



Indian - Jewish Association UK

Uniting the Indian and Jewish
Communities in Britain

PRESS RELEASE

Indian Jewish Association Celebrates 30 Years of Indian Jewish Friendship and Cooperation in the UK

City law firm, Berwin Leighton Paisner hosted the celebration of 30 years of Indian Jewish friendship on 24 March, at which Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, Communities Secretary, was the guest speaker.

In welcoming the 140 guests, IJA Co Chairman John Levy, noted that despite being disparate communities, Indians and Jews had many affinities not least of which was the importance of family life in their respective religions, their hard work ethic and a remarkable capacity to pursue their background cultures while contributing disproportionately to British society. Yet both feared and suffered from religious extremism in India, Israel and Britain.

Eric Pickles reflected on the shocking news from Jerusalem and the death of British student Mary Jean Gardner, killed in Jerusalem by a terrorist bomb. He applauded the long standing cooperation between the communities, which went back in Britain to the support offered by many Jews to families fleeing Idi Amin 40 years ago, but in India back almost to Biblical times.

He noted that India and Israel were both young and vibrant democracies increasingly trading together as they emerge as regional power houses, providing an interlocking triangular relationship with Britain.

In concluding, he thanked both communities for their leadership and for their contribution to Britain, in all walks of life.

6 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2LP
Tel: 020 8457 1485 Fax: 020 8457 9988
Web: www.indianjewishassociation.co.uk