

**PRESS RELEASE**

**National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK launches its Northern Ireland country chapter**

National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK, the apex organisation representing students, alumni and young professionals of Indian origin in the U.K, launched its Northern Ireland country chapter on Wednesday, 7th December 2016.

NISAU Northern Ireland has been formally launched by the Right Honourable, the Lord Mayor Alderman Brian Kingston, alongside the annual British Council International Education Marketing conference, at the iconic Belfast City Hall.

Launching the Northern Irish wing of NISAU, the Lord Mayor commented "This evening we have launched at this British Council event the Northern Ireland chapter of the National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK. This provides for students and alumni of Indian origin who are studying and living in the UK. I am delighted to mark this occasion and we wish all involved in this project every on-going success".

Sanam Arora, President of the NISAU commented ". Today is a very special day for us. With Northern Ireland, we have reached complete geographical coverage of all the four countries in the U.K, and have over 25 university societies affiliated with us. It is incredible that we have managed to achieve this feat in just 4 years of existence, and is testimony both to the passion of our team and the support of our local communities, patrons and governments. I am pretty emotional today!"

Aakarsha Khosla, Regional Head of NISAU for Northern Ireland expressed delight over the phenomenal opportunities brought by the launch of NISAU in Northern Ireland. "I have been following the activities of NISAU for a while and always desired to bring Northern Ireland on the national platform created by the NISAU. With this now in place Indian students and youth across NI have the opportunity to further engage with the rest of the UK. Further this gives us the much-needed direct line access to the Indian and U.K. Governments that can help us truly participate in policy making initiatives in both countries. We are absolutely thrilled to be launching NISAU Northern Ireland, it's a very special day for us".

Richard Everitt, Director Education, British Council India commented: "Indian students have been studying in the UK for over 100 years, and 160,000 over the last decade. Northern Ireland continues to be popular destination for Indian students and the latest UKVI data show a 6% increase in Indian student visas issued to UK Universities in Q3 2016, compared to the same period last year, which is a very welcome indicator."

Ends.

Notes to editors

About National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK

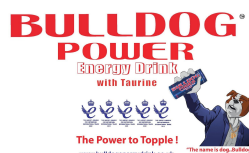
The National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK is an umbrella organisation representing the UK university students & alumni of Indian heritage. NISAU was created to provide a unifying voice for students with Indian heritage (whether home-grown or international) and promote, educate and celebrate Indian culture with people of all communities. NISAU aims to bring together all Indian student societies and alumni in the UK on one platform and is creating a unique, youth-led ecosystem to foster entrepreneurship, patriotism and leadership. Its ultimate vision is to enable & empower the young Indian diaspora in the UK to contribute positively to India, UK, and the UK-India relationship.

Visit [www.nisu.org.uk](http://www.nisu.org.uk) for further information.

For queries please contact:

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The 2016-17 platinum sponsor of the National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK is Bulldog Power Energy Drink





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