

# NORTHERN ASIAN POWER-MISSION 2021: INDIA

## Building The Special Relationship

1 – 5 March 2021

#NAPowermission



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University of Delhi

## Northern Asian Power Mission Launch – A Focus on India

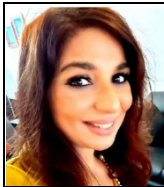
Monday 1 March 2021

The Asian community has, for decades, provided a powerful and varied contribution to the UK, and in particular, the north of England. Following the successful launch of the Northern Asian Powerlist in 2020, this event brought together key partners from India and across the Northern Powerhouse to explore international business opportunities and build on the living bridge.

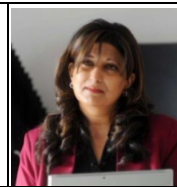
Trade between the UK and India was worth £24 billion in 2019, and the latest India meets Britain Tracker 2020 shows a growing number of Indian businesses selecting the North as a base for operations, 14% in 2020 up from 11% in 2019.

As the UK prepares to “build back better” and with the UK Government committed to the levelling up agenda, we believe now is the time to reap the economic benefits of the living bridge between the UK and India.

### Hosted by



Professor Roopinder Oberoi,  
Founder of the Centre for Innovation and  
Social Enterprise, University of Delhi



Sharon Jandu, Project Director,  
Northern Asian Power Mission: India

### Inaugural Launch Speakers



Graham  
Stuart MP,  
Minister for  
Exports

Graham Stuart was elected as the Member of Parliament for Beverley and Holderness in 2005. He joined the Department for International Trade in January 2018 as Minister for Investment. In February 2020 he was appointed Minister for Exports. Graham was born in Carlisle. He attended school in Scotland before going to Selwyn College, Cambridge to read philosophy and law. At Cambridge he chaired the Cambridge University Conservative Association and founded ‘What’s On in Cambridge’. After university, Graham developed a successful career in publishing, and was a member of Cambridge City Council from 1998 to 2004.

In Parliament Graham:

- chaired the Education Select Committee (2010 to 2015)
- was Assistant Government Whip with responsibility for the Department of Health, and later for HM Treasury and the Ministry of Defence (2016 to 2018)



Rakesh Sinha  
MP, Rajya  
Sabha

Rakesh Sinha is a Member of Rajya Sabha, Upper House of Parliament of India. He is currently serving as a member of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Trust Board and is also a member of Parliamentary Committee on Home affairs. He has authored several books including a biography of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh founder K B Hedgewar.

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	<p><b>Lord Bilimoria,</b> CBE, DL, FCA</p>	<p>Karan Bilimoria is the founder of Cobra Beer, Chairman of the Cobra Beer Partnership Limited, a Joint Venture with Molson Coors, and Chairman of Molson Coors Cobra India. In the Monde Selection, one of the most prestigious quality awards in the world for beer, the Cobra range have collectively been awarded a total of 121 Gold and Grand Gold medals since 2001, making it one of the most awarded beers in the world.</p> <p>Lord Bilimoria is the Founding Chairman of the UK India Business Council, a Deputy Lieutenant of Greater London. In July 2014, he was installed as the seventh Chancellor of the University of Birmingham, making him the first Indian-born Chancellor of a Russell Group University in Great Britain. In June 2020, he was appointed President of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). In September 2020, he was appointed as a Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford based at the Centre for Corporate Reputation. Karan has been awarded Honorary Doctorates from University of East Anglia, University of Birmingham, Brunel University, Cranfield University, University of Exeter, Heriot-Watt University, London Metropolitan University, Staffordshire University, York St John University, University of West London (previously Thames Valley University), and University of Westminster.</p>
	<p><b>Lord Waverley</b></p>	<p>Lord Waverley (JD) is an independent member of the House of Lords, entering the United Kingdom Parliament in 1993. He contributes regularly to proceedings on international issues, addressing many challenging issues of the day. He is the Founder and CEO of SupplyFinder.com and the Founder and Co-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Trade &amp; Export Promotion. Lord Waverley has received State decorations from Colombia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan, been honoured with a Yoruba Chieftaincy in Nigeria, and is the recipient of the CEO Club BURJ award as Ambassador for British Business.</p>
	<p><b>Lord Ranger</b> CBE</p>	<p>Raminder Singh Ranger, Baron Ranger, CBE (born July 1947) is a British businessman, and the founder of Sun Mark, an international marketing and distribution company. He is also chairman and managing director of Sea Air and Land Forwarding Ltd. He was nominated for a life peerage and a seat in the House of Lords in Theresa May's resignation honours.</p>
	<p><b>Alex Ellis,</b> British High Commissioner to India</p>	<p>Alex Ellis was appointed as the British High Commissioner to the Republic of India in 2021. Previously, Alex worked as Deputy National Security Adviser for the Integrated Review on foreign and security policy. He was also Director General in the Department for Exiting the EU for three years. Alex has extensive experience in security issues, EU and strategy, including as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DExEU Director General responsible for the UK-EU security partnership, international agreements with the UK's closest partners and domestic and EU engagement on Brexit.</li> <li>• British Ambassador to Brazil, (2013 - 2017) and Portugal (2007-10).</li> <li>• Director of Strategy in the Foreign Office responsible for developing new tools for improving FCO and government policy.</li> <li>• Member of the cabinet of the President of the European Commission, with responsibility for energy, climate change, competition, development, trade and strategy; and before that in the UK Representation to the EU working on the negotiations to establish the euro, the seven-year budget, and then institutional issues including the Treaty of Nice.</li> </ul> <p>Alex has worked in the British Embassy in Madrid and started his civil service career as part of the team supporting the transition to multi party democracy in South Africa, following the release of Nelson Mandela. Prior to this Alex was a teacher, including in India. He sings in a choir and loves music, theatre and most sports, especially cricket. He is married to Teresa, and they have one son, Tomás, who has Asperger's syndrome</p>

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	<b>Vincent H Pala</b> MP. Lok Sabha	Vincent H Pala is an Indian politician, belonging to Indian National Congress. In the 2019 election he was elected to the 17th Lok Sabha from the Shillong Lok Sabha constituency. He is Member, Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes (MPLADS), Member, Consultative Committee Ministry of Development, North East Region, Member Standing Committee in Industry and Member Consultative Committee, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
	<b>Dr Shashank Vikram,</b> Consul General of India	Dr Vikram is a medical graduate. He did his MBBS from GSVM Medical College, Kanpur. Before assuming the charge of CG, Birmingham, he has served in various capacities in Government of India, in Indian embassies abroad and in the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. He has worked in Embassy of India, Lisbon, Embassy of India, Brasilia and as Consul General of India, Durban, South Africa. In Ministry of External Affairs, he has served in PAI and OIA Divisions. In Uttar Pradesh, Dr Vikram has served as Special Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) & Additional Mission Director for National Urban Health Mission and as Special Secretary (Tourism) & Managing Director, UP State Tourism Development Corporation (UPSTDC). Dr Vikram is currently the Consul General of India and is responsible for driving greater links between India and the Northern Powerhouse and Midlands Engine.
	<b>Jake Berry</b> MP, Chair, Northern Research Group	Jake Berry is a British Conservative Party politician and former solicitor who served as Minister for the Northern Powerhouse, from 2017 to 2020, in the governments of Theresa May and Boris Johnson. He is the Member of Parliament (MP) for Rossendale and Darwen
	<b>Shamika Ravi,</b> Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India	Dr Shamika Ravi, a renowned economist, is a Non-resident Senior Fellow of the Governance Studies Program at the Brookings India, branch of a think tank based in Washington D.C. Previously, she has served as a member of India's Economic Advisory Council from 2017 to 2019. As an economic expert, Ravi writes journals in many major newspapers.
	<b>Roger Marsh</b> OBE DL, Chair, NP11 & Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership	Roger Marsh has been Chair of the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) since 2013 and during that time has led the LEP through a period of significant transformation, including securing the country's largest ever Local Growth Deal with Government. In partnership with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, the LEP – a public, private sector partnership – promotes Leeds City Region on a national and international scale, helping businesses to thrive and creating a strong and successful economy for all who live and work here. Roger also Chairs the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund Strategic Oversight Board as well as the NP11, which brings together the Chairs of the 11 Northern LEPs. Before joining the LEP, Roger was Senior Partner at PwC and boasts over 35 years' experience in the private sector. In 2015, Roger was awarded an OBE in the Queen's birthday honours list for Services to Business and the Economy. Roger is a Member of Council at the University of Leeds and a Governor at Roundhay School.

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	<p><b>Andy Burnham,</b> Mayor of Greater Manchester</p>	<p>Andy Burnham was elected as Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017. Responsible for shaping the future of Greater Manchester, Andy's priorities include ending rough sleeping, transforming Greater Manchester into one of the greenest city regions in Europe, and making Greater Manchester a great place to live, get on, and grow old.</p> <p>Before being elected Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy was MP for Leigh from 2001. In government, Andy has held Ministerial positions at the Home Office, Department of Health and the Treasury. In 2008 he became Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, before returning to Health as Secretary of State in 2009. In opposition, Andy has served as Shadow Education Secretary, Shadow Health Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary. Andy lives in Leigh, Greater Manchester, with his wife and three children. He is a keen supporter of Everton FC.</p>
	<p><b>Satish Jha,</b> Chairman, ECCO Electronics</p>	<p>Satish Jha is an investor and entrepreneur with Fortune 100 executive experience in managing global pharmaceutical, technology, education, and healthcare businesses and currently supports tech start ups in the US and India ecosystems with investments and mentoring. He chairs The Jha Group that invests in Healthcare, Education and Technology start-ups. He is also the chairman of Edufront Foundation that helps schools and teaching institutions with its comprehensive Learning Management, Content Management and Resources Management applications, offering state of the art services for remote schools at affordable costs. He is also on the advisory boards of Vidya Bharati and Ekal that cater to over 7 million students across rural and remote parts of India.</p> <p>He was appointed as an Advisor to the Government of India to popularise the use of alternative energy sources by prime minister Rajiv Gandhi and later worked with Dr Manmohan Singh on global technology policies for the South Commission in Geneva. He was the Editor of newsweekly Dinamaan of The Times of India Group and co-founded national Hindi daily Jansatta for the Indian Express Group. He also led the One Laptop per Child initiative of MIT, Cambridge, MA USA for India and other developing countries.</p> <p>Satish Jha studied economics at JNU and international affairs and public policy at the Fletcher School of Law &amp; Diplomacy, the Kennedy School of Government, Erasmus University and the University of Maryland and earned an MBA from EDHEC in France. He is based in Boston and is also a Life Charter Member of TiE network.</p>
	<p><b>Kevin McCole</b> Managing Director, UK India Business Council</p>	<p>Kevin joined the UK India Business Council in December 2008 and has a range of responsibilities: coordinating the work of the team across the UK and Indian offices; directly leading the Advocacy, Advisory, Membership, Communications and Research teams.</p> <p>He also leads the UKIBC's relationships with the Department for International Trade and directs the UKIBC's engagement with Government bodies across the UK and India, including the UK's Devolved Administrations, English cities, and Indian States. Kevin has directed major projects, including developing strategies to generate more trade and investment between India and Greater Manchester, Leeds City Region, and Sheffield City Region.</p>
<p><b>Closing Remarks from our Patron &amp; Partners:</b></p>		
	<p><b>Karen French,</b> Partner, Squire Patton Boggs</p>	<p>As a founding patron of the Northern Asian Power-Mission and previous to this the Northern Asian Powerlist, we have been astounded by the support that the project have received to date from dignitaries, business champions and trade organisations. Being part of the inaugural virtual Northern Asian Power-Mission with a focus on India and seeing the sheer amount of goodwill and collaboration across the Northern Powerhouse and India really demonstrates the synergies between the UK and India and the living bridge in action. We have been supporting Asian businesses with their international expansion and inward investment strategies for years and this project showcases the very best of how international relationships can and will develop.</p>



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	<b>County Councillor Keith Iddon</b>	We are proud to be leading Lancashire's involvement in the Northern Asian Power Mission 2021, showcasing the county's sector strengths to an incredibly important audience. Lancashire County Council is committed to supporting the growth of trade and investment links with key international markets such as India, and with such a vibrant Asian business community located in the county, we believe that there is great potential for these links to drive tangible economic growth
	<b>Canon Simon Baldwin, FEEUK</b>	Leeds Beckett University is one of the partners of the Northern Asian Power Mission 2021. As Simon Baldwin, Head of Enterprise & Operations explained, "This is a very exciting opportunity to be a part of; I am delighted that the Northern Asian Power-Mission will bring together business from across the Northern Powerhouse and India to explore collaborative business opportunities."

## Northern Asian Power Mission: India - Key partners

Key representatives from UK and India central and local government, businesses, trade bodies, professional services, and education partners came together to build upon the living bridge with India to promote trade and investment opportunities and strengthen relationships.

Our project was led by:



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Supported by amongst others:



United Kingdom

