


Bringing India to LSE: India Week 2013

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As India Week 2013 draws to a close, Arisa Manawapat describes how Spice brought India to LSE.

This week, the LSE witnessed its largest India-centric campus event, [LSE India Week 2013](#), presented by Spice, the LSE SU Indian Students Society. Spice successfully created a series of events “from economics to Bollywood, from tradition to food” to showcase the vibrant nation.

India Week kicked off with a flash mob on Houghton Street last Monday, featuring 35 students in the society. Spice Vice President Swati Utkarshini appreciated the “enthusiasm from members of our society, who wanted to put on a show for everyone.”

To offer a taste of India to the LSE community, Spice coordinated with the 4th Floor Restaurant, which presented an Indian lunch menu on Tuesday and Thursday this week. Both days attracted long queues, and dishes included chicken tikka masala, fish curry, and saffron rice.

In addition to cultural events, Spice raised awareness of pressing issues in India. On Monday, members of the society conducted a full-house, student-led debate on the causes and solutions for the persistence of rape cases in Delhi, triggered by the fatal gang-rape of a student in December.

On Wednesday, a talk entitled “The Power of Ideas” featured author Prajwal Parajuly, the youngest Indian to achieve a multi-national book deal, and Gulab Kothari, CEO of the Patrika Group. Following the release of his novel “[The Gurkha's Daughter](#)”, Parajuly emphasised the power of fiction to bring joy. Meanwhile, Kothari’s most inspirational advice, according to Spice President Kamlesh Walia was, “When you have an idea, it’s a seed. If you don’t nurture it, it won’t go forward. If you push it forward, it’ll grow into a tree and you’ll see the fruits of it later on.”

Yesterday, Spice hosted a panel discussion and networking event in partnership with the Indo-European Business Forum. The 15 speakers, 10 of whom have flown in from India to attend the event, explored the future of trade links between the two regions. Students interacted with CEOs and leading professionals, including Suhel Seth, a Bollywood actor and one of India’s top marketing and management gurus, CEO of Lyca Milind Kangle, and Baroness Verma, a member of the House of Lords.

The India Week event scheduled for today is truly one to look forward to: Spice will host [Bollywood Crush](#) at the Quad, featuring a live performance by one of the UK’s most renowned Indian bhangra singers, H-Dhami.

Look out for the complete article on India Week 2013 in the next issue of [The Beaver](#), out on campus on Tuesday, February 5.

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