

techUK and NASSCOM sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on tech skills and development

techUK and NASSCOM (the leading technology trade bodies in the UK and India respectively) launched the **UK-India Tech Alliance** and agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which will see the technology sectors from the UK and India further strengthen their relationship. The partnership between techUK and NASSCOM will support the flourishing IT sectors in both India and UK by developing stronger links, networks and joint platforms, helping enhance the skills of the technology workforce in both countries.

The trade associations signed the MoU at the inaugural meeting of the UK-India Tech Alliance, in the presence of Baroness Fairhead CBE, Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion. With the support of both Governments, the Alliance is aimed at increasing collaboration on skills and new technologies, assist in policy development and encourage innovation. This meeting will lay the groundwork for a roadmap which will be jointly presented in June.

The new partnership between the UK and Indian tech industries will promote the growth of skills needed for a world where artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data analytics and cybersecurity will be major technology growth areas.

The MOU commits the two organisations to:

- Exchange knowledge and learn lessons from the FutureSkills initiative launched by NASSCOM
- Explore the expansion of the FutureSkills platform to ensure Indian and British citizens are best placed to seize the opportunities future jobs will present
- Work together to strengthen people-to-people and business-to-business links between India and the UK
- Explore wider partnership to develop digital skills in both countries and encourage Indian companies active in the UK to deliver digital skills training opportunities as part of the cross-sector Digital Skills Partnership convened by the UK Government.