

Embassy of India  
Brussels

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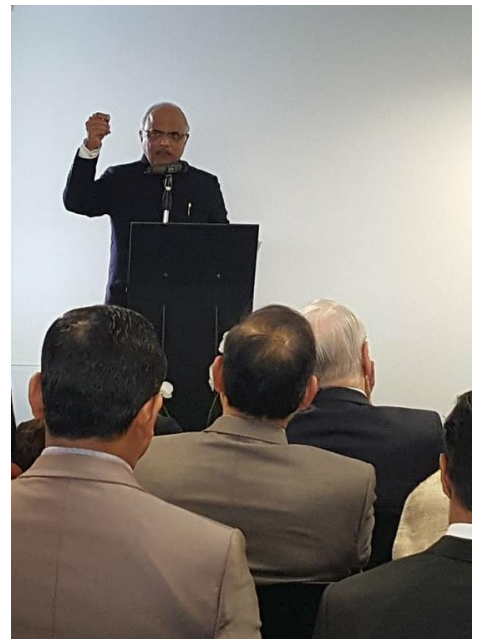
**Presentation on 'India: The Innovation Republic' organised**

The European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS) hosted a presentation of the publication *'The Innovation Republic: Governance Innovations in India Under Narendra Modi'*, by Shri. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Vice-President of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), on Monday, 26 February 2018.



Welcoming the initiative of the EIAS, Smt. Gaitri Issar Kumar, Ambassador of India to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union, spoke about the transformative reforms currently under way in India.

In his keynote address, Shri. Sahasrabuddhe, elaborated on the 17 important governance innovations introduced in India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi. His thoughts on “spiritual” democracy in India evinced keen interest of the participants.





Mr. Geoffrey Van Orden Member of European Parliament and Chair of the Delegation for relations with India (D-IN), Amb. Alexander Spachis, Member of the Advisory Board, EIAS and Mr. Axel Goethals, CEO, EIAS also participated in the

event.

During the question and answer session, Shri. Sahasrabudhe answered questions on innovation, entrepreneurship, challenges to development and federalism in India, India's soft power, impact of demonetization, poverty alleviation measures undertaken by Government of India,



features of the 'Invest India' portal, and gave examples of rural entrepreneurship that were transforming lives of the rural poor. He also elaborated on the role of the Indian diaspora in building bridges to India.

An Interview of Shri. Sahasrabudhe granted to Shri. Rahul Venkat of the '*Connected to India*' programme can be viewed by following the link: <https://t.co/OsVgnubkhh>.

Around 60 participants from the academic, media and political circles of Belgium and the European Union attended the event.

*Brussels*  
*28 February 2018*