

## [Scottish exports are booming but Brexit threatens our brand](#)

This week Glasgow is hosting the Scottish Export Awards – an event which brings together businesses from across Scotland to recognise and celebrate their achievements in selling their goods and services overseas.

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## [A pay rise for the NHS](#)

I campaigned in the last election on the slogan “Prosperity, not austerity”, and have argued that we need to spend a bit more on the NHS and education. I have also argued for higher wages, especially for the lower paid in our public services. I am therefore pleased that today we learn there will be a pay rise for NHS staff, with the largest percentage increases for those on the lowest pay. The Treasury accepts it needs to provide some more cash for the NHS to pay for this change. I continue to urge Ministers to provide enough money for Wokingham and West Berkshire services.

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## [Let them eat hake](#)

Yesterday we were told of yet more delay in taking back control of our fish. The government should tell the EU we will resume control in March 2019, as we need to put in a new policy to save what is left of our home industry and get it growing again.

There are two things the government has promised that I agree with

Nothing is agreed until everything is agreed.

No Deal is better than a bad deal.

It is difficult to know what the government will get in return for the very generous draft offers it has made over money, fish, law taking and freedom of

movement for the so called Implementation period.

There is no need for an Implementation period unless there is something really good to implement which takes time.

My advice to the government is to make sure everything works on March 29 2019 when we want to leave. What could be sorted out or agreed after March 2019 that cannot be sorted out in the next year?

Let's cut back the period of uncertainty.

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## **In a historic decision, 60 Higher Educational Institutions granted autonomy by UGC : Shri Prakash Javadekar**

In a historic decision today, the University Grants Commission has granted autonomy to sixty Higher Educational Institutions which have maintained high academic standards. This was announced by the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Prakash Javadekar at a media briefing in New Delhi today.

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## **Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Signs MOU With Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council for Supporting Forest Based Communities**

The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun (an Autonomous Council under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change) and Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council (TIFAC), New Delhi (an Autonomous Council under Department of Science and Technology) signed an MoU for with an objective to provide livelihood opportunities and augment income of the forest based communities

The MOU signed in the presence of Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, in New Delhi today would also assist the industries to optimize the utilization of forest based resources with access of technology to different users.

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