is to enhance the purchasing process of customers and increasing footfall for retailers. This decision was prompted after recognizing the growing need to create a unique experience for shoppers and thereby increase the profitability of retailers. They have a decade of experience in product development creating revolutionary products in retail domain.

Their product, WearIT has allowed in creating a sense of meaningful connection between retailers and customers with motion sensors programmed to detect gestures of the person along with ability to record and provide live video feedback. The technology is easy to use, as the motion sensors recognize hand movements as well, and the selection of outfit is simply a breeze. WearIT is a tool that provides a vast audience in India the confidence of a good shopping. Their venture has been chosen and funded by Technology Development Board (TDB) of India, through PSG-Science & Technology Entrepreneurial Park (PSG-STEP).

Guru Prasadh G is CEO of Medsby Healthcare and Engineering Solutions, Coimbatore – An emerging technology company which is dedicated to the enhancement of people's lives through wearable technology, user friendly ambulatory medical and fitness devices, mobile and computer applications. The company is an innovator in wearable gadgets, fitness gadgets, cardiac care and bio-signal simulators. Medsby has setup Biomechanics & Biomedical Equipments Laboratory for Department of Biomedical Engineering at PSG College of Technology.

Medsby has a patent pending technology "System and method of automatic health monitoring and emergency assistance for a vehicle occupant". One of their products 'The ECG Simulator' Android Application is a first of its kind App that generates real-time ECG signals from a smart phone. It is widely being used by healthcare professionals and students for calibration, testing and research.



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