



UKIBC and Lavasa Corporation Limited sign MoU to facilitate behavioural training

Mumbai, January 16, 2014: UK India Business Council (India) and the Lavasa Corporation Limited (LCL), a subsidiary of the Hindustan Construction Company (HCC), signed an MoU in the presence of Matthew Hancock, UK Minister of State for Skills and Enterprise, today, to kick off a pilot in behavioural training in Lavasa, a planned hill city in the State of Maharashtra.

The objective of the MoU is to upskill the workforces engaged in the Construction and Security sectors and provide them with better employment opportunities. For the pilot project, UKIBC will bring together a Consortia of skills providers with diverse operational skills, and act as the secretariat. The consortia will work closely with LCL to meet the objectives of upskilling its workforce and the local community.

India's Skills and Education sector is currently going through a period of immense transition, with its young population and fast growing economy, the country needs to up-skill its increasingly aspirational work force. Targets include the creation of 40 million graduate places by 2020 and the construction of 11,000 brand new schools. Combined with Government attempts to raise the quality of Indian education this massive expansion of skills provision presents a huge opportunity for the UK's world class skills providers.

UK educational institutions are world leaders in professional standard-setting for a variety of skill straining, and these targets offer huge opportunities in India for UK skills providers. In qualifications and standard setting, organisations like City & Guilds, Edexcel and Scottish Qualification Authority are already active in the Indian market.

Speaking about the signing of the MoU, Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt, Chair, UKIBC said, "I am delighted that the UKIBC and the Lavasa Corporation are signing this MoU which will help train not only the employees of Lavasa, but also those in the Lavasa community. I believe, the UK can offer innovative skills delivery and expertise in setting standards, while learning from the strengths of Indian businesses in large scale training. UK-India partnerships between training institutions are already increasing, but there is scope for much more."

Commenting on the signing of MoU with UKIBC, Nathan Andrews, President, Lavasa Corporation Limited, said, "Lavasa Corporation is set to welcome many new businesses in addition to the existing hospitality, education, travel and leisure businesses. The tie with UKIBC to upskill the workforce will help provide potential businesses moving into the Hill City, skilled and talented community to work with. Many people from the local community currently working at Lavasa will also be greatly benefitted as the training will enhance their skills and enable them to seek better employment opportunities."

About Lavasa Corporation Limited (LCL)

Lavasa is India's first planned hill city where people can live, work, learn and play in harmony with nature. Lavasa is an inclusive city being developed by Lavasa Corporation Limited (LCL). Spread over 10,000 hectares the city is based on the principles of New Urbanism. It takes three hours from Mumbai and one hour from Pune to reach Lavasa by road. Lavasa will host a multitude of global leaders in hospitality, tourism, education, health care, business research and industry. The hill city provides a combination of contemporary and timeless architectural designs, with multiple options for housing including rental housing, apartments and villas. With state-of-the-art infrastructure and amenities, the city enables people to live life in full.



About UKIBC

The UK India Business Council (UKIBC) is the premier business-led organisation promoting bilateral trade and investment between the two countries. Its mission is to facilitate an increase in trade between the UK and India through business to business dialogue. UKIBC plays an influential role in creating and sustaining an environment in which free-trade and investment flourishes. Through the facilitation of partnerships, and with an extensive network of influential corporate and individual members, UKIBC provides the resource, knowledge and infrastructure support vital for UK companies to make the most of emerging opportunities in India. For further information please visit www.UKIBC.com

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