



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

Minister for Trade

23 January 2011

Emerson to visit India

Trade Minister Dr Craig Emerson will travel to Mumbai from 24 to 26 January at the invitation of India's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Anand Sharma, to participate in an economic summit.

The visit will provide an opportunity for Dr Emerson and Mr Sharma to take forward bilateral trade and economic issues ahead of Mr Sharma's scheduled visit to Australia this year for the annual Joint Ministerial Commission trade talks.

Dr Emerson will also deliver a speech on multilateral trade at the summit, outlining the benefits of a global trade agreement and the need for greater momentum in the Doha round of multilateral trade negotiations.

The Summit, on New Partnerships for Economic Resurgence: The Global Imperative, is an initiative of the Confederation of Indian Industries, in conjunction with the Indian Government and Maharashtra State Government.

The Minister will seek to use the visit to make further representations regarding disputes over payment to Australian companies which provided services to last year's Commonwealth Games.

Dr Emerson will also meet with key Indian companies with investments in Australia to gauge how the two governments can further support and promote two-way investment.

Dr Emerson said trade between Australia and India continued to grow at record levels.

"Much of the growth in Australian exports to India has been in energy and resources, but we also want to widen the scope of the economic relationship by expanding investment between both countries and by developing services trade," Dr Emerson said.

"The frequency of ministerial visits between our two countries – 14 from Australia and 15 from India since 2008 – demonstrates the breadth of interest in building relations even further," he said.

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