



British  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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### UK AND INDIA TO HOLD FLAGSHIP TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALISATION WORKSHOPS FIRST WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN PUNE 27 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER, 2010

The first of a series of UK-India ACTIV (Accelerated Commercialization of Technology and Innovation) workshops, targeted at young technology innovators in India, will be held in Pune from 27 September – 1 October at the Venture Center, NCL. ACTIV workshops seek to transfer to India the experience and key lessons learnt in science-based entrepreneurship at Cambridge, UK, with the objective of developing a next generation of Indian technology innovators equipped to successfully take their innovations to market. Future workshops will be held in Bangalore and Hyderabad.

The ACTIV workshops are being administered in collaboration with highly eminent experts from AcceleratorIndia, which is headquartered at Cambridge, UK and from the Venture Center, NCL, Pune.

All the workshops in Pune will be addressed by Dr V Premnath, the Director of the Venture Center at NCL and UK experts Dr Shailendra Vyakarnam, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, University of Cambridge, and Dr Uday Phadke, previously also from Cambridge University, founder of Cartezia, a consultant firm for setting up technology businesses. Some will also be addressed by Dr R A Mashelkar, former Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

Each ACTIV workshop has a sharp focus on science & technology, entrepreneurship and the conceptualisation and creation of new enterprises. The workshops in Pune will be for technology business incubator personnel and scientists and researchers from public sector laboratories and research institutions. The workshops are funded by the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Board, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India; UK Science and Innovation Network, British High Commission and other supporters.

Cambridge is Europe's premier high technology cluster with an impressive track record of building successful technology-based businesses from the University of Cambridge and other local research organizations. Cambridge holds a wealth of expertise in commercialising research projects, underpinned by a strong science and technology base, which is very relevant for India where researchers, entrepreneurs and incubation centres are increasingly keen to get their ideas and innovations to market.

Speaking about this path-breaking UK-India partnership, Chris Darby, Head of UK Science and Innovation India Network, British High Commission, said: "UK and India are natural partners, not only in globalised implementation of excellent research projects, but also in ensuring that their output has a significant societal and economic impact".

Dr B.K. Shukla, Advisor, Department of Science & Technology said: "The Department of Science & Technology expects that the ACTIV workshops will develop and strengthen skills for technology entrepreneurship among various stakeholders, viz. technology managers, incubator managers especially those affiliated to R&D institutions and scientist entrepreneurs, and open up further possibilities of collaborations in techno-entrepreneurship with British High Commission and other organisations in the UK."

#### Notes to Editors:

Dr Premnath, Dr Vyakarnam, and Dr Phadke will give a press briefing on Saturday 25 September at 5pm at the Venture Centre. An invitation is attached. You are requested to please depute a representative. Please view their CVs at <http://venturecenter.co.in/activ/faculty.php> and <http://venturecenter.co.in/activ/inventors.php>  
Directions to Venture Centre: [http://venturecenter.co.in/pdfout.php?file=Info\\_for\\_Visitors\\_to\\_NCL.doc](http://venturecenter.co.in/pdfout.php?file=Info_for_Visitors_to_NCL.doc)

For further information please contact Rajesh Parishwad, Science & Innovation Network, British High Commission on + 919945505490

**For more details on the workshops please visit:**

<http://ukinindia.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/SIN/2010/ACTIVWorkshops130810> or  
<http://www.venturecenter.co.in/activ>

#### **About UK Science and Innovation Network**

The UK's global Science and Innovation Network is jointly funded and managed by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Science and Innovation team in India is one of the largest teams in the S&I Network, with 10 members based in Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore. There are many opportunities to increase collaboration between the UK and India, reflecting the priority attached to science and innovation by both governments and the strength of the research base in both countries.  
<http://ukinindia.fco.gov.uk/en/about-us/working-with-india/science-innovation-network/>

#### **About National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Board**

The National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), established in 1982 by the Government of India under the aegis of Department of Science & Technology, is an institutional mechanism to help promote knowledge driven and technology intensive enterprises. The Board, having representations from socio-economic and scientific Ministries/Departments, aims to convert "job-seekers" into "job-generators" through Science & Technology (S&T) interventions. <http://www.nstedb.com/>

#### **About Venture Center**

Entrepreneurship Development Center (Venture Center) – a CSIR initiative – is a Section 25 company hosted by the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. Venture Center strives to nucleate and nurture technology and knowledge-based enterprises by leveraging the scientific and engineering competencies of the institutions in the Pune region in India. The Venture Center is a technology business incubator supported by the Department of Science & Technology's National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (DST-NSTEDB). Venture Center's focuses on technology enterprises offering products and services exploiting scientific expertise in the areas of materials, chemicals and biological sciences & engineering. For more information, visit <http://www.venturecenter.co.in>

#### **About AcceleratorIndia**

Headquartered in Cambridge, UK, Europe's largest technology cluster, AcceleratorIndia brings the Cambridge experience of building innovative, high-tech global businesses to India. AcceleratorIndia is built upon a foundation of hands-on experience in business building, board level positions in growth companies, raising finance in international markets, in-depth market and technical knowledge and an extended network of leading industry contacts and advisors. Founded by a strong core team and an extended team of resident business builders and advisors, they provide hands-on services to businesses based on or seeking to exploit technologies and markets. For more information, visit <http://www.acceleratorindia.com>.

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