



Consulate General of India
Edinburgh

Press Release

India-Scotland Business Meet 2025: Strengthening Trade & Investment Ties

Consulate General of India, Edinburgh, in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and Scottish Development International will be organising the India-Scotland Business Meet on 5th March 2025, 10:00 AM at the City Chambers, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Scottish Commerce Bodies such as Hydrogen Scotland, Scotch Whisky Association, CodeBase, Scottish Lifesciences Association and Indian Commerce bodies such ISWAI, CIABC, ABLE have partnered for the event.

Dr Rajesh S Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India will lead a forty member Indian business delegation. He said that *“India and Scotland share a dynamic economic relationship, built on shared strengths in innovation and sustainability. As India continues its journey towards becoming a \$5 trillion economy, and Scotland advances its leadership in key industries like technology, life sciences, and renewable energy, there is immense potential for collaboration. The India-Scotland Business Meet provides a vital platform to explore new opportunities and strengthen partnerships. We look forward to working together to unlock new avenues, benefiting businesses and people of both sides.”*

Lord Provost of Edinburgh Rt. Hon. Mr. Robert Aldridge and Deputy First Minister of Scotland Rt. Hon. Ms. Kate Forbes will be the Chief Guests at the inaugural session. The event will witness participation from more than 40 Scottish Companies.

Lord Provost Mr. Robert Aldridge said, *“I am delighted to attend the inaugural business meet to foster bilateral trade and investment relations between India and Scotland. This is a significant opportunity to make positive connections and develop trade partnerships with our world leading business support agencies in Edinburgh and Scotland. Edinburgh has a long and continuing positive engagement with India, and the wider Indian diaspora whether residing, studying or visiting the Capital. The historic links between Edinburgh and India are strong and we are fortunate to have a very active Indian community in our city which contributes to its vibrant multiculturalism that we are proud of. Looking ahead, it is crucial that we continue to foster innovation and build on our strong partnerships to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Edinburgh’s strengths in*

life sciences, technology, financial services, and tourism make it an ideal hub for international trade, and I am eager to contribute to our shared success and prosperity.”

Deputy First Minister Ms. Kate Forbes said: *“Scotland and India have deep people-to-people and business ties. This new forum is an opportunity to build on these, spearheading investment and growth in critical sectors, such as life sciences and renewable energy, in which Scotland and India’s strengths are known worldwide.”*

The business meet will have four parallel round-tables on Life-Sciences, Agro-Beverage, IT and Innovation as well as Renewable Energy. The event is aimed at fostering trade partnerships, investment opportunities, and economic collaboration between the two sides. India, with its vast market and diverse capabilities and Scotland’s with its leadership in research and technology provides a strong foundation for a robust economic and trade partnership.

At the inaugural session a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprise (ABLE) and Scottish Lifesciences Association. A report on India-Scotland Business ties will also be launched.

Journalists interested in attending can register and inform at: com.edinburgh@mea.gov.in.

3rd March, 2025