

**UK INDIA BUSINESS
COUNCIL:
ADVOCATING BUSINESS
SUCCESS IN 2023**

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	03
INFLUENCE	04
INTELLIGENCE	08
INTERACTIONS	12
ADVOCATING FOR UK-INDIA COLLABORATION	13
DIGITAL AND DATA SERVICES	14
FOOD AND DRINK	17
HIGHER EDUCATION	20
LEGAL, PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	23
SPORTS AND GAMING	25
AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE	28
SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT	32
MEMBERSHIP	34
ABOUT UKIBC	35

INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the breadth of advocacy work that the UK India Business Council (UKIBC) has delivered in 2022 and sets out our key objectives for 2023 to advance the UK-India trade and investment relationship.

2022 was an important and progressive year for the bilateral relationship, most notably illustrated by the launch of Free Trade Agreement negotiations in January. Since launching, negotiating teams have met consistently, with six rounds of formal negotiations, and further engagement at Ministerial and Prime Ministerial level throughout the year. The UKIBC has provided feedback to both Governments on behalf of our members throughout this process.

The mood remains positive and optimistic in 2023. Our governments are resolutely committed to securing an FTA that helps more businesses in the UK-India corridor to trade, invest and collaborate. India has assumed the G20 Presidency. And the 2030 Roadmap is shaping a comprehensive relationship across defence and security, climate action, healthcare, education, and the living bridge of people that is so important to the relationship.

Businesses welcome this commitment and are keen to grow their investments and collaborations.

As well as progress in the bilateral relationship, India is also advancing its domestic reform agenda, with a continued focus on ease of doing business improvements. Meanwhile, the UK is adapting to its new trading relationship with the world post-Brexit and is eager to strengthen its relationship with India as part of an 'Indo-Pacific tilt'.

Yet, despite the great progress that both countries are making to support investors, India and the UK can be complex markets with significant challenges for investors. The UKIBC has maintained a consistent dialogue between business and governments across both countries to enable productive discussions and decisive action to improve the business climate and to widen trade and investment opportunities. As businesses are operating all over India and the UK, our advocacy efforts reach beyond Central Ministries to involve close dialogue with the all-important State Governments and UK Regions too.

Removing market access barriers and improving the ease of doing business is better achieved with the direct input of businesses. Feedback and experience from businesses helps Government to align policy to business needs, thereby creating a better environment for the creation of jobs, economic growth, and ultimately promoting prosperity between and within our two countries.

We therefore believe that it is vital that Governments hear first-hand from businesses about the opportunities and challenges they face and, critically, the solutions that would work for them. The UKIBC will continue to be that voice for businesses in 2023. We will continue to work closely with our members and clients, and with both Governments, to drive the UK-India relationship forward and ensure a trade and investment environment that supports business success.

INFLUENCE

The UKIBC is uniquely connected to all levels of the UK and Indian Governments; at the Central level, and at State level in India, and the Devolved Administration and City Region levels in the UK. These connections enable us to advocate for positive change on behalf of our members and clients, as well as connect them directly to influencers and decision makers.

UK GOVERNMENT

Central Government

From Secretaries of State to MPs and senior civil servants, the UKIBC is well connected across the UK Government, including the Department for International Trade (DIT), the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Home Office (HO), Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT), and the Department for Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS). We also share a strong relationship with the British High Commission and British Deputy High Commissions in India.

In 2022, much of our engagement with these Departments, especially DIT, has been focused on supporting FTA negotiations and ensuring businesses' views are ingrained in the talks.

UK City Regions

The UKIBC works closely with the UK City Regions that are active in building economic links with India. We are Strategic Advisers and delivery partners for the South Yorkshire Region, are working closely with the West Midlands Growth Company and the West Midlands India Partnership (WMIP). We also enjoy a close relationship with the Manchester India Partnership. In 2022, the West Midlands Mayor, Andy Street, led a delegation to India for an extensive visit of multiple states. We are working with South Yorkshire on a visit to take place in 2023.



UK GOVERNMENT



INDIAN GOVERNMENT

Central Government

At the UKIBC we have a long track record of working collaboratively with the Government of India in many capacities, whether it is through the UK-India CEO Forum, the UK-India Joint Economic and Trade Committee, the Ease of Doing Business programme, or the Access India Programme, which supports the Make in India initiative and the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission.

To support the ease of doing business and scrutinise areas that the UK can offer support to India's economic development, we have facilitated regular meetings with Ministers and Officials at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Department of Commerce, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Financial Services, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission (UGC), Association of Indian Universities (AIU), the Ministry of Electronic and Information Technology (MEiTY), Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), Ministry of Defence, NITI Aayog, Invest India, and the High Commission of India in London.

State Governments

We also continued to deepen our links with Indian State Governments, including Governments of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal. UKIBC has also maintained working relationships with States such as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.

All these relationships facilitate better engagement between UK businesses and State Governments, across a range of sectors. During 2022, these included food and drink, homeland security, sports and online gaming, financial services, and higher education. UKIBC's relationship with these States has also led to building of city-to-city and region-to-region partnerships focusing on developing corridors of trade, technology and knowledge exchange. The overall result of engagements with state governments has led to a better mutual understanding of priorities and policies, the ability to address general and specific ease of doing business issues, supporting state governments in developing regulatory frameworks, and for the State Governments to build a strong understanding of investors' needs, thus enabling each State to build a better business friendly eco-system.



INDIAN GOVERNMENT



INTELLIGENCE

REPORTS

To share our insights on key sectors, topics and trends in the UK-India corridor, we published 12 reports in 2022. These included our annual Doing Business in India and Advocacy Reports, as well as our sector specific reports on Manufacturing collaboration, Defence and Security, UK businesses' Socio-Economic Impact in India, and a summary of our advocacy submissions to the UK and Indian Governments.

<p>JAN</p>		<p><u>UK India Business Council: Advocating Business Success in 2022</u></p>
<p>MAR</p>		<p><u>Ease of Doing Business in India's Aerospace and Defence sector (with HSA Advocates)</u></p>
<p>MAR</p>		<p><u>Harmonising the UK and India Data Protection Regime (with The Dialogue)</u></p>
<p>APR</p>		<p><u>Supporting India's Sustainable Development Goals</u></p>
<p>APR</p>		<p><u>Gaming for Growth: India's Sports and Gaming Market Potential</u></p>


MAY



SUPPORTING INDIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR TRANSFORMATION
MAY 2022

Supporting India's Higher Education Sector Transformation

JUN



ART OF THE POSSIBLE

Art of the Possible: Including India in their supply chains lets companies achieve scale, agility, and innovation

AUG



OPPORTUNITIES FOR UK REGIONS IN INDIA: AN ANALYSIS OF KEY SECTORS FOR COLLABORATION
AUGUST 2022

Opportunities for UK Regions in India: An analysis of key sectors for collaboration

SEP



STRENGTHENING UK-INDIA TRADE AND INVESTMENT THROUGH EASE OF DOING BUSINESS REFORMS
SEPTEMBER 2022

Strengthening UK-India trade and investment through ease of doing business reforms

OCT



TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR UK COMPANIES IN MAHARASHTRA
OCTOBER 2022

Investment Opportunities in India's States (Report series)

OCT



A BRIGHT FUTURE

A Bright Future: India's ambitious net zero targets create opportunities for innovators and changemakers

NOV



UIRIBCE 8TH ANNUAL REPORT ON DOING BUSINESS IN INDIA: THE UK PERSPECTIVE
NOVEMBER 2022

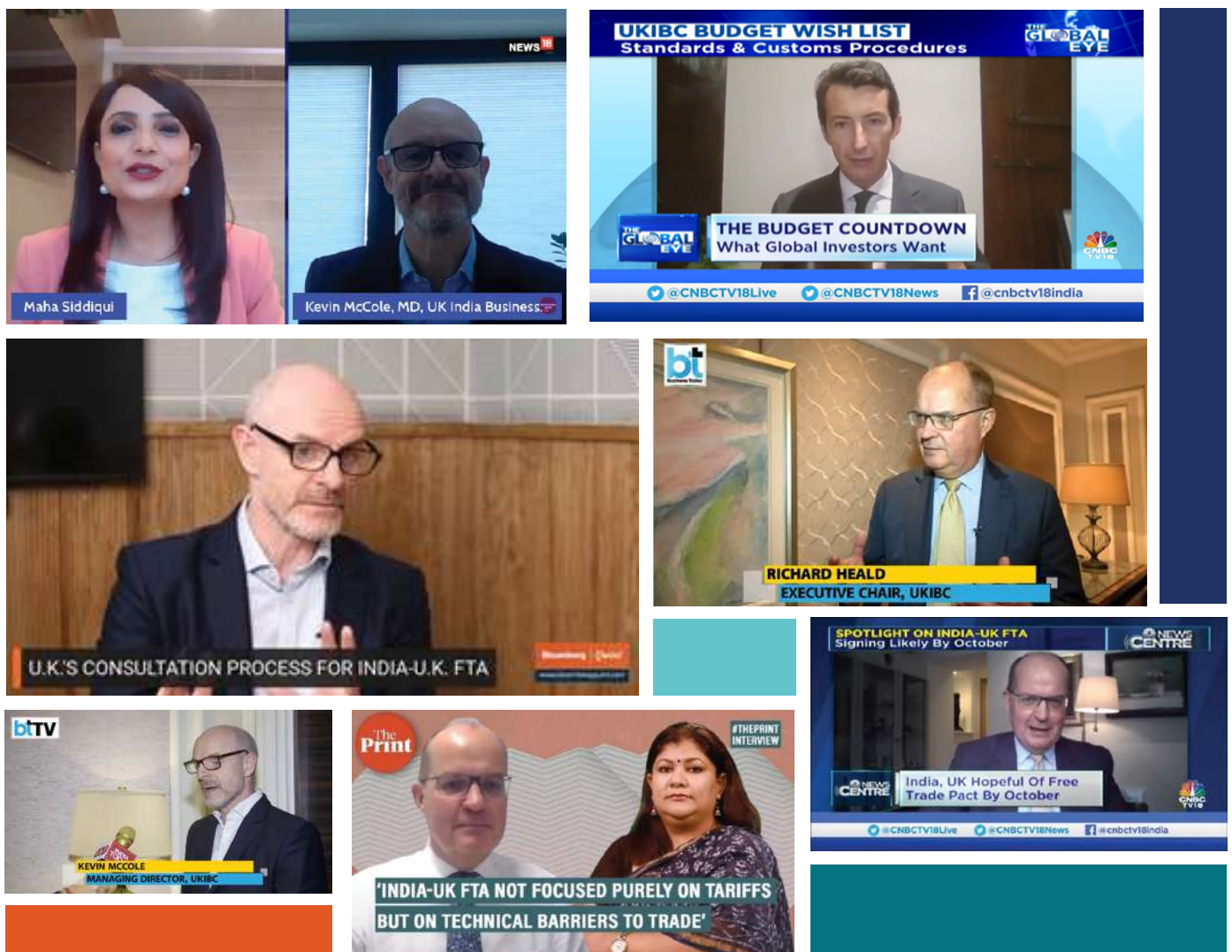
Doing Business in India: The UK Perspective (2022 Edition)

IN THE MEDIA

We regularly share our thought leadership and advocate on behalf of our members through articles, op-eds, and interviews in the media. In 2022, these varied from insights on the UK-India FTA negotiations and businesses' priorities, the Indian budget, Government bills and reforms, as well as the latest industry news and government announcements.

We also consistently communicate the latest industry and policy news and updates via social media to our audience of 16,000 followers on Twitter and more than 30,000 followers on LinkedIn.

Here's a snapshot of some of our coverage in the last year:



India-UK Aerospace & Defence Opportunities

THE PRINT



SNEHESH ALEX PHILIP
SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR
@SNEHESHPHILIP



RICHARD MCCALLUM
VICE CHAIR OF UKIBC

'Interim India-UK trade deal will eye win-win sectors'

With India and the UK gearing up for the third round of negotiations for an interim trade deal, **KEVIN MCCOLE**, Managing Director of UK India Business Council (UKIBC) hopes to see convergence on areas where there is agreement. In an interview with **Sheepa Nandi**, he says reduction in tariffs on auto components can result in more manufacturing investment in India, and if the UK were to reduce tariffs on Indian textiles, it could be a win-win. Edited excerpts:

What has been the progress so far and what can we expect from the next round of negotiations?
The negotiations have started with a great deal of pace and positivity. Following the launch on January 15, the first round of negotiations ran from January 17-26, the second from March 7-16. "Interim" discussions continued, and the next full round will be in April. No dust is being allowed to settle.

In the first round of talks in January, it was more or less getting to know each other and setting out high-level objectives. It was in the second round of follow-up where the negotiations started to get into the details. Particular sectors on the forefront are textiles, pharma and

IF THE UK WERE TO REDUCE TARIFFS ON INDIAN TEXTILES... IT WOULD GROW INDIAN EXPORTS TO THE UK, CREATE MORE JOBS IN INDIA, AND GIVE UK IMPORTERS GREATER CHOICE OF HIGH-QUALITY TEXTILE



KEVIN MCCOLE
MD, UK India Business Council

If there is to be an interim deal, in my view, it will be focused on areas delivering the most obvious win-win for both countries. For example, sectors that boost both UK exports to India, and boost investments in India. This could be in the automotive sector. If there was a reduction in tariffs on auto parts, more manufacturing investments will be made in India, more high-quality jobs will be created in India, the cost of cars will reduce, and India's auto exports will grow as they would be more competitively priced. Similarly, if the UK were to reduce tariff on Indian textiles, it could be win-win. It would grow Indian exports to the UK, create more jobs in India, and give UK importers greater choice of high-quality textiles at a lower cost.

What continues to remain the key areas from businesses in the UK?
Given the depth and breadth of the UK-India trade and investment relationship, there are a wide range of objectives. First, UK businesses would like to see a reduction in tariffs, including on alcoholic spirits, food, automotive, and in the health-care sector. Reducing non-tariff barriers to goods trade is also important. The third area is IP protection and alignment of data protection rules as to drive growth in the innovative, tech-rich, and digitally-driven future-focused industries in which the UK and India excel and which will increasingly drive expansion of UK-India and, indeed, global trade.

Finally, businesses would like to see an investment chapter that provides the additional comfort that would encourage even more UK companies to invest even more in India.

Adjustments to retrospective tax legislation last year has given a positive signal to investors. However, questions around arbitration remain.

For example, the model bilateral investment treaty stipulates that all domestic Indian legal channels have to be exhausted before companies go to international arbitration. This could cause legal issues for a number of years. Companies would want faster arbitration.

'Reducing import tariffs on inputs can help attract more investments from the UK'

Mutual recognition agreements can facilitate movement of professionals, says UKIBC MD



KEVIN MCCOLE
MD, UK India Business Council

of primary interest is not in doing. Tracker of data should be simple and single. UK can make adding the data. Small scale further initiatives in the area. India in the process of setting up own data protection rules, and India to move towards a single data protection framework.

"What is under appraisal in the fact that the proposed mutual recognition in important will also bring down cost for Indian exporters and make their products more competitive," McCole explained.

Alignment of standards
While both sides seek reduction in import duties on goods, the UK industry also wants a greater alignment of standards and reduction in non-tariff barriers such as ease in movement of goods through ports and alignment of data protection.

"We need the recommendations on data protection as it will be a key area for UK and India."

BWEDUCATION

Mutual Recognition Of Qualifications Will Pave Way For Bridge Of Skills



10 April 2022

India's Data Protection Laws Will be Critical in Attracting FDI and Pushing Digital Exports

Data flows will only continue to rise as more countries and sectors embrace digital transformation, while restrictive regulations could hinder growth and innovation.

KEVIN MCCOLE
MD, UK India Business Council

'Should not rush FTA talks with artificial deadline'

The two trade agreement FTAs between India and the UK will see the light of day sometime next year due to the pace of negotiations, the positive mini-set, political will and pragmatism of the two sides, UK India Business Council Managing Director **KEVIN MCCOLE** says in an interview. After that, India may start negotiations on an FTA with the European Union, he says. Edited excerpts:

With the Brexit deadline missed, when do you think the negotiations between India and the UK over the FTA would conclude?
There were a lot of discussions around Brexit with respect to what I feel could turn by then. But the two governments, in a joint statement, formally committed that they would aim to conclude the talks on a majority of areas by October end.

This has previously been accomplished with 14 of the 26 chapters closed. The UK government has been suggesting that does not want to sacrifice the quality of the deal. The UK businesses like that approach. The trade deal is a once-in-a-generation opportunity. So, it is important to take the right kind of time to conclude the deal comprehensively rather than rush through it with an artificial deadline.

With the UK facing recession, is there a greater need for the country to conclude the deal or will this delay the agreements on the deal?
I don't think the fact that the UK fears recession will affect the negotiations. The FTA is really there for medium- and long-term benefits, so negotiations working in the medium set by the governments will continue working with urgency to try and get the deal.

There are various contentious issues in the deal such as those revealed in the leaked chapter regarding patents over drugs. Do you think this could affect the deal with India, which focuses on its interests relating to goods trade?
I saw the leaked document a few weeks ago. I was not altogether happy when India's specialists dismissed it and did not recognise that document as one that was being discussed. I don't think that anything does not on intellectual property will be like what we've heard.

Tariff on whisky is another bone of contention between the two parties. Does it have the potential to sour the deal?
Tariffs on such whisky is one of the things that has been discussed. Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal last year expressed openness to relaxing tariff on Scotch whisky. This is important to recognise that the UK has lot more to offer than Scotch whisky and India has lot more to offer than skilled workers. They are an important but small part of the overall bilateral investment treaty relationship.

The India side, however, is not committing to labour and environment in the negotiations. Can this harm the deal?
I think there will be a deal, and there are less "ifs" why that will happen. The first two are "yes and positive", because negotiations have been working quickly with positive mind-set right from the beginning. The third is "will not" which both the governments are clear that they have to happen. (Indian prime minister Narendra Modi met last week in Delhi) and reconfirmed their commitment to making it happen. The fourth "is" a "pragmatism", both the governments want to focus on doing the agreements and not focus on the bones that can't be.

In India, there are central as well as state taxes (GST). Are these on alcohol. Do you think this adds complexity to the negotiations?
Central and complexity are easier for business in India. We have relaxed or explain annual reports "Doing Business in India". As many as 81 per cent of respondents said that it is getting easier to do business in India. Every year, there is a similar answer. It is quite encouraging. We also look at states where the real business activities. There, too, businesses are reflecting positively as to how usage requirements are responding.

With the India-Europe Union FTA in the stock on many contentious issues, what gives you hope that the India-UK deal will conclude faster?
I am very confident that there will be an India-UK FTA by some time next year. Then the Indian government will start negotiating with the EU as well.

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India-UK partnership is like the Modi-Johnson relationship. Underrated in geopolitics

The relationship between Modi and Johnson matters. As do government visions and objectives. In India, both are well-aligned.

KEVIN MCCOLE 29 April 2022 10:46 AM IST




INTERACTIONS

In 2022, we held 46 events, composed of 10 online webinars, 24 roundtables (a mixture of in-person and virtual), and 12 in-person receptions, seminars and dinners. Across these events we were joined by 1,768 attendees, a testament to the interest and importance of the bilateral relationship.

Our events enable businesses to network, gain intelligence and insights, and influence key stakeholders.



ADVOCATING FOR UK-INDIA COLLABORATION

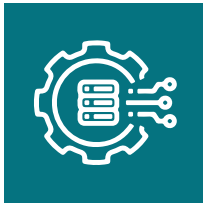
In the last twelve months, the UK-India relationship has taken a positive step change under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and Enhanced Trade Partnership. There is real political will in both the UK and in India to strengthen our countries' trade and investment relationship.

Just as the bilateral relationship is comprehensive, our policy and advocacy efforts are extensive, covering multiple sectors, from higher education to digital to aerospace and defence. Many of our successes are the result of years of advocacy work with stakeholders at all levels of Government in both the UK and India. This section presents a snapshot of some of the key advocacy activities, and wins, undertaken by the UKIBC in 2022 and our main objectives for 2023.

In all sectors, we work closely with our members, with both Governments, from central to regional and state, and with relevant stakeholders, including think tanks, non-government organisations, and trade bodies, towards these goals. These interactions take the form of formal submissions, roundtable discussions, and regular meetings.

The below activities will also be supported by evidence-based publications, op-eds and blogs to ensure our key messages resonate with relevant stakeholders and to reinforce our profile as thought leaders and representative of our members.





DIGITAL AND DATA SERVICES

The digital economy is a key pillar of any trade and investment relationship and especially for the UK and India - two of the world's leading digital service suppliers. Likewise, data is integral to all sectors and, as such, rules and regulations around the storage and transfer of data must keep in line with industry developments.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Digital and Data Services members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

To influence the Government of India's plans for Data Protection regulation in India, and to encourage more digital trade between the UK and India



More collaboration on AI, Cybersecurity, and International Standards alignment



Collaboration and knowledge sharing on digital transformation



In January, we curated a virtual session on the Joint Parliamentary Committee report on the Data Protection Bill, which was released in December 2021 after two years of deliberations. After the session, we engaged with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) and members of the Parliamentary Committee on the final report and the framework on non-personal data.

In March, along with leading think tank, The Dialogue, we brought out a report on harmonising the UK-India Data Protection Regime that was submitted to key Government stakeholders in India. In the report, we highlighted the importance of having an interoperable and harmonised data protection regime for India and the UK in order to facilitate the free flow of data and wider digital trade between our countries.

In May 2022, together with NASSCOM and techUK, we published a further joint position paper on enabling data transfers between India and the UK to deepen the digital trade relationship. The report aims to promote data protection in both countries while enabling free flow of data between our countries.

In the same month, we also hosted a joint event with techUK on the opportunities presented by the UK-India Enhanced Trade Partnership for the digital and data services sector, including opportunities that could flow from the FTA. A submission, drawing on this joint event, was shared with UK's Department of International Trade (DIT).

In September, we hosted a webinar on Digital Assets and the Crypto landscape in India with experts from two of our member companies - Business Law Chamber and FTI Consulting. The session delved into the current regulatory landscape as well as the benefits in adoption of blockchain technologies across a range of use-cases.

Given reservations our members had on India's draft Data Protection Bill, its withdrawal in August was welcomed. We were pleased to note that the new draft, released in November, contained provisions we had been advocating for during 2022 and excluded some provisions from the previous Bill with which we had concerns. It was also good to see in the new draft Bill mechanisms that could allow the UK and India to collaborate on cross border data flows, which we hope offer scope for the FTA to be more ambitious when it comes to digital and data services collaboration. We will build on this advocacy win in 2023, through our ongoing advocacy for provisions that support core features of a thriving international digital environment – cross-border data transfers, personal information protection, mechanisms to promote interoperability among privacy law frameworks, transparent access to government information, and consumer protection and choice online.

CONTINUING IN 2023

We are continuing to work towards an enabling regulatory environment that will benefit both countries' digital sectors and the wider economy. Our advocacy efforts will involve strengthening engagement with our members and key government stakeholders such as Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), Niti Aayog, Department of Science and Technology (DST), as well as key States and partner organisations across think tanks and other industry bodies.

Our key objectives are as follows:

1. Advocating for a policy environment that supports cross-border data flows while maintaining adequate data protection standards

In 2023, India is expected to set key regulatory developments that can lend greater clarity on the 'Digital India' push, including a new Personal Data Protection Bill, Digital India Act and a new Telecom Bill.

To ensure these frameworks promote innovation and support business needs, we will strengthen our engagement and dialogues with key stakeholders, both within Government and policy influencers/think tanks. With the expected finalisation of UK-India FTA in 2023, we will advocate for the widest possible ambit of digital trade cooperation between our countries and an enabling environment for a bilateral data adequacy arrangement.

Our proposed engagements and submissions will cover the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022; Digital India Act consultations; and the rules pertaining to the Telecom Bill. We will also hold interactive sessions with governmental stakeholders and our Sector Advocacy Group on opportunities and challenges for collaboration on India's digital economy agenda in 2023..

2. Driving deeper collaboration with India's G-20 Presidency priorities in 2023 (such as digital public goods, tech innovation, R&D)

As Presidency of the G 20, India there is an opportunity to engage with both policymakers and influencers on progressive sectors such as IP, cyber security, fintech, R&D. Accordingly, through roundtables and dialogues we endeavour to understand and explore strengthening of capacities and investments around digital public infrastructure.

As well as our specific focus on the digital sector, such is the pervasiveness of digital technology, we will engage across sectors, for example, Higher Education and Financial Services, to ensure that our members, across sectors, are able to understand and influence the policy environment impacting their digital and data activities. For example, engaging with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) on the open access, R&D/innovation related policies.

If you are interested in finding out more on our Digital Economy and Data services work, get in touch with our sector lead, Subhodeep Jash at Subhodeep.jash@ukibc.com.



FOOD AND DRINK

2022 was a productive and positive year for Food and Drink businesses in the UK-India corridor. There was significant focus on and enthusiasm for ongoing FTA negotiations and, of course, the UKIBC's wider advocacy activity, which included standards, labeling and customs/border approvals.

In 2022 we made progress in these areas, and we will continue to build on that progress in the coming twelve months to push for reforms that make it easier to do business and open new, large opportunities for businesses.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Food and Drink members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

To secure a reduction of the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) and the Agricultural and Infrastructure Development Cess



Secure ease of doing business improvements across priority States



To make the case of the removal of the No Objection Certificate requirements at Indian Ports



Throughout 2022, we engaged with UK and Indian industry players, government officials from both countries, and other influencers on the UK-India FTA negotiations which is the route to securing a reduction in the combined 150% tariff applied via the BCD and Agricultural and Development CESS.

Key advocacy wins for our members included establishing greater clarity for the nutraceutical sector, which was a long pending ask from international businesses including those from the UK. Our efforts resulted in the Government of India publishing directives for a new framework to bring more clarity to the sector in March.

In April, UKIBC earned a further advocacy win when the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued an order defining the sample size of highly priced, imported alcoholic beverages. The UKIBC, jointly with other neutral stakeholders, liaised with FSSAI on the issue. The Government order includes directives to carry out the necessary analysis on samples of 100ml, thereby saving producers who had previously used larger samples at greater cost.

In May, UKIBC collaborated with Forum of Indian Food Importers on a delegation to the North East Food Show in Meghalaya. There, we raised issues pertaining to Ease of Doing Business with the Chief Minister of the State.

The UKIBC has been liaising with the FSSAI on concerns UK businesses had about delays in securing consignment clearance at Indian ports of entry due to delayed laboratory test reports. In July, the FSSAI directed the authorised laboratory to provide the analysis report within five days from the date of receipt of the sample. FSSAI also mandated that if the sample cannot be tested by the laboratory within the specified time, it shall state the reasons in writing to the Authorised Officer.

We are continuing to work towards an enabling regulatory environment that will benefit both countries' digital sectors and the wider economy. Our advocacy efforts will involve strengthening engagement with our members and key government stakeholders such as Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), Niti Aayog, Department of Science and Technology (DST), as well as key States and partner organisations across think tanks and other industry bodies.

FSSAI published a draft notification in September mandating a nutritional rating for a number of goods to be sold in India, including those imported. UKIBC's engagement with the FSSAI and other stakeholders resulted in an exemption being secured for alcoholic beverages.

In October, FSSAI issued an advisory facilitating the advance processing of the Bill of Entry in the Food Import Clearance System, following UKIBC engagement with FSSAI and Forum of Indian Food Importers (FIFI) on behalf of members experiencing challenges related to consignment clearance at the ports of entry. The advisory helps to lower the import time and the cost of demurrage.

In the Scotch Whisky sector, bottled and bulk spirits had been tested on the same parameters despite the difference in the product. As a result of UKIBC advocacy, the FSSAI issued a clarification that simplified the process and facilitated reduced import friction.

In November we achieved our final advocacy win of the year with a direction issued by FSSAI permitting the rectification of labels to be carried out by affixing a single non-detachable sticker or by any other non-detachable method within the confines of a Customs bonded warehouse before visual inspection, or re-inspection.

CONTINUING IN 2023

The UKIBC will continue to advance the interests of our food and drink members and clients in 2023.

Our key objectives are as follows:

- 1. We will continue to advocate for the reduction of the Basic Customs Duty and the Agricultural and Infrastructure Development Cess in the UK-India FTA negotiations**
- 2. We will highlight the role that food and drink businesses play in helping India achieve its Sustainable Development Goals.**
- 3. The UKIBC will sustain our focus on ease of doing business and market access issues through engagement at the federal and State levels**

To achieve this, the UKIBC will continue to engage with governments and industry in both countries, including on the FTA and the broader Enhanced Trade Partnership. We will continue to work with our partners at DIT, DPIIT, FSSAI, FIFI, UNDP, Invest India, and others. Together, we share the common goal of improving the business environment, increasing trade and investment, and contributing to the UK and India's growth stories.

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved with our food and drink work, get in touch with our sector lead, Shubhi Mishra, at shubhi.mishra@ukibc.com.



HIGHER EDUCATION

2022 has been a remarkable year for the Higher Education sector between India and the UK. We are proud and delighted to announce that UKIBC has successfully achieved 3 key advocacy wins this year for our members.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Higher Education members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

Finalisation of the draft UGC policy on dual degrees



Ensure that UK universities 'Beyond the Top 100' are allowed to operate in India



Mutual Recognition of Qualifications (MRQ)



Online degrees and transnational education (TNE) offered by foreign universities are permitted in India



The first of these wins was the finalisation of the UGC Regulations around Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programmes in May 2022 to enable academic collaborations and institutional partnerships between India and foreign Higher Education Institutions. We had advocated for this reform since the draft regulations were first announced in early 2021 and were pleased to see our efforts paid off to enhance opportunities for UK universities to engage more meaningfully with the Indian HE sector.

Our second advocacy win was the making the case for India to allow participation of foreign institutions beyond the top 100 globally ranked. The UGC regulations allow dual degrees and twinning programmes for foreign institutions ranked in the top 1,000 in the Times Higher Education or QS World University rankings. This means that more than 80 UK universities are now eligible to participate through this route.

Relatedly, the Union Budget 2022 opened up a new route (unencumbered by domestic regulations) for world-class foreign universities and reputed foreign higher education institutions (HEIs) to have a presence in GIFT City in Gujarat. In October 2022, this regulation was amended further to permit Top 500 QS ranked foreign universities and reputed foreign HEIs to establish International Branch Campuses in GIFT IFSC.

Our biggest win of the year was the signing of the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications (MRQ) MoU between the UK and Indian Governments which took place in July 2022. The MRQ means that A-levels (and their equivalents), undergraduate and postgraduate degrees will now be recognised in India. It will allow Indian students who graduate from UK universities to apply for postgraduate qualifications, or embark on government careers that require university qualifications, when they return home to India, as well as helping employers to find suitable graduates for work. The UKIBC has been actively advocating for this reform for several years, including in our 2019 UKIBC report, [‘Higher Education Collaboration: Futureproofing the UK India Partnership’](#), a UKIBC delegation to India that met the Minister of State for Human Resource Development, and a subsequent MRQ submission to the MHRD.

We also made progress on our goal for permissibility of online degrees in India. In March, UKIBC met with the Joint Secretary at the Distance Education Bureau, University Grants Commission in New Delhi to discuss the scope and way forward for online learning in India following progress in 2021 that allow 40 percent of online learning content to be sourced internationally. We also hosted a virtual roundtable in collaboration with Pearson to engage with eminent panellists both from industry and academia on industry relevant skills, online learning and global partnerships. The insights from the roundtable were incorporated into the whitepaper titled [‘Supporting India’s Higher Education Sector Transformation’](#) that was officially launched in May. Online learning has continued to be raised with relevant stakeholders throughout the year.

University Social Responsibility (USR)

The USR Consortium pioneered by the University of East Anglia’s India Dialogue and the UKIBC in close association with the University of Hyderabad’s Centre for e-Learning completed its first year. The USR Consortium will continue to build on the partnership priority aligned to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals with the purpose of articulating, defining, and committing to socially responsible ways and actions for universities. Three sub-groups, namely ‘Health and Wellbeing’, ‘Equity and Social Justice’, and ‘Social Responsibility Policy’, have been launched and are already providing a forum for shared discussions on themes such as anti-microbial resistance (AMR), digital higher education and social responsibility metrics.

CONTINUING IN 2023

We will continue to build on the great progress in the last twelve months to expand opportunities for UK and Indian higher education institutions to collaborate and benefit students, employers, universities and wider society.

Our key objectives are as follows:

1. Online degrees and transnational education (TNE) offered by UK universities to be permitted and recognised in India.

The increasing surge in demand for online learning (including for online degrees) accelerated by the pandemic is a huge opportunity to meet India's ambitious Gross Enrolment Ratio target of 50 per cent by 2035. Digital technology has been transformational for many areas of the economy, from banking to healthcare. Effective digital delivery will be able to transform the Indian higher education landscape too, address capacity issues, and meet the expanding future student demand from all strata of society.

UK Higher Education institutions are perfectly placed to address this demand gap and deliver high quality degrees to a much larger student base in a much more flexible and affordable setting. UK HEIs have longstanding experience of online degree delivery and assessment. During the pandemic, they transformed their systems and introduced pioneering innovative solutions to deliver the best digital education experience to their students across the globe. Enabling UK HEIs to collaborate with Indian institutions to build capacity and to provide their online degrees across education and research will help to bring more excellent learning opportunities to more Indians, share research and develop skills.

2. Supporting the movement of students and graduates between the UK and India.

This is in response to the recent speculation that the UK Government may consider restricting international student numbers as a means of controlling net migration. International students are critical to the academic and research strength of the sector and essential to universities' financial health. International students contribute an estimated net positive contribution of £26 billion per year to the UK economy, creating jobs and supporting growth in cities and towns across the country. The UK needs a consistent student visa policy that enables managed growth in international student recruitment.

To these ends, we will continue to engage and partner with relevant UK and Indian government authorities such as the Distance Education Bureau, the University Grants Commission, Association of Indian Universities, NITI Aayog, the Departments for International Trade and Education, as well as our partners at UUKi and the Russell Group.

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved with our Higher Education work, get in touch with our sector lead, Tara Panjwani, at tara.panjwani@ukibc.com.



LEGAL, PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Legal, professional and financial services is a crucial sector in the UK and India; strong in its own right, with thousands employed in the sector in both countries, and important to the functioning of other sectors and the wider economy. Under the financial services umbrella, we cover a broad spectrum including, but not limited to, banks and insurance, and in the professional services sector areas such as legal services and accountancy. With the UK and India both possessing strong service sectors, there is room for further development of cross border trade flows by advocating for constructive reforms to support the sector in both countries.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Legal, Professional and Financial Services members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

Priority Sector Lending to Sustainable Finance



Tax Parity between domestic and foreign companies



Mutual recognition of professional qualifications which allow professionals to practice in another jurisdiction



Throughout our advocacy efforts towards the UK-India FTA (including our pre-FTA submission in 2021 and in our continuous engagement with both Governments since the FTA negotiations launched in January 2022) we have raised important issues with both Governments on priority sector lending, tax parity, mutual recognition of qualifications, and the insurance sector's order of preference challenges.

ICorporate tax rates disparity between foreign and domestic companies has been an ongoing issue, particularly for international banks with branches in India. The UKIBC raised this concern on behalf of our members in our pre-FTA submission to both Governments in 2021 and has continued to make this case in 2022. We also submitted a Revenue Impact White Paper based on analysis of the effects of this recommendation to IRDAI in January and on the benefits of corporate income tax parity for foreign companies in the sector. We further recommended removal of this disparity in our submissions to the Government of India on the ease of doing business in September.

In these submissions, we also advocated for the widening of Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines, which are issued by the Reserve Bank of India with the objective of infusing funds into weaker sections of society in order to promote the overall economic, social, and environmental welfare of the economy and its people. The key sectors include agriculture, micro, small and medium enterprises, education, housing, social infrastructure, and renewable energy. Foreign banks support the motivation behind PSL guidelines but would like to see changes that would allow banks to stimulate and support growth in sectors where they have greatest expertise. We have made this case to the RBI and across the GoI, including for a higher proportion to be deployed in renewable energy or sustainability, both areas where UK banks have globally competitive strengths that could be leveraged in India.

We saw progress on mutual recognition of qualifications as our Governments signed an MRQ for A-levels (and their equivalents), undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in July 2022, with the UKIBC having advocated for this for several years via reports, submissions and meetings with relevant stakeholders. We have since made the case for expanding the MRQ to include professional qualifications and continue to make this case moving into 2023.

In the insurance sector, we have continued discussions with relevant stakeholders such as the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority and the Department of Financial Services on the importance of digitising the sector and promoting the creation of a “single point of trust” data portal to reduce insurance fraud and allow for better insurance pricing.

CONTINUING IN 2023

This year we will continue to work with our members and relevant stakeholders to enhance cross border flows and collaboration in the legal, professional and financial services sector. These stakeholders include the Ministry of Finance, Reserve Bank of India, Securities Exchange Board of India, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, and the National Investment & Infrastructure Fund.

Our activities will include a mix of roundtables, submissions (including on the Indian Budget), and business interactions with governments and regulators.

Our key objectives are as follows:

- 1. Priority Sector Lending to Sustainable Finance**
- 2. Tax Parity between domestic and foreign companies**
- 3. Removal of Order of Preference to provide a level playing field for all onshore companies in the reinsurance sector**

As the Government of India’s draft Personal Data Protection Bill will impact businesses across sectors, not least legal, financial and professional services, see our Digital and Data Services section too.

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved with the legal, professional and financial services sector, get in touch with our sector lead Nisha Karavadra-Diwan at Nisha.Karavadra-Diwan@ukibc.com.



SPORTS AND GAMING

Following the 2018 Law Commission recommendation to introduce clear and intuitive central regulation in the sports betting and online gaming sector in India, the UKIBC has been working with key UK companies to support them into the India market.

In 2022, we launched our research report Gaming for Growth which included intelligence and insights on India's sports betting and gaming market and the opportunities for the country to benefit from the sector's growth. The report also sets-out clear recommendations to develop India's regulations and application of GST in the sector.

We have successfully hosted a number of roundtables and conversations with state governments to make these recommendations directly, as well as providing strategic intelligence to our members on a regular basis.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Sports and Gaming members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

Standardisation of rules on games of skill



Regulation of the sports betting and gaming market



Review of GST levels on sports betting and how this is levied



Significant progress has been made towards standardisation of rules on games of skill and regulation of the sector, with the Central Government asking the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to look into the regulation of games of skill. This was one of the recommendations in our Gaming for Growth report, released in April, which showed the lack of clarity of what constitutes a game of skill versus a game a chance.

The application of GST on gaming is very difficult without a clear definition set by the Government of India on what constitutes a game of skill. We hope the creation of a Group of Ministers to look at this, as well as the overview from MeitY, will help to create a much clearer policy landscape for wider regulation of the sports betting and gaming market. While progress is slowly being made in line with the Law Commission's recommendations for the legalisation and regulation of sports betting and gambling, there is still a significant disparity between India's states on these issues. Some have adopted open licence systems and others have banned all forms of gaming of both skill and chance. We have consistently made the case for a guiding framework by the Central Government that affords states some freedom but brings those with open license systems closer in line to encourage consistency. The review of the games of skill by MeitY is a big step in the right direction and we anticipate that this could lead to a national framework being prepared.

Lastly, in our Gaming for Growth report, and related discussion with stakeholders, we made the case that GST should be levied based on gross gaming revenue (i.e. the total gross takings less the cash payouts to winners) by the operator of the game for a tax period and should not be levied on the gross collections or on face value, as per the current regime. Such an application would support employment opportunities within the semi-skilled sectors, multiply revenue earnings for the government, and be consistent with global best practice.

The creation of a Group of Ministers in 2021 to review this matter was a positive step. However, after delaying a decision on valuation and incidence of GST on gaming by the Group of Ministers' several times, advice received in 2022 from the Law Committee of the Good and Services Tax Council has stated that the definition of what is tantamount to gaming needs to be cleared up at central level in order for them to decide on the valuation and incidence of GST on gaming. This is likely to mean a delay in the Group's recommendations, as they wait for a detailed central framework and definitions, or they may rework the interim report and make these classifications themselves.

CONTINUING IN 2023

It is clear that both the unregulated and regulated gaming sector in India will continue to grow significantly. There are therefore strong reasons to work towards this growth taking place under regulations.

Our strategy for 2023 will expand from State-based interactions to also engage at the Central level as key ministries, such as Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, look to review sports betting advertising as well as regulation of games of skill.

Our objectives in 2023 remain:

- 1. Standardisation of rules on games of skill**
- 2. Regulation of the Sports betting market**
- 3. Review of GST levels on sports betting and how this is levied**

We will continue to draw on our Gaming for Growth report findings and refresh the report in early 2023 to make our case. At the same time, we will highlight how the introduction of regulation will support the Government of India's development agenda, through ongoing discussions with Central Ministries, state based round tables, and sector advocacy meetings. Our approach will include initiating information exchanges with policy groups, sports administrators, the media, the Government of India, State Governments and parliamentarians across India.

If you would like to hear more about our sports and gaming sector advocacy group's plans for 2023, get in touch with our sector lead, Chris Heyes, at chris.heyес@ukibc.com.



AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE

Now is a critical time for the bilateral defence industrial relationship with powerful drivers on both sides. India is focused on securing a reliable supply of modern capability as it modernises its forces; reducing defence equipment imports to reduce capital spending; and stimulating its domestic manufacturing industry to create more jobs. Our Aerospace and Defence Industry Group (ADIG) supports this positive momentum in the UK-India defence partnership. It seeks to enhance UK-India strategic cooperation, drive improvements and efficiency in India's defence acquisition process and to foster longer term technology and hardware transfers between the UK and India.

Here's a look back at our 2022 achievements against the goals we set out at the beginning of the year on behalf of our Aerospace and Defence members:

OUR KEY ADVOCACY GOALS IN 2022

Advocate for reform in the Indigenisation Content of Procurement categories of DAP 2020



Reform of the Strategic Partnership model and the Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured procurement categories of the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020



Advocate for reform in offset contracts, across a range of issues principally related to discharging offset obligations



Enhanced limits and streamlined rules for FDI in defence manufacturing



In April, we co-hosted a UK-India Defence Industry Roundtable with our partners Defence and Security Exports (part of Department for International Trade) during the visit of UK Minister for Defence Procurement, Jeremy Quin. The meeting explored policy frameworks for partnerships for 'Make' programmes in India, and the co-creation of new technology in India. We were joined by British High Commissioner to India, Alex Ellis CMG, and Joint Secretary DIP, Indian Ministry of Defence, Anurag Bajpai. Members of UKIBC's Aerospace and Defence Industry Group discussed how to co-create new technologies through R&D collaboration; the promotion of supply chain indigenisation; refining procurement categories for Make I / II in India; and the pursuit of successful joint ventures.

In May, we held a meeting with Tata Advanced Systems and L&T Defence to explore collaboration with UK industry. While HMG and British Industry are keen to work closely with India on its defence requirements, we are working to build stronger links between UK and Indian industry to make this a reality.

Our Aerospace and Defence Industry Group regularly get together to share insights and experiences. We host a biannual reception in addition to these regular meetings and engagements. This year's reception was hosted by Martin Baker Ltd in July.

During our ADIG in October, Mark Goldsack CBE and Frank Clifford OBE outlined their priorities for India and the importance of UKIBC / ADIG as the industry forum within Team UK in India. Later in October we engaged with the Chairman of Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd (AVNL – one of India's largest armoured vehicles PSUs) regarding collaboration between UK industry and AVNL. Following the meeting, UKIBC has a clearer sense of areas of potential collaboration between UK firms and AVNL and is working to introduce UK technology providers to AVNL.

Finally, the UKIBC brought our Aerospace & Defence Industry Group (ADIG) members to Gujarat for DefExpo in October, where we hosted a series of roundtables, workshops, and exhibitions to explore collaboration opportunities for UK and India defence sector businesses.

This included a 'UK India Defence and Global Supply Chain Workshop: Manufacturing in India for the Armed forces and Global Export' with our partners UK DSE and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM). SIDM and UKIBC also held our first Joint Working Group to enhance Defence Industrial Collaboration, which was attended by the head of UK DSE and the British High Commissioner.

During DefExpo we launched reports with KPMG India on India-UK Aerospace & Defence opportunities and Network Centric Operations, and signed an MoU on behalf of ADIG with the Indian Institute of Technology Ropar to encourage R&D and skills in Aerospace & Defence.

CONTINUING IN 2023

Indigenising defence equipment manufacturing in India is perfectly sensible, but it cannot happen overnight and it requires foreign technology at the outset. Bold improvements and reform of India's procurement framework would unlock investment into India, which in turn would create manufacturing jobs; technology collaboration between UK and Indian business; and a reliable supply of modern capability for India's forces.

In 2023, UKIBC will advocate for reforms which make it easier for foreign defence companies to invest in India, which in turn will help India's domestic manufacturing acquire new technologies, and ultimately provide India's forces with the equipment they need for modernisation.

Our key objectives are as follows:

1. To advocate for reform in Indigenisation Content of Procurement categories of DAP 2020

One of the aims of DAP 2020 is to further promote indigenous design capacity and higher localisation, both of which, if implemented effectively, could potentially increase the role of domestic industry, especially the private sector, in defence production. Under 'Indian Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured' (Indian-IDDM), any order will require at least 50% indigenous content. We will continue to engage with the Indian MOD to get clarity on how foreign OEMs can participate in the Indian market in compliance with Atamirbhar Bharat (India's self-reliant goal).

2. Reform of the Strategic Partnership model and the Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured procurement categories of the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020

Under the provisions of DAP 2020, Indian companies with foreign investment exceeding 49% are not eligible to participate in the Strategic Partnership Model which the MoD intends to adopt for manufacturing of aircraft, helicopters, submarines, and armoured fighting vehicles in India. Similar restrictions apply for the IDDM procurement category, and the government funded 'Make I' projects. We are advocating that the government allow foreign investment exceeding 74% into the joint venture entity with which an OEM intends to enter a strategic partnership. This will give UK (and other foreign) OEMs more confidence about participating in the market, it will mean the FDI and SPM are in sync, which will yield higher levels of investment and technology infusion onto the market, it will ensure India gets the best quality available and most economical equipment solution for its forces, and it will support India's indigenisation ambitions in the long run.

3. Advocate for reform in offset contracts, across a range of issues principally related to discharging offset obligations

Once a foreign OEM finds an Indian Offsets Partner, they can only change that partner with the approval of the Secretary of Defence Production and the process typically takes two years to be implemented – of concern to foreign OEMs entering India. Reforming the offset regime so that it is more responsive to the needs of business would make it easier for firms to discharge their offset obligations, which is good for the domestic manufacturing sector. This will give UK (and other foreign) OEMs more confidence about participating in the market, which will yield higher levels of investment and technology infusion onto the market, and it will ensure India gets the best quality available and most economical equipment solution for its forces.

4. Enhanced limits and streamlined rules for FDI in defence manufacturing

As a part of 2020 policy reforms, the prevailing limit of 49% FDI through the automatic route in the defence manufacturing sector was raised to 74%. This increase in FDI limit however comes with a stringent stipulation that all new investments will be subject to scrutiny on grounds of 'national security'. Making the FDI route genuinely automatic by removing the need for fresh investment to be GoI approved on national security grounds will increase a UK firm's level of comfort and appetite for investment in India, by allowing them total control of the subsidiary and negates concerns on intellectual property. Going further, we ultimately advocate for 100% automatic route FDI in the defence sector. This will significantly boost investment in India by foreign OEMs and remove their current concerns regarding IPR transfer under various DAP 2020 categories of procurement'. Going further, we ultimately advocate for 100% automatic route FDI in the defence sector. This will significantly boost investment in India by foreign OEMs and remove their current concerns regarding IPR transfer under various DAP 2020 categories of procurement'.

Alongside this, we conduct quarterly ADIG Meetings with UKIBC members, which are also attended by UK DSC, UK DSE, ADS and members of the High Commission in New Delhi. In between full meetings we hold Steering Committee meetings, which are attended by HMG, UKIBC and three founding members of the group (Rolls Royce, BAE Systems, MBDA Systems). These meetings serve as a platform to both receive feedback and share and debate potential advocacy strategies.

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved with our Aerospace and Defence group, get in touch with our specialist, Commodore Bunty Sethi at bunty.sethi@ukibc.com.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

The UKIBC's Socio-Economic Impact (SEI) initiative promotes sustainable and inclusive development in the UK and India. Working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), we showcase to top Government figures, decision makers and influencers the great work that UK companies are doing in India to improve social and economic development, aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In March 2022, we released our second SEI focused report: [Supporting India's Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of UK Businesses in India](#) on a webinar with NITI Aayog Advisor, Sanyukta Samaddar, UNDP India Deputy Resident Representative, Dennis Curry, and a group of UK businesses with deep investments in India. As well as highlighting the contribution of UK businesses in India relative to the SDGs, the report outlines the opportunities for businesses to do more to contribute to India's SDGs agenda by bringing light to the challenges that prevent such action, as well as examining and comparing India's needs and the UK's strengths.

The report launch followed our SEI forum in November 2021, in which we convened business, government and wider stakeholders at an event at the British High Commissioner's Residence in New Delhi.

We continued to highlight the benefits that trade and investment bring for sustainable development via blogs, opeds, and social media campaigns throughout the year, and raised the positive influence and impact that UK businesses are having at meetings with various stakeholders in the Indian Government, including a roundtable with DPIIT.

CONTINUING INTO 2023

As well as supporting and showcasing our members' and clients' sustainable development initiatives through online case studies, blogs and opeds, the UKIBC will produce our third SEI report in 2023 and continue to engage with both Governments on the important contribution of businesses to the sustainable development goals.

You can follow these developments on UKIBC's dedicated Socio-Economic Impact website at:

<https://www.ukibc.com/socio-economic-impact/>.

If you are interested in finding out more or becoming involved with our socio-economic impact work, get in touch with our specialist, Kealan Finnegan at kealan.finnegan@ukibc.com.



MEMBERSHIP

As a member of the UK India Business Council, you participate in the leading network in the UK-India corridor and are at the heart of the business and government dialogues shaping the future trade and investment relationship.

The UKIBC team can add value to your business: our dedicated account managers are sector specialists with a deep understanding of your industry and the business and cultural environment in India and the UK; we have policy experts with know-how in political matters and regulatory issues; and our leadership team have experience, knowledge and connections to help your business succeed. We will also build a strong relationship with you and your team to understand your business and ensure you maximise your membership.

UK India Business Council members benefit from:

- **Influence with governments through our policy advocacy work, including our Sector Advocacy Groups.**
- **Interactions with networks of other senior business leaders and political figures at our exclusive roundtables, dinners, conclaves and other membership events.**
- **Intelligence from, and profile within, UKIBC reports, interactions, and our other sources.**

Membership also gives you access to our Sector Advocacy Groups. These groups combined with our events and programme generate insightful intelligence for our members, as well as bespoke access to likeminded businesses, speakers, contacts and content.

You can join and upgrade across three levels of membership: Corporate, Corporate Plus, and Strategic Partner.

Interested in exploring how membership can deliver your business success? Contact Chris Heyes at chris.heyес@ukibc.com.

ABOUT UKIBC

The UKIBC is an advocacy and strategic advisory organisation with a mission to grow UK-India trade and investment and support business success. Structured as a not-for-profit organisation, we are independent, and business-led, with unique networks in the Indian and UK public and private sectors.

Being business-led, we ask our members – UK and Indian businesses – what their advocacy needs are and advocate for them at all levels of Government in both countries.

We believe that success, for businesses and for governments, is rooted in continuous G2G and B2G interaction. Thanks to our connections, the UKIBC ensures that the needs of business are incorporated to help advance the UK-India bilateral relationship.

If you are interested in UKIBC working for you, you may visit our website www.ukibc.com to find out more about the range of services provided, as well as access to reports and white papers and much more.

WHO ARE WE?

The UK India Business Council is a strategic advisory and policy advocacy organisation with a mission to support businesses with the insights, networks, policy advocacy, services, and facilities needed to succeed in the UK and India. We believe passionately that the UK-India partnership creates jobs and growth in both countries, and that UK and Indian businesses have ideas, technology, services and products that can succeed in India and the UK respectively.

AUTHORS

Kevin McCole

Managing Director

Kealan Finnegan

Policy and Advocacy Manager

GET IN TOUCH

UK INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL LONDON

25 Wilton Road,
London SW1V 1LW, UK
enquiries@ukibc.com
Tel: +44 (0)20 7592 3040

UK INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL GURUGRAM

WeWork, DLF Forum, Cyber City,
Phase III, Sector 24,
Gurugram 122002,
Delhi-NCR
enquiries@ukibc.com
Tel: +91 (0) 124 502 6059

WEBSITE

www.ukibc.com