

**“Australia-India: A Deepening Economic Partnership”
publication launched in New Delhi**

Publication showcases strategic relationship between Australia and India

Mr John McCarthy, Australian High Commissioner to India today released **“Australia-India: A Deepening Economic Partnership”** a publication that illustrates the growing bi-lateral relationship between Australia and India.

The publication is supported by the Indian and Australian governments with both the Indian Minister for Commerce Kamal Nath and Australia Minister for Trade, Simon Crean patrons of the project and contributors to the book.

The launch in New Delhi was attended by senior government officials, industry leaders and friends of Australia. Mr P K Dash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Mr Peter Yuile, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Australian Trade Commission were both in attendance at the launch.

This book illustrates the strategic importance of the Australia-India relationship covering principal themes across trade, education, arts, culture and sport.

Quoting Mr Kamal Nath, Hon’ble Union Minister of Commerce, Government of India from his foreword in the publication, *“The historic ties between Australia and India have expanded rapidly in the 21st Century to encompass a wide range of complementing ties; from education to biotechnology, food processing and ICT; from clean coal and mining technology to an expanding range of environmental industries. A genuine two-way exchange in all these areas between our two countries has led to increased prosperity and wealth generation across both nations. They are very strong signs that in the coming years we can expect this partnership to continue to grow, thereby delivering a broad range of tangible benefits to Indians and Australians alike”*

Launching the publication, John McCarthy, Australian High Commissioner to India, said, *“Australia and India have a strong and growing trade, investment, trade and education relationship. India is now Australia’s six largest merchandise export market. More can be achieved. The Free Trade Agreement study holds promise for closer economic integration. People-to-people linkages are also growing quickly, through business and education links”*.

India is Australia’s fastest-growing export market. Australia’s exports to India of gold, coal, wool, education, services, construction and infrastructure services constitutes key inputs for Indian export, business and infrastructure requirements.

The publication is part of the Australian government’s promotional program in India – Utsav Australia, and has been produced by Focus Publishing.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Ball, Trade Commissioner, Australian High Commission, New Delhi at 011-41399933