

**TRADE AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND  
GOVERNMENT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF  
AUSTRALIA**

**Canberra, 2 August 1976**

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The Government of INDIA

AND

The Government of AUSTRALIA,

DESIRING to promote and expand mutually beneficial trade and trade relations between Australia and India, and

HAVING regard to their respective international rights and obligations including their rights and obligations as Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade,

HAVE agreed as follows :

*Article I*

The two Governments shall, subject to the laws and regulations of their countries, take all appropriate measures to facilitate, strengthen and diversify trade with a view to maximising trade between their two countries.

*Article II*

The exchange of goods between the two countries shall be effected in accordance with rights acquired and obligations undertaken pursuant to multilateral Treaties or Arrangements to which both countries are party.

*Article III*

In order to further the objectives of this Agreement, each Government shall, in accordance with the laws and regulations and

1. Came into force on 2 August 1976.

the observance of customs and other administrative formalities of its country, facilitate to the maximum extent possible :

- (a) the interchange of commercial and technical representatives, groups or delegations between the two countries;
- (b) the holding within its country of trade fairs, trade exhibitions and other trade promotion activities by enterprises and organisations of the other country; and
- (c) the importation from the country of the other of articles required for display at fairs, exhibitions or similar events, as well as samples of goods for advertising purposes.

#### *Article IV*

The two Governments shall, as appropriate, and subject to the laws, regulations and policies of each country, encourage and facilitate the development of industrial cooperation between relevant enterprises and organisations of their respective countries. The decision to enter into individual cooperation projects and the contractual arrangements for their implementation shall be the responsibility of the participating enterprises and organisations.

#### *Article V*

All payments arising from trade between Australia and India shall be effected in convertible currency acceptable to both Governments in accordance with the foreign exchange regulations in force in the two countries.

#### *Article VI*

In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, a Joint Trade Committee consisting of representatives designated by the respective Governments is hereby established. The Committee will meet once a year, or as often as may be mutually agreed, alternately in India and Australia.

Within the purview of this Agreement, the Committee will, *inter alia* :

- (a) review and keep under consideration the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement;
- (b) examine measures for the solution of problems which may arise in the implementation of this Agreement or in the course of development of trade between the two countries;

- (c) consider proposals made by either of the Governments, within the framework of this Agreement, aimed at further expansion and diversification of trade between the two countries;
- (d) identify appropriate areas of industrial cooperation particularly those which offer prospects for the development of mutually beneficial commercial exchange.

#### *Article VII*

The Agreement shall come into force on the date of signature and shall remain in force for an initial period of two years. After such initial period, the Agreement shall remain in force until ninety days after either Government receives from the other written notice of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Canberra on the second day of August, 1976 in two copies each in the English and Hindi languages, both texts being equally authentic.

*Sd/-*

D.P.CHATTOPADHYAYA  
For the Government of  
India

*Sd/-*

J.D. ANTHONY  
For the Government of  
Australia

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#### **EXCHANGE OF LETTERS**

Minister for Overseas Trade  
Parliament House  
Canberra 2600  
2 August, 1976

EXCELLENCY,

During the discussions leading to the conclusion of the Trade Agreement between our two Governments, it was proposed that, in addition to carrying out the functions specified in Article VI of the Agreement, the Joint Trade Committee should give consideration to :

- (i) the encouragement and facilitation of the negotiation of

commercial contracts between relevant commercial enterprises and organisations of the two countries,

- (ii) the encouragement of relevant commercial enterprises and organisations of the two countries to explore the scope for concluding appropriate long-term commercial contracts with enterprises and organisations of the other country.
- (iii) the role of Australia and India in international commodity arrangements and trade in commodities of interest to both countries.
- (iv) tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade between the two countries,
- (v) the Generalised System of Preferences of Australia, with particular reference to items of export interest to India, and
- (vi) the exchange of commercial information between the two countries.

The proposals set out above are acceptable so far as my Government is concerned and I should be grateful if Your Excellency would confirm that they are also acceptable to your Government.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Sd/-*  
J.D. ANTHONY

His EXCELLENCY,  
Prof. D.P. CHATTOPADHYAYA,  
Minister of Commerce,  
Government of India

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Minister of Commerce  
India  
Canberra, 2 August 1976

EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of today's date which reads as follows;

*[Not reproduced]*

As requested in Your Excellency's Letter, and on behalf of the Government of India, I have the honour to confirm that the foregoing understanding is acceptable to my Government.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Sd/-*

D.P. CHATTOPADHYAYA

Rt. HON. J.D. ANTHONY, M.P.,  
Minister for Overseas Trade,  
Government of Australia,  
Canberra

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