

The Commonwealth-Asia Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs (CAAYE), founded and represented in India by CII's Young Indians (Yi) was invited to London for a Reception on the occasion of Commonwealth Day at the Commonwealth Secretariat HQ at Marlborough House, London on 11 March 2013. CAAYE was represented by Dr Rahul Mirchandani, Founder President, CAAYE & Past National Chairman – Yi, Dr Navita Mahajan, Moderator of the CAAYE Leadership Assembly & Founding member of CAAYE, Ms Nurul-Huda Afandi, CAAYE Representative from Malaysia and Incoming President (2014), CAAYE, Mr Ejaj Ahmed, CAAYE Representative from Bangladesh, Mr Shaban Khalid, CAAYE Representative from Pakistan and Ms Fatin Arifin, CAAYE representative from Brunei.

CAAYE was invited for the following interactions –

- Dr Rahul Mirchandani was the Keynote Speaker at the High Commissioner's Banquet hosted by the Royal Commonwealth Society on 10 March 2013. 40 High Commissioners from the Commonwealth countries attended the Banquet and Dr Rahul spoke on the Annual theme 'Opportunity through Enterprise' as well as CAAYE and the ongoing activities of the Alliance and its member organisations in Asia to promote youth entrepreneurship.
- Dr Rahul Mirchandani presented Indian case examples and success stories at a panel discussion at The House of Lords in the UK Houses of Parliament (Palace of Westminster) on 'Education and training' for entrepreneurship development (11 March 2013). He also highlighted efforts taken by all CAAYE member organisations in their respective countries.
- All CAAYE representatives attended the historic signing of the Commonwealth Charter by HRH Queen Elizabeth II on 11 March 2013 and we had the privilege of briefing the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh on the mission and objectives of CAAYE, the Alliance's membership base and the Alliance Communiqué. Her Majesty interacted twice with CAAYE, accompanied by the Commonwealth Secretary General, Mr Kamlesh Sharma, during the reception and appreciated our efforts in Asia.
- The CAAYE communiqué was also presented and discussed with the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Kamlesh Sharma, in a separate meeting on 12 March 2013. CAAYE Reps were accompanied by Ms Katherine Ellis, Director, Youth Affairs-Commonwealth Secretariat and Mr Rajkumar Bidla, Programme Manager, CYP London. Mr Sharma and Ms Ellis expressed great interest in replicating CAAYE in the other Regions of the Commonwealth, namely The Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific Regions, with our Asian Alliance playing a mentorship role.

CAAYE will now participate in the Commonwealth Regional Consultation on Financial Inclusion in Sri Lanka on 19-20 March and will also deliver the Opening Address at the 8<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Youth Ministers Meeting in Papua New Guinea on 17 April 2013. These platforms will once again further our advocacy on the policy recommendations framed at CAAYE's Inaugural Mumbai Young Entrepreneur Summit.