

Munira Mirza

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 April 2014 16:23
To: Munira Mirza;

Cc:
Subject:
Attachments:

Dear Academy Members,

Just to introduce myself, I am [REDACTED] and, alongside Vikas, I will be working on the Global Teacher Prize campaign from now on.

Many thanks for your help so far, many of you have provided quotes and photographs as well as tweeting about the Prize. Now that the Prize has been launched, we are into the process of publicising it globally in order to encourage as many quality nominations and applications as possible.

Please may I ask for your help in spreading the word even further – in order for this to be a success we need to raise awareness over the coming months all over the world.

I would be very grateful if you could:

1. Harness the power of your social media networks - please find attached the social media outreach pack that includes posts and images that can be used for online / social media promotions. If you haven't already, please follow [@TeacherPrize](#) on Twitter and [Facebook](#)
2. Promote the Prize offline - Please use your contacts and other channels to shout about this great initiative. A template press release is attached – you are welcome to amend this and issue to promote your membership of the Academy.
3. If you have not already done so, please can you provide a quote and photo that we can use to promote your support? If you can, please refer to a fantastic teacher from your schooling that inspired you.

I will be contacting you shortly to discuss individual PR opportunities and in the meantime, if you have any queries, please do let me know.

Many thanks again and I look forward to speaking to you in due course.

With best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

GEMS Education UK

3rd Floor, The Tower Building, 11 York Road, London, SE1 7NX

[REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Website: www.gemseducation.com



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Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 March 2014 19:57
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Re: Business Backs Education date

Hi Munira - afraid I have run into issues on this date. Is it possible to speak by phone in the next day or so, where I can explain why?

Hope you are well.

Best,

Vikas Pota
Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

3rd Floor, The Tower Building
11 York Road, Waterloo
London, SE1 7NX
UK

[REDACTED]
Website: www.gemseducation.com <<http://www.gemseducation.com/>>

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-----Original Message-----

From: Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 14 March 2014 11:12
To: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Subject: Business Backs Education date

>Hi

>I know you must be frantically busy right now, but the mayor's private
>office have offered date of 8th sept for this event. Does that work for
>you? It's only date to get him and room at city hall. If not, we can

>look at different dates when I'm back.

>Munira

>GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

>-----

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<https://www.mailcontrol.com/sr/r3LILDlCipnGX2PQPOmvUgny0!6zNmYYUWQJp+d3esqj6O!!hgUsez0ZERt4!slMs0mx5zUqxyuU8yB5sLY89Q==> to report this email as spam.

Munira Mirza

From: Global Education & Skills Forum [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 March 2014 12:30
To: Global Education & Skills Forum
Subject: GESF 2014: Photos, Videos and Survey

Dear Delegate,

The 2nd annual Global Education & Skills Forum (GESF) concluded in Dubai earlier this week with a call to achieve gender parity in education in order to overcome the challenges of chronic discrimination and chronic poverty, and usher in positive social changes around the world.

Thank you for your participation along with more than 850 world leaders, business leaders, government ministers, and education experts including President Bill Clinton and Tony Blair.

Notes from GESF panels are now available in each separate session on the [Programme menu](#) and Breakout and Plenary session [video recordings](#) and [photos](#) are now uploaded.

All information on major announcements and campaign launches such as Business Backs Education and the Varkey GEMS Foundation Global Teacher Prize can also be found in the [newsroom](#).

We encourage you to share this content across your online platforms and will continue to update our media channels with the latest so do keep following.

Our team are constantly working to enhance the GESF experience. If you have not done so already, please [click here](#) to complete our survey and share your feedback.

Thank you again for your tremendous efforts over this week. We look forward to your continued participation throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Vikas Pota

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Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 March 2014 14:30
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Re: Meet the Mentor session

Got it. It's fab. Thank you, so much.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the EE network.

From: Munira Mirza
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2014 18:49
To: Vikas Pota
Subject: RE: Meet the Mentor session

I sent it using WeTransfer – let me know if it doesn't come through

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 March 2014 11:18
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Re: Meet the Mentor session

Sure. Stick it in dropbox and send me a link or use yousendit.com

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the EE network.

From: Munira Mirza
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2014 15:13
To: Vikas Pota
Subject: RE: Meet the Mentor session

Yes, the format should be fine.

I can't email it to you direct as it's too large. Do you have a Google drop box account as I can send through that? Or else I will have to send you a disk.

Munira

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 March 2014 15:49
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Re: Meet the Mentor session

Hi Munira – any chance you can send the video over?

Also, would you know if its in this format: 16:9, 1080p HD

Thanks,

Vikas Pota

Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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From: Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 4 March 2014 13:26
To: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meet the Mentor session

That's fine, thanks

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 March 2014 23:15
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Re: Meet the Mentor session

Hi Munira,

I think you're right. In my mind, I have it as you saying a few words to build up to the video and then playing that. After the video clip ends, you could see what else from the script I forwarded that would be worth saying (that Boris leaves out).

Hope this helps.

Best,

Vikas Pota
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Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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From: Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 3 March 2014 14:49
To: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meet the Mentor session

Thanks Vikas.

Please can you clarify exactly what you want me to do at the plenary session on Monday? Will I be speaking after the panel? I presume there won't be much time to say more than a few lines, esp if you play the video message too.

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 March 2014 17:15
To: [REDACTED] Munira Mirza
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Meet the Mentor session

Re-attaching...

Vikas Pota

Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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From: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 2 March 2014 17:21
To: Vikas Pota [REDACTED] Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meet the Mentor session

Hi Vikas - I don't think anything is attached?

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 March 2014 12:37
To: Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Meet the Mentor session

Hi Munira [REDACTED]

Would it be OK to swap your Meet the Mentor session to the Sunday, instead of the Monday. There's a clash elsewhere and this change would help.

Attached is the latest running order for the event.

Best,

Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 February 2014 09:55
To: Munira Mirza
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Follow Up
Attachments: 140229 Business Backs Education.pdf

Thanks, Munira. Appreciate your email.

I attach the latest version of the Business Backs Education concept note for your reference. I don't expect any substantive changes or additions to this document.

[REDACTED] please feel free to reach out. We could even look at a pre-summer break event, if that works (dependent on dates etc).

Look forward to working together.

Best regards,

Vikas Pota

Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education

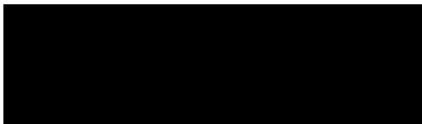
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From: Munira Mirza [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 28 February 2014 13:11
To: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Follow up

Dear Vikas,

To help coordination at our end, I'm copying in some colleagues:

- [REDACTED] who leads on our business partnerships work, will be your contact in terms of organising the Business Backs Education event in September and coordinating invites, etc. I have put in a request to the Mayor's private office for a date and once we have this [REDACTED] will book the rooms and liaise with you. She and her colleagues from the education team will work with you on shaping the event, speakers etc.
- [REDACTED] from our press team – I'll ask him to speak to [REDACTED] about publicity for both the Dubai event in March and the Sept event.

We'll also record the video message for Dubai next Wednesday.

Regards,
Munira

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 February 2014 20:26
To: Munira Mirza
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Follow up

Hi Munira,

Thank you for your email. Please find below my responses to your questions:

MM: It's fine for the Mayor to record a video message – we have an in-house camera crew. Please can you send me a draft script plus a short briefing note about both the Dubai and London events

Please find attached a script that we've drafted. Please feel free to use as much as you feel is appropriate. I also attach a briefing note that highlights the challenge.

MM: We will come back to you with a date for the London event shortly; certainly prior to Dubai.

Great. Thank you.

MM: For Dubai, please could you confirm exactly the flight details, where I'll be staying and when I'll be speaking? Naturally I would like to attend the opening ceremony and one or two of the other keynote events but I'd also like to find some time to meet my contacts in Dubai from the arts sector.

I attach a version of the programme for your reference. Please feel free to attend as much as you'd like. Let me know if you need a car whilst there.

If it's not been done, please ask your office to register you online here: <https://educationandskillsforum.org/register/>

Through this email, I am requesting my colleague [REDACTED] to organise your flights and hotel. [REDACTED] please liaise with [REDACTED]

MM: For the London event, can I check that GEMS Varkey Foundation is the organiser (as opposed to GEMS the company)? Also, please confirm that your team will secure a venue, identify attendees, organise invites, and pay for any event costs? As I explained, the GLA has no budget or staff resource for this event. We can agree on a form of wording in the invite which makes it clear that the Mayor is giving the welcome address/convening.

Yes. Actually, it is the Global Education & Skills Forum (GESF) that is the convenor, which the Varkey GEMS Foundation & GEMS Education are a part of, along with UNESCO and Dubai Cares. Branding would be GESF.

We are keen to show that it is the Mayor who is hosting and convening. We will put all else in place. Please let me know if City Hall can be used.

I imagine the event would have a keynote, two panel discussions of 45mins on agreed topics, and a closing. I estimate the whole event would be around four hours followed by lunch and refreshments.

You also asked for 

Thanks,

Vikas Pota

Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education

Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

3rd Floor, The Tower Building

Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 February 2014 19:52
To: Munira Mirza
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Global Teacher Prize

Hi Munira,

I hope you are well.

I'm writing to ask a favour.

On 17th March, (at the Global Education & Skills Forum) we are opening the applications process for the first ever \$1m USD Global Teacher Prize, which seeks to celebrate and strengthen the teaching profession.

By November, the Prize Committee will filter the applications down to ten worthy teachers, and pass them onto an Academy of eminent persons who will vote and decide on the eventual winner.

I am writing to ask whether you would consider joining the Academy.

The balloting process will be conducted by PwC, who amongst other things, also perform the same role for the Oscars. We expect that PwC will deliver the final pack to all members of the Academy by November. The winner will be announced at the subsequent Global Education & Skills Forum in March 2015.

In the run up to the final voting stage, as a member of the Academy, we would like your help in publicising this prize. We can discuss what's best in due course, but in principle, you would need to agree. By encouraging teachers to apply, we wish to showcase incredible stories of persistence, courage, empathy, leadership, entrepreneurship, impact, and achievement.

Last year, we conducted an international survey on the status of teachers, in which it became evident that the prestige of the teaching profession has diminished greatly all over the world. Only in China are teachers perceived to have the same status as Doctors!

Following from the survey, we decided to launch this prize. We need to support this noble profession.

Such prizes bring attention, esteem, and allow for greater discussion on key issues, such as the education crisis that millions of children over the world are experiencing. Teacher absenteeism, training, and recruitment pose huge challenges to the development of an equitable society.

I would be honoured if you can accept. If you do, please send me a short bio and hi-res photo to use.

Look forward to hearing back.

Best regards,

Vikas Pota
Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 February 2014 09:30
To: Munira Mirza
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Hi - Global Education & Skills Forum

Dear Munira,

I hope you are well. Further to our letter of invitation to the Global Education & Skills Forum, which takes place in the UAE from 15th – 17th March, I thought I should write in detail about the event, so we can have a more comprehensive discussion when we next speak.

Firstly, with respects to logistics, my colleague – [REDACTED] will book your flights and hotels once your office have registered you here: <https://educationandskillsforum.org/register/> - we will book the JW Marriott (where the conference is taking place) and business class flights for you. The event starts on 15th eve with an Opening Ceremony in Abu Dhabi, which we will all drive to from Dubai. The majority of guests will return on the early morning flight on 18th March, which arrives at Heathrow around 7am on 18th, itself. If possible, we would love to show you our schools, so if you can extend to leaving on the flight that leaves on 18th afternoon, then this would be great – you would arrive on 18th evening in London. Please let us know what you decide.

As you may know, we are launching a global advocacy campaign titled 'Business Backs Education' which seeks to encourage & provide an opportunity to the private sector to further commit to education. Often, their engagement in education is small, uncoordinated, and definitely not very strategic. We are using this campaign to motivate and show them that they can have greater impact. As part of the activities of the campaign, we are looking to organise regional summits, and are fortunate that President Clinton will host a summit in New York this September, and we are looking for hosts for events in Hong Kong, an African country such as South Africa, Nigeria, or Kenya, and of course, London – which I hope the Mayor and you will support.

At the Forum in March, we would be grateful if you can take part in a panel discussion on the importance of this campaign for London (and the UK). As we are launching the campaign, it would be beneficial to announce City Hall's involvement with the London Summit. Actually, London has a great story to tell viz education, and we can showcase this through your participation.

In case you are interested, there's also a role as 'moderator / interviewer' at the March Forum that I would like to discuss with you. One of the formats at the event is that of a hour long in-depth interview, and we have asked some prolific people to take part. One such person is [REDACTED] and I'd like to know whether you would consider interviewing him in front of an audience of 50 delegates? We will, of course, help in your preparation etc. In fact, it was he that was speaking so favourably about London being a model for education success, and I thought that you interviewing him would draw that element out in a proper manner.

In any case, please let me know if you're free to catch up so I can brief you in person about the event, and discuss Business Backs Education in greater detail.

With my thanks,

Vikas Pota
Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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Munira Mirza

From: Vikas Pota [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 January 2014 19:59
To: Munira Mirza
Subject: Invitation to the Global Education & Skills Forum
Attachments: 140117 Letter of invitation for Munira Mirza.pdf

Hi Munira,

I hope you are well.

As mentioned previously, we are organising the Global Education & Skills Forum in the UAE from 15th – 17th March and would be honoured if you would consider accepting the attached invitation by Mr. Varkey. As per our agreed policy with UNESCO, we are able to offer flights and hotel accommodation for the conference to those in the public sector, which would also be available to you.

If you are able to join us, can I please request you to register online here:

www.educationandskillsforum.org/register

I'd also like to meet, if possible, in Feb to see whether I can interest you in supporting the Business Backs Education advocacy campaign, which we will launch at the conference.

Look forward to hearing back.

Best regards,

Vikas Pota
Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

3rd Floor, The Tower Building
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UK

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Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Matters

Hi Munira – further to our conversation, I thought I'd revert on the main point regarding the invitations. There are two batches of invitation from ourselves, and it was agreed that the first batch – which are personalised – need to go out as has been agreed. I believe there are 36 letters in this batch.

There is a second batch, too. Given feedback from your colleagues, these are generic letters that need an electronic signature and are not personalised. [REDACTED]. I believe there are 54 of these letters to send out. Given that they are not personalised, as I see it, its a matter of someone at your end printing them on your letterhead with a electronic signature. I believe the letter format has already been mutually agreed some weeks ago.

I have also taken note of the other matters, which are:

The inclusion of [REDACTED] are speakers – to affirm their commitment to London
The need to anchor the event around the London narrative
The need to include London in the video
To provide some headline messages from our research so you can start talking about the event

Please let me know if I've missed anything.

I will revert with comments on all the above as soon as I have anything to report. In the meantime, I have spoken to [REDACTED] yesterday evening and he will be contacting you in my absence (I'm travelling to China tomorrow for a week) to arrange a meeting on the above points.

In the first instance, please do continue personalising the 36 letters that were agreed with your team.

Thanks,

Vikas



Vikas Pota
Group Director of Corporate Affairs, GEMS Education
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]; [Munira Mirza](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Business Backs Education London Agenda
Date: 16 September 2014 13:48:26
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[V2_Headline_Script_GEMS BBF Proposed Running Order_10Sep15 \(3\).docx](#)

Hi Munira [REDACTED],

I hope you are well.

Following your conversation last week with Michael, we have revised the Agenda along with a headline script – please find attached.

We have rephrased the 3 perspective questions with input from Unesco so do please have a look and let us know what you think and if we need to tailor them slightly more to London we can do so.

Could you please confirm the Q&A panellists (E&Y; BskyB; Deloitte; and perhaps a head teacher)?

If we could also have a skeleton script for Boris with his key messages and his call to action that would be useful.

We'll come back with the research results and further information in due course and in the meantime please do let me know if you have any queries.

Thanks and kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2nd Floor, St Albans House | 57 – 59 Haymarket | SW1Y 4QX

Web: www.gemseducation.com



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From: [Kate](#)
To: [Munira Mirza](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Connecting you both
Date: 09 October 2014 13:38:17

Good afternoon,

Munira, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] Munira was saying how she would like to take the opportunity to meet this afternoon. I am very sorry to hear you are unwell today and we cannot facilitate it today.

I will leave you both to connect and take this conversation forward.

[REDACTED] please take care and I hope you feel better soon and I look forward to seeing you in New York in a fortnight.

Warmest of wishes,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

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<https://www.mailcontrol.com/sr/yiVLtubPznXGX2PQPOMvUnd1S5HUtV8BngRXLE5IJRwSZTrkO8C2IR9Dj0pqObNkZzI00M6Pw3sYNBM7q0TQEQ==>
to report this email as spam.

From: [Vikas Pota](#)
To: [Munira Mirza](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Global Teacher Prize - time to vote for your winner!
Date: 22 December 2014 14:35:58
Attachments: [Global Teacher Prize Top 10 Finalists Dec14.pdf](#)
[Munira Mirza - Academy Code of Conduct.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Dear Munira,

So, the time has come! When we embarked on our journey to find the winner of the Global Teacher Prize, little did we think we would see the impact of the prize so soon. Since we announced the Top 50 shortlist two weeks ago, we have seen for ourselves how the announcement has been received the world over.

The Global Teacher Prize was set up to shine a spotlight on the profession to recognise and celebrate the important role teachers play in society. By unearthing thousands of stories of heroes that have transformed young people's lives, the prize hopes to bring to life the exceptional work that millions of teachers do all over the world. Ultimately, by hoping to raise teacher respect across the world, it aims to play a part in helping to recruit and retain the best candidates into the profession.

In this inaugural year, we received over 5,000 nominations and 1,300 final applications from 127 countries from around the world. Many of you have helped us in promoting this prize, which we are grateful to you for. Thank you.

Now, the prize is in your hands! With the support and oversight of PwC, we have shortlisted ten exceptional candidates, who you need to vote for. In arriving at your decision, I'd like to remind you of the criteria that we established, they are:

1. Recognition of a teacher's achievements in the classroom and beyond from pupils, colleagues, head-teachers or members of the wider community.
2. Preparing children to be global citizens in a world where they will encounter people from many different religions, cultures and nationalities.
3. Employing innovative and effective instructional practices and achieving demonstrable student learning outcomes in the classroom.
4. Developing and sharing innovative thought leadership that has improved access to quality teaching and education for children of all backgrounds.
5. Contributing to public debates on raising the bar of the teaching profession, whether through writing articles, blogs, media participation, social media campaigns, events or conferences.
6. Accomplishments beyond the classroom that provide unique and distinguished models of excellence for the teaching profession.
7. Encouraging others to join the teaching profession.

Having been through the process, and having read so many incredible applications, to say that I am hugely inspired would be a massive understatement. I am sure, you will feel the same once you review the profiles for yourself. My only piece of advice to you is to keep at the forefront of your mind that this prize seeks to elevate the 'classroom teacher' and the teaching profession. This is not an award for the best NGO or humanitarian. It is an award for an exceptional teacher. By casting your ballot, you are making a positive statement to help us build a movement that shines a spotlight on the achievements of all of our teachers.

Please see below a link to the voting system along with the profiles of the Top 10 candidates - also attached to this email.

<http://pwc.qualtrics.com/SE?>

[Q_DL=3eD7dyWtviueEhn_6oll5q6PtmrAe69_MLRP_9FbQ3sHfPF9D0Et](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q_DL=3eD7dyWtviueEhn_6oll5q6PtmrAe69_MLRP_9FbQ3sHfPF9D0Et)

The password for the survey is: [REDACTED]

The voting system is simple – you have 10 votes to allocate among the Top 10 candidates in whichever way you see fit – that could be 10 votes for one candidate or votes spread out among a few.

You can only vote once, once cast your vote is final, and voting will close at midnight GMT on Monday 12th January.

If you have any issues or questions about the survey, please contact [REDACTED]

We also ask that as a member of the Global Teacher Prize Academy, you adhere to a Code of Conduct – also attached to this email. Unless we hear otherwise from you, we will assume that you will abide by this code.

Our intention is to inform the final ten candidates that they have been shortlisted for the prize in mid-February. So, please resist all temptation to discuss this in advance; and treat this email and information pack as 'HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL'.

In due course, you will receive an invitation to the Global Education & Skills Forum, which takes place in Dubai, UAE on 15th & 16th March 2015. The ceremony to announce the winner will take place during this event, and I would like to extend our invitation to you to join us in the celebration. We are hopeful that the final 10 candidates will be able to join us, too.

Once again, thanks for your support. Over to you!

Yours sincerely,

Vikas

Vikas Pota
Chief Executive, Varkey GEMS Foundation

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