

REPORTING PROFORMA FOR COMMERCIAL WINGS

(Data Source: National Trade Statistics of the reporting country)

Name of the Mission (Country): Consulate General of India, Sydney

I. MONTHLY REPORT for May 2022

(1 AUD =0.7148, as on 29 April 2022)

A. Trade in goods

a) Total trade in goods during

Bilateral Trade (Jan-Apr 2022) as compared to same period previous year

in USD million

	Australian Export	Australian Import	Total	Growth % of Export	Growth % of Import
Country's Trade with India	5,877	2,595	8,472	33.2	41.7
Country's Total Global Trade	123,776	90,695	214,471	17.5	15.3

b) Preferential trade in goods during

S. No.	Preferential / Free Trade Agreement with India	Preferential Imports from India (US\$ million)	Preferential Imports from World (US\$ million)
1	NA		

(Source: Customs/National Trade Statistics of reporting country)

S.No.	Preferential / Free Trade Agreement with India	Preferential Exports to India (US\$ million)	Preferential Exports to World (US\$ million)
1	NA		

(Source: based on Certificate of Origin issued by reporting country)

c) Top 10 items of import from India during (Jan-Apr 2022)

in USD million

S No.	Commodity	Value USD million	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Import
1	Refined Petroleum Oils	1055	99.4	11.1
2	Medicaments	146	(-)5.2	6.4
3	Pearls & Precious Stones	96	2.1	57.8
4	Made up Articles of textile materials	62	(-)8.8	8.4
5	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products (excl. Medicaments)	52	806	2.0
6	Passenger motor vehicles	50	242.5	0.8
7	Organo-inorganic compounds	49	44.1	12.0
8	Jewellery	47	(-)6	9.5
9	Manufactures of base metal	47	51.6	5.0
10	Railway vehicles (incl. hovertrains) and equipments	42	1580	17.2

d) Top 10 items of Import from the World (Jan-Apr 2022)

in USD million

S.N.	Commodity	Value USD million	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Import
1	Refined Petroleum Oils (Excl. Crude)	9501	83.3	10.5
2	Passenger Motor Vehicles	5951	(-)7.2	6.6
3	Telecommunications Equipment	3355	0.8	3.7

4	Motor vehicles for Transport of Goods	3144	2.0	3.5
5	Automatic data processing machines and units	2811	24.5	3.1
6	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products (excl. medicaments)	2550	78.0	2.8
7	Petroleum Oils (incl. crude)	2312	19.2	2.5
8	Medicaments (including veterinary)	2274	21.5	2.5
9	Miscellaneous chemical products	1780	363.5	2.0
10	Non-monetary gold	1695	(-)9.3	1.9

e) Top 10 items of export to India during (Jan-Apr 2022)

in USD million

S No.	Commodity	Value USD million	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share of total Export
1	Coal	4940	89.6	19.6
2	Gold	296	(-)72.5	6.4
3	Aluminium ores and concentrates	133	-	8.8
4	Copper ores and concentrates	104	(-)41.6	7.0
5	Pigments, Paints & Varnishes	49	69.0	16.7
6	Fertilisers	46	2967	35.4
7	Non-ferrous base metal waste and scrap	44	10.0	9.1

8	Wool and other animal hair	40	60.0	5.2
9	Vegetables, fresh, chilled, frozen, preserved	39	596.4	5.6
10	Ores and concentrates of base metals	12	21.8	1.0

***Confidential Items (SITC: 988) was the 10th largest export to India with a value of US\$ 37 million.**

f) Top 10 items of export to the World (Jan-Apr 2022)

in USD million

S No.	Commodity	Value USD million	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Export
1	Iron ore and conc.	30515	(-)25.5	24.7
2	Coal	25207	147.0	20.4
3	Natural Gas	17139	94.5	13.8
4	Gold, non-monetary	4613	(-)29.8	3.7
5	Wheat	3395	32.0	2.7
6	Crude Petroleum Oils	3077	51.2	2.5
7	Aluminium ores and conc.	2405	16.7	1.9
8	Oil-seeds and oleaginous fruits	2245	117.1	1.8
9	Meat of Bovine Animals	2066	6.0	1.7
10	Aluminium	1503	43.0	1.2

g) Potential products of import from India (Jan-Apr 2022)

in USD million

S. No	Commodity	Global Import	Import from India	Rationale
1	Passenger motor vehicles	6416	50	With major automakers (Toyota, Ford and Holden) have taken their manufacturing outside of Australia in 2017, the Australian market presents a positive picture for Indian auto and auto component manufacturers.
2	Automotive parts	860	10.6	While the end of local vehicle manufacturing spells a reduction in demand for parts and accessories manufactured in Australia, it creates a platform for major Indian auto component manufacturers to collaborate/ have joint ventures with Australian manufacturing companies to supply the aftermarket with genuine spares.
3	Medicaments	1872	146	The prescription drug sales in Australia is around US\$8 billion. However, the generics sector remains small, both in value and volume terms, in comparison with health care systems in countries such as the US. Australia has one of the lowest user rates of generic medicines in the world, at 18 per cent of prescriptions compared to 50 per cent in the US and 70 per cent in Denmark. With the expiry of patents of number of key innovator drugs along with the changes in PBS (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) of the Australian government, there is scope for Indian generic manufacturers to enter the Australian market.
4	Tea	51	6.4	While Tea might not feature among top 10 exports from India to Australia, India is 3rd among tea exporters to Australia. There is great potential for export of Indian Tea and its diversified products to Australia. There is need to promote geographically linked branding among Australians such as Assam Tea, Darjeeling Tea, Nilgiri Tea etc., as most teas are known and marketed by a brand name in Australia.

5	Jewellery	499	47	India's market share in Australian imports for jewellery is approximately 12-15 percent, which has lot of potential to grow particularly in this sector. Most of the jewellery imports into Australia are from Thailand, China and USA. It may also be noted that Australia is also one of the major suppliers of diamonds and gold to India, where it is processed before being exported to various countries.
6	Furniture and parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings	1348	5.0	Given the strength of India in this sector, there is potential for more export of Indian home furnishing items into Australia. With the rising labour and shipping costs in China, there have been some shifts in imports from other countries and Indian exporters could take advantage of this change, particularly for furniture, mattresses and cushions.

B. QUALITATIVE

1. Market Access Alerts (attach copy of notification):

a. Alerts on customs tariff changes: -

S.No .	Notification no. and date	HS code	Description	Original customs tariff	Present customs tariff (w.e.f. 1 st Jan 2015)	Remarks if any
1.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Clothing, finished textiles, household textile	2000-04: 25% 2005-09: 17.5% 2010: 10% 2015: 5%	5%	There has been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
2.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Cotton sheeting, woven fabrics	2000-04: 15% 2005-09: 10% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%	5%	There has been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
3.	Bills Digest		Sleeping	2000-04: 10%	5%	There has

	No. 1 2004-05		bags, table linen	2005-09: 7.5% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%		been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
4.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Carpets	2000-04: 15% 2005-09: 10% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%	5%	There has been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
5.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Footwear	2000-04: 15% 2005-09: 10% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%	5%	There has been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
6.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Footwear parts	2000-04: 10% 2005-09: 7.5% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%	5%	There has been a scheduled tariff reduction in all the mentioned categories.
7.	Bills Digest No. 1 2004-05		Other* (textile yarn)	2000-04: 5% 2005-09: 5% 2010: 5% 2015: 5%	5%	The tariff has been unchanged.

- b. Alerts on non-tariff measures (SPS/TBT/ import and export procedures/ restrictions/ prohibitions, licensing/ STEs etc.)

S.N.	Notification no./ date	Measure	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if any
1.		1. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (the department) has amended the conditions for parboiled rice to include the following changes:		17 January 2022	

		<p>FCL/FCX consignments of parboiled rice packed in bags less or equal to 25 kilograms and imported under tariff code 1006.20 (e.g. parboiled brown rice) can now to be processed in accordance with the department's Automatic Entry Processing for Commodities (AEP COMM) approved arrangement (AA).</p> <p>2. Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government has notified that changes to the inspection of some imported food will reduce regulatory impact for importers of dried, ready-to-eat berries from 9 November 2022, as only consignments of fresh or frozen, ready-to-eat pomegranate arils, and pomegranate seeds, that are not retorted, must be covered by food safety management certificates for importation. This requirement takes effect on 9 November 2022. The department has also classified 'Pomegranate arils that are ready-to-eat as currently a risk food'.</p>		9 November 2022	
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c. Alerts on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures:

S.No.	Notification no./ date	Standard/ technical regulation/ conformity	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if any

		assessment procedure			
1.	Proposal P1041	1. Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has removed the seals intact inspection requirement that applies to full container loads of irradiated fruits on arrival into Australia. This notice affects importers of fresh mango, lychee and longan from Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan, India, Mexico, their brokers and Pathway Operations Cargo – Assessment.		7 December 2021	

- d. Alerts on trade defence measures taken by respective country:
(Safeguards including special safeguard, antidumping, CVD or anti- subsidy)

S.No.	Notification no., date or other references	Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review)	Details of products/ sectors affected (including HS codes)	Effective from	Remarks if any

- e. Alert on services, regulatory regime, qualification requirement, licensing procedures, visa regime, barriers etc.

S.No.	Notification no., and date or other references	Service sectors affected	Modes	Effective from	Remarks if any
1.	18 April 2017	IT, ITES, Financial	Abolition and	1 March 2018	Indian major IT companies like TCS,

		Services	replacement of the 457 visa (work visa) by the Temporary Skilled Shortage (TSS) visa – 482 visa.		Infosys, Wipro etc. are facing difficulties due to abolition of 457 visa as it forces them to replace Indian workers with Australian permanent residents/citizens.
2.	October, 2018	IT	Double Taxation		Indian IT companies have raised concerns over double taxation issues of Australia. Indian IT companies providing services to Australian clients, at times, provide a part of these services by deploying services of their teams located in India. The Australian tax authority (ATO) treats the income earned in these services as 'royalty' and levies taxes on it. These companies are also required to pay taxes in India as the services are rendered from India.

2. Feedback

- a. Feedback from major Indian industries/other commercial concerns and Indian trade visitors to that country

S.No.	Name of business house	Activity sector	Trade barrier issues if any (incl. HS codes)	General Feedback (Max.200 words)
1.	NA			

- a. Feedback on major trade activities including logistic events (trade fairs/BSM including Indian participation)

S.N	Activity (trade fair,	Date and venue	Number of participants	Name(s) of large/ key	Feedback received (Max.200 words)
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	BSM etc.)		from India	participants from India	
1.			NA	NA	NA

- b. Feedback from local commercial visitors to trade fairs in India, including under BSM; number of Business Visas issued:

No of Business Visa issued during the month (May 2022)	No of Business visa issued during the same month (last year May 2021)	No of Business visa issued cumulatively during the year (Jan-May 2022)	No of Business visa issued cumulatively during the previous year (Jan-May 2021)
32	0	95	22

S.No.	Activity (trade fair)	Date and venue	Number of participants from the relevant country	List of large/ key participants from the relevant country	Number of Business Visas issued	Feedback received (Max.200 words)
1.	NA					

3. Trade and Investment:

- a. Significant trends in trade and investment (Sources: ABS; DFAT)

S. No.	Category	Details of significant trends (Max.200 words)	Analysis (Max. 200 words)
1.	Trade in Goods	During Jan-Apr 2022, the total bilateral trade in merchandise goods between the two countries was US\$ 8.47 billion with an increase of 36 percent which could be attributed to significant increase in India's coal and fertiliser imports from Australia and Australia's refined petroleum, medicinal & pharmaceutical products, railway vehicles and	The total bilateral trade has increased by approx. US\$ 2.23 billion during Jan-Apr 2022. The other highlights of bilateral merchandise goods trade have been the significant increase in export of Refined Petroleum (99%), Railway vehicles (1580%), Passenger motor vehicles (243%), Medicinal & Pharmaceutical products (806%), Pearls & precious stones (2%), Organo inorganic compounds (44%), Manufactures of base metal

		<p>passenger motor vehicles imports from India.</p> <p>India's merchandise goods export to Australia (Australian imports from India) was US\$ 2.59 billion which is an increase of 41.7 percent as compared to the same period during 2021.</p> <p>India's merchandise goods import from Australia during Jan-Apr 2022 stood at approx. US\$ 5.88 billion with an increase of approx. 33 percent as compared to the same period of previous year.</p> <p>Indian merchandise exports to Australia was led by Refined Petroleum, followed by the items – Medicaments, Pearls and Precious Stones, Made-up textile articles, Medicinal & Pharmaceutical products comprising the top 5.</p>	<p>(52%) from India to Australia.</p> <p>Major increase in India's import from Australia consisted of Coal (90%), Aluminium ores & concentrates (% increase could not be measured due to non-import of the item during same period of previous year), Fertilisers (2967%), Pigments, paints & varnishes (69%), Wool and other animal hair (60%) and Vegetables fresh, chilled, frozen & preserved (596%) during Jan-Apr 2022.</p> <p>Export of 'Coal' from Australia to India was the main contributor for the volume of bilateral trade between the countries during the reporting period, with a value of USD 4.94 billion, amounting to 84% of Australia's total exports to India and 58% of total bilateral merchandise trade.</p>
2.	Trade in Services <i>(RBI data estimated for CY 2021)</i>	<p>In CY 2021, the total bilateral trade in services between India and Australia was US\$ 5.5 billion approx.</p> <p>During CY 2021 the total services export from India to Australia was US\$ 3.6 bn approx. The top two services export from India are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Telecom. computer & information services 2. Other Business Services 	<p>Many IT companies, Financial Services Companies, Banks, State and Federal Government agencies in Australia are already outsourcing their work to India. It is primarily due to the lower costs of labour and highly skilled resources available in India.</p> <p>The Scientific Research Services industry in Australia includes a range of government and private sector organisations operating across many scientific</p>

		<p>During CY 2021 the total services import from Australia to India was US\$ 1.9 bn approx.</p> <p>Australia's top two services export to India were</p> <p>1) Education related travel</p> <p>2) Personal, cultural & recreational services.</p>	<p>research fields, particularly in medical, health and IT. The industry relies heavily on public sector funding, despite the Australian Government increasingly calling for greater self-funding.</p>
3.	Investment	<p>At the end of CY 2020, Australian investment to India stands at US\$ 11.9 billion. During same period, Australia's FDI to India was US\$ 761 million.</p> <p>India's direct investment in Australia was US\$301 million in 2020.</p>	<p>India is Australia's 17th largest investment destination. As per IES, Australia plans to boost outward Australian investment to India to AUD100 billion by 2035.</p>

b. Opportunities for investments/ assets on offer/major company divestment:

S.N.	Sector Name (List attached)	Particulars of the asset /company	Contact details
1	Horticulture	Warrawee 114 Neusavale Road, Wolvi, QLD: Historical macademia farm of 33 ha, 6100 trees, undercover 35 ton silo capacity.	<p>Contacts:</p> <p>Leah Freney: +61 415849293</p> <p>Rawdon Briggs: +61 428651144</p>
2	Viniculture	Casella Vineyard Portfolio: Seeking a strategic partner to own and operate a significant selection of its vineyards in New South Wales and South Australia.	<p>Contacts:</p> <p>Tim Altschwager: +61 408814699</p> <p>Nick Dean: +61 411267136</p>
3	Infrastructure	Western Sydney's transformation into a global aerotropolis, to be centred around NSW's second international airport, means plentiful opportunity for businesses to partner with government in the development of new infrastructure and services. Western Sydney's airport will be the first international airport constructed in Australia in 50 years.	<p>Matthew Jessop Associate Director, International Engagement & Market Development</p> <p>NSW Treasury</p> <p>L43 MLC Centre, 19 Martin Pl, Sydney NSW 2000</p> <p>T: +61 429 484 620 invest.nsw.gov.au</p> <p>E: matthew.jessop@treasury.nsw.gov.au</p>
4	Technology	Sydney Innovation and Technology	Matthew Jessop Associate

		Precinct will be a leader in innovation within the region, taking a spirit of collaboration and entrepreneurship and translating Australia’s world-leading research and development into globally successful businesses. The precinct will be a place to drive the creation of new technology and commercialisation of new products and services. The development will be based on global best-practice placemaking principles and focus on the sustainable, accessible, and affordable creation of workplaces for the future.	Director, International Engagement & Market Development NSW Treasury L43 MLC Centre, 19 Martin Pl, Sydney NSW 2000 T: +61 429 484 620 invest.nsw.gov.au E: matthew.jessop@treasury.nsw.gov.au
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- c. Information on tender Notices for projects and procurements of interest to Indian project exporters/ suppliers (USD15 million & above)

S.No.	Tender/ procurement notice No and date	Sector	Value of tender/ procurement
1	N/A		

- d. Trade Queries for Imports/ Exports (if not uploaded on the Indian trade portal)

S.No.	Enquiry originator	Product with HS Codes	Nature (Import/ Export)	Value (US\$ million)	Action Taken (Max.200 words)
	NA				

4. Important India related statements of commercial significance by political leaders, think tanks, chambers, associations etc. / Significant stories/features on India related trade, investment, services and logistic sector, published in foreign journals/dailies, etc.: (Max. 500 words)

- a) Anthony Albanese’s visit to the Hindu Council of Australia before the federal election in Australia was seen as significant in drawing votes from Hindus - one of the country’s fastest-growing demographics. Hinduism is the third most prominent non-Christian religion in the country (440,300 people), after Islam and Buddhism, according to the 2016 census, the most recent data available. Hinduism increased 60 per cent between 2011 and 2016, making it the second fastest growing religion in Australia after Sikhism, which rose 74 per cent to 126,000 people in 2016.

- b) The Australian financial media reported that India, one of the world’s largest wheat producers, added further uncertainty in the international market after banning most of its wheat exports which was likely to result in a fresh spike in global prices. Commonwealth Bank agri commodities strategist Tobin Gorey commented that will create an initial flurry of trading, but the market will take some time to assess the details. The ‘ban’ does not appear to be comprehensive. Egypt said it will still take delivery of a half million tonnes already agreed with India. And India said it will continue to make grain available to poorer nations.
- c) The Australian financial media reported that, India has joined Australia, the United States and Japan during their QUAD summit to condemn Russia’s invasion of Ukraine as the leaders of the four strategic allies vowed to prevent similar hostile action in Asia in a message clearly directed at China. The four leaders also agreed to provide more help to Pacific Island nations vulnerable to climate change and strengthen collaboration on disaster relief. The meeting committed to invest US\$50 billion over five years on infrastructure for developing countries. The Quad leaders also agreed to strengthen cooperation in COVID-19 vaccine distribution, infrastructure, climate change, cybersecurity, illegal fishing, and natural disasters.

5. Details of trade research, information dissemination activity of the commercial wing

S.No.	Nature of activity (trade research, information dissemination, seminars etc) (Max.200 words)	Details of Seminar/ conference (date/ venue, no of participants) or research (Max.200 words)	Details of trade research (title of the report, executive summary, date of publication) (Max.200 words)
1.	Social media- Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram	Retweets and Facebook shares from official Twitter and Facebook handles of trade related promotional infographics from Make of India, Digital India, IBEF, Indian Diplomacy, MEA, Dr. S Jaishankar, Narendra Modi, PMO India, Digital India, Invest India, India Investment Grid along with other ministry handles and official state social media Tourism handles. Infographics designed in-house and shared through	Major Retweets/Shares/Posts RTs and Posts: Tweet: Link to 2 editions of India Bulletin prepared by the Post highlighting latest economic developments in India shared through social media platforms RT: (i) Sharing this month's #MannKiBaat. Tune in.

		<p>social media platforms:</p> <p>Details for May 2022</p> <p>Sectors Promoted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical Device 2. Renewable Energy 3. Automobile 4. Tourism 5. Gems and Jewellery 6. Biotechnology <p>States Promoted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jharkhand 2. Sikkim 3. Madhya Pradesh 4. Gujarat 	<p>(ii) On 21st June, the world will mark Yoga Day...the theme this year is 'Yoga For Humanity.' #MannKiBaat</p> <p>(iii) As PM @narendramodi's government completes eight years in office, I write on one of its major diplomatic accomplishments-the firm establishment of Quad.</p> <p>(iv) Advancing friendship with Australia. Prime Ministers @narendramodi and @AlboMP held fruitful discussions in Tokyo. The talks focused on deepening the developmental cooperation between India and Australia across diverse sectors.</p> <p>Post:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 16th Indian Fashion Jewellery & Accessories Show (IFJAS) will be organised by @epchindin on 20-22 June, 2022. Products include Fashion Jewellery, Hand Bags & Purses, Fashion Accessories, Stoles & Scarves, Apparels and Footwear etc. Register@https://ifjas.in/register 2. Key milestone in our #AatmaNirbharBharat journey (video shared). 3. India will hold the Presidency of the G20, for the first time, from 01 December 2022 to 30 November
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			<p>2023, culminating in the G20 Summit in 2023.</p> <p>4. '#IndAusECTA can make a significant impact by eliminating tariffs, boosting services, scaling trade & job opportunities and facilitates companies to do business together' Message coming out of Business Conclave organized by @AIBC_National and @InvestmentNSW.</p>
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6. Details of activities conducted out of Trade promotion budget:

S.No	BE for 2021-22	RE for 2021-22	Amount utilized	Details of Activity
1	15,00,000		3,38,728	Renewal of IBISWorld annual subscription.

7. Action taken on the previous JWG, Joint Commissions, Sub-Commissions etc. (issues that Mission had to follow up with host government):

S.No.	Detail of JWG/JEC with date and venue	Action Point (Max. 200 word)	Action Taken (Max. 200 words)
1	NA		

8. Complaints from Foreign Buyers / suppliers: -

Name of Foreign buyer / supplier	Address & contact details of foreign buyer/supplier	Name & Address of Indian Exporter/Importer	Brief Description of Complaint	Authority to whom matter was referred and date on which referred
January 2021– May 2022: NIL				

9. Complaints of Indian Exporter / Importer: -

Name & Address of Indian Exporter/Importer	Name & Address of foreign buyer/supplie	Brief Description of Complaint	Authority to whom matter was referred and	Any Outcome

	r		date on which referred	
AUGUST 2020 (Updated till – Oct. 2021)				
Ace Exports 32, ANANGPUR, SURAJKUND, BADKAL LAKE Rd., Faridabad, HARYANA – 121003	PINK FACTORY PTY LTD / ONE TEA SPOON 8 Powells Rd., Brookvales, SYDNEY, NSW 2100	Ace Exports claim to have unpaid dues amounting to USD 67468 Since Sep. 2019 based on goods dispatched.	Ace Exports claim to have rased matter with Pink Factory without success as negotiations have broken down with Pink Factory willing to pay USD 24120 instead of 67468.	Email received by CGI, Syd from Ace Exports on 17 Apr. 2020 and accordingly advised to launch complaint with DGFT on 17 Apr. 2020. Trade Dispute launched with DGFT by Ace Exports on 31 Aug. 2020 Status as shown on DGFT website : completed Mail sent to Ace Exports by CGIS on 10 Nov.'10 as follow-up/Advise. Response recd. From Ace Exports with further details (Dt. 10 Nov.'20) which were fwd. to Pink Factory / OTS on 13 Nov.'20. Resp. to above mail recd. from Pink Factory / OTS on 30 Nov.'20 and fwd. to Ace Exports on 2 Dec.'20. Resp. to above mail recd. from Ace Exports on 4Dec.'20 giving their point of view/facts and fwd. to Pink Factory / OTS on 4 Dec.'20 with req. to amicably resolve the matter. Response awaited from Pink Factory / OTS – reminder sent on 5 Jan.'21. Reminder sent again to Pink Factory / OTS to respond, on 19 Jan.'21 Reminder sent to Pink Factory / OTS to respond, 8 Mar. '21. Communication received from Pink Factory / OTS Dt. 13 Apr. '21 reg. Planned video Conf. on 14 Apr. '21. Communication received from COUNCIL for LEATHER EXPORTS reg. the case on 5 Apr. '21. Updates communicated by CGI Syd. to CLE on 15 Apr. '21.

				Clarification provided by CGI Syd., on query raised by PMO on 7 Oct. '21 in response to mail sent by ACE Exports.
JANUARY 2021 to May 2022: NIL				

10. Tourism

a) Tourist Visa Issued

No. of Tourist Visa issued during the month (May 2022)	No. of Tourist Visa issued during the same month last year (May 2021)	No. of Tourist Visa issued cumulatively during the year (Jan-May 2022)	No. of Tourist Visa issued cumulatively during the last year (Jan-Apr 2021)
93	0	303	0

b) Indian Tourism Promotion Events held/organized:

S. No.	Event Title	Date	Venue	Theme	Number of Participants
1. NA	Kite Flying Festival	8 th May 2022	Castle hill Showground.	=	More than 5000

c) Use of Social Media/Print Media/Electronic Media for Promoting tourism:

S. No.	Activities	Number of Post	No. Of Impressions	No. of Like
1	Facebook	3	4576	32
2	Twitter	3	1456	14
3	Instagram	1	Nil	Nil

d) Any Advisory issued by country for travelling to India:

S.No.	Advisory	Date	Reason	Action Taken
1.	Exercise a high degree of caution	02 December 2021	The high threat of terrorist activity, civil unrest and crime, and the high rate of vehicle accidents, the impacts of COVID-19.	

e) Interactions held with tour operators for promoting tourism in India:

S.No.	Tour Operator	Date	No. Interactions held
1. NA			

f) Any other information

NIL

11. Any other issue of importance (Max. 500 words)

- 1) The Reserve Bank of Australia during its meeting on 3rd May 2022, decided to increase the cash rate target by 25 basis points to 35 basis points.
- 2) RBA's central forecast is for GDP growth of around 4¼ per cent over 2022 and 2 per cent over 2023.
 - In underlying terms, inflation is 3.7 per cent and in headline terms it is 5.1 per cent.
- 3) Economic growth rate of Australia is 3.3 percent.
- 4) Net foreign liability of Australia stands at 37.8 percent of country's GDP.
- 5) In seasonally adjusted terms, the balance on goods and services was a surplus of \$10,495m in April 2022, an increase of \$757m on the surplus in March 2022.
- 6) In seasonally adjusted terms, goods and services exports increased by \$479m to \$50,378m. Non-rural goods increased by \$379m (1%), rural goods increased by \$179m (3.3%), net exports of goods under merchanting decreased by \$8m (-25%), non-monetary gold decreased by \$538m (-29.3%), services increased by \$467m. Exports of services contributed 10.55% to total goods and services exports.
- 7) In seasonally adjusted terms, goods and services imports decreased by \$278m (-0.7%) to \$39,883 m. Capital goods decreased by \$94m (-1.2%), consumption goods decreased by \$120m (-1.1%), non-monetary gold increased by \$70m (11.6%), intermediate and other merchandise goods decreased by \$130m (-0.8%), services imports decreased by \$3m (-0.1%). Imports of services contributed 14.4% to total goods and services imports.
- 8) Australian exports share by type: Resources contributed 68.7%, Services 9.8%, Rural 11.3% and Manufacturing contributed 7.6% of the total export basket.
- 9) Australian export share by destination: China is the largest partner at 36.5% followed by Japan 10.4%, EU 3.8%, South Korea 5.6%, US 6.2%, and India 3.9%.
- 10) Australian output share by states: NSW contributes 31.1%, Victoria 22.9%, Queensland 17.7%, Western Australia 17.5%, South Australia 5.7%, Tasmania 1.7% with Northern Territory and ACT combined contribution at 3.4%.

- 11) The incoming Australian Treasurer Jim Chalmers said almost out of control inflation was the major challenge for the economy, and record budget deficits would constrain the Labor government's spending capacity. The incoming government will inherit a strong economy being buffeted by global forces beyond its control, annual inflation set to hit almost 6 per cent, more than a decade of deficits, and gross debt set to exceed \$1 trillion.
- 12) Australian Federal Finance Department figures show the economic deficit has fallen to \$46 billion in the first 10 months of the financial year. The improvement since the March budget is attributed to low unemployment of 3.9 per cent helped reduce total government spending by \$6.5 billion. Government revenue was \$3.7 billion higher than had been forecast, because of higher company and personal taxes. The underlying cash balance for the 2021-22 financial year to April 30 was a deficit of \$45.9 billion, against the March 29 budget forecast deficit of \$56 billion, according to the figures. The economy is forecast to have expanded by 0.6 per cent in March, and annual growth slowed to 2.9 per cent, down from 4.2 per cent in the December quarter.
- 13) According to data released by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, Funds under management in the super system fell to \$3.44 trillion from \$3.47 trillion in March due to depressed equity markets. But the industry super sector defied the trend, with assets under management increasing 13.4 per cent to \$1.1 trillion. The increase in assets under management owed to the finalisation of the merger between the \$130 billion public-sector fund QSuper and the \$97 billion industry fund Sunsuper. The merged mega-fund, Australian Retirement Trust, is Australia's second-largest super fund and is classified as an industry fund.
- 14) Australian Trade Commission has warmly welcomed the new Minister for Trade and Tourism the Senator the Hon. Don Farrell and Assistant Minister for Trade Senator Tim Ayres.
- 15) Austrade's General Manager, South Asia, Catherine Gallagher said India offers Australian goods and services exporters significant opportunities across education, agribusiness and food, technology, infrastructure, resources and energy and Australia's reputation for quality goods and services is rapidly growing in India. She further added that by supporting the Australian and Indian business communities to engage with each other, Australia hopes to build on existing momentum and support commercial success. Ms Gallagher said the bilateral relationship was at an all-time high after the recent signing of the Australia India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement.

- 16) Agripower Australia Limited is a leading silicon fertilizer producer has worked across India since 2012 collaborating with research institutions and the private sector to contribute to a market for agricultural products that improve farmers' crop yields and quality, while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- 17) The Australia India Future Skills Initiative will establish a digital platform, delivered in partnership with industry, to connect Australian vocational education, training and skills providers, Indian business, government, learners, and employers. The initiative will deliver leading Australian training capability to meet India's key future skills needs, support capability development and capacity building in India by upskilling India's workforce through Australian educational programs and build strategic business relationships to establish Australia as a training partner of choice, upskill India's workforce and support Indian careers through relevant employment pathways.
- 18) All the major universities of Australia like Melbourne, Sydney, Monash, the University of NSW and Adelaide are offering large discounts and fee reductions, which are branded as scholarships or grants that apply automatically to new and existing students. While Chinese students are content to pay the high fees charged by the Group of Eight universities, the scholarships are designed to attract students from markets such as India, the Philippines and Malaysia, where fees are much more price sensitive. There were 422,000 international students enrolled in Australian universities, colleges and schools in February this year, compared with 554,000 in February 2019. There had also been an increase in universities targeting specific countries, with 15 providing scholarships for Indian and Indonesian students, 14 for Sri Lankan and Vietnamese students and 13 targeting those from Malaysia.
- 19) South Australia has recorded the strongest business confidence in Australia, according to the National Australia Bank (NAB) business survey. It also comes during a period in which the Emergency Management Council eased several COVID-19 restrictions, delivering greater freedom for businesses across the state. South Australia ranked first, ahead of Queensland, followed by Victoria and New South Wales. Western Australia and Tasmania ranked in the bottom two.
- 20) A fourfold increase in gas prices has inflicted huge losses on small to medium sized operations like Causmag International, a Riverina based manufacturer in NSW and may force the company to temporarily close its doors within months if there is no relief. The company which uses gas to make magnesium products, has already wound back operations over the past 12 months,

cutting workers at two sites near Young from 38 to 29. Aditya Jhunjhunwala, director of Causmag International, said his operation, which buys gas priced against the spot market, was incurring huge losses. Prices are also being drawn higher by strong international prices for LNG, which soared last September and again after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February. Mr Jhunjhunwala said international competition meant Causmag could not just pass on the higher prices.

- 21) International Energy Agency said, the global growth in renewable energy generation from solar, wind and other sources increased to a record level in 2021 despite supply bottlenecks, soaring prices for commodities and construction delays. The IEA said a record 295 gigawatts of new renewable power capacity was added in 2021 which will be surpassed, with the IEA expecting 320 gigawatts to be added in 2022. The IEA further added that solar will account for 60 per cent of the new renewable energy generation capacity added this year, followed by wind and hydropower. Europe saw the biggest rate of growth in renewables, the IEA said, and this is expected to continue rising as it moves quickly to reduce its dependency on Russian gas supplies. The IEA said renewables' growth so far this year is much faster than initially expected, driven by support from governments in China, the European Union and Latin America, which is compensating for slower than anticipated growth in the United States.
- 22) Unions in Australia are pushing back against business demands for higher immigration to relieve talent shortages by insisting the minimum income for temporary skilled visa holders should be lifted to well above \$90,000. As immigration looms as a key topic of Labor's employment summit, unions also want stronger requirements to source local workers before foreigners. Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry chief executive Andrew McKellar warned that any excessive increase to the income threshold risks inadvertently excluding occupations that might otherwise be eligible for skilled migration.
- 23) University of New South Wales (UNSW) has been selected as academic lead alongside University of Newcastle and headquarters for the \$15 million NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub. The Hub is a key part of the NSW Government's Net Zero Industry and Innovation Program and will bring together Government, industry, and researchers to fast-track technologies to decarbonise New South Wales. The project is funded by a grant from the NSW Environmental Trust, with significant industry and university partner co-contributions.

- 24) Consul General met Hon Mark Coure MP Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Senior and Veterans on 3rd May 2022, to discuss on collaboration opportunities between India and NSW.
- 25) Consul General attended the Indo-Pacific 2022 International Maritime Exposition organised at ICC Sydney during 10-12 May 2022.
- 26) Consul General visited CSIRO Data 61 facilities in Sydney to understand the innovation and development achieved in data science.
- 27) Consul Commercial visited the Green Hydrogen Hub at Port Kembla, NSW on 18th May 2022 to experience the latest technologies incorporated and future planning in this field of energy.
- 28) Consul General met Mr. Gitesh Agarwal, Director HCL Technologies Ltd. and Mr Chris Tucker, Head of NSW and Head of Sales practice across ANZ to understand their operation and if the Consulate could assist in any way.
- 29) Consul General addressed the Australia India Chamber of Commerce & Jones Day co-organised event on Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement at Jones Day office in Sydney on 18th May 2022.
- 30) Mr. Sandip Das, Deputy Director General, Trade Promotion Council of India called on Consul Commercial on 30th May 2022 to apprise on TPCI led participation in the Sydney Build Expo 2022.
