

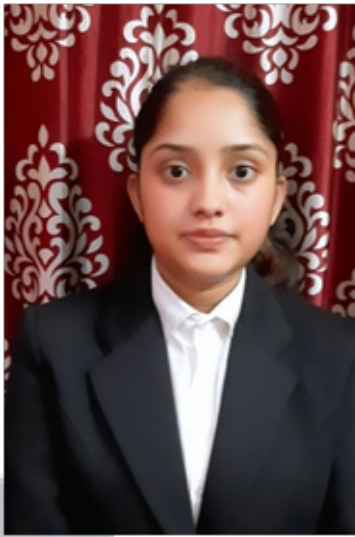
STUDENT MENTORING AND RESEARCH TRAINING (SMART) PROGRAM June-August 2022

Bennett University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Australia-based Institute for Australia India Engagement (IAIE) to create opportunities for students to undertake internships in Australia. As a part of the MoU students are inducted into the Student Mentoring and Research Training (SMART) program which provides research and leadership training and mentoring and an opportunity to design, edit and publish commentaries on Australia-India relationship, for the INDIA NEWS and IAIE's SMART Newsletter.

Program Coordinator: Ms. Anushka Saxena, IAIE Adjunct Fellow, and post graduate student, O.P. Jindal Global University

Commentators: Ms. Isha Rajee, Ms Yashi Sharma, Ms. Sreejoni Baruah, Mr. Ishan Vats, Mr. Yuvraj Singh, Ms. Maitreyi Upadhyay and Ms. Pooja Lakshmi (Students, B.B.A. LL. B. Hons., Bennett University, India)

India-Australia education partnership



By Isha Rajee, Student, B.B.A. LL. B. (Hons.), Bennett University, India

The number of Indian students studying in Australia has significantly increased, and the country has surpassed the United Kingdom as the second-largest destination for Indian students.

There is a lot of academic

exchange between India and Australia, so a Joint Working Group on Education and Training between the two countries have recognized several priority sectors for cooperation, such as research collaborations in education policy, research student exchange programs, building capacity in vocational education, and distance learning in higher education.

Recently, there has been a meeting between the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) M Jagadesh Kumar and Australia's Deputy High Commissioner Sarah Storey and her colleagues regarding the collaboration between the two countries. Kumar further stated that the UGC would issue enabling norms to allow top-ranked international HEIs to build campuses in India.

Mathew Johnston (Minister Counsellor) and Brett Galt-Smith (Counsellor) of Education and Research of

the Australian government attended the conference. During the discussion, both parties discussed perspectives on how to foster successful collaboration between the two nations, citing education as one of the critical areas for cooperation between the presidents of India and Australia.

"In Gujarat International Finance Technology City (GIFT), the Australian side has shown a keen interest." In the GIFT City, Jagadesh Kumar guaranteed the Australian side of the UGC's help and advice in assisting Australian universities in building campuses and delivering courses in various fields like Mathematics, Science, Technology, Engineering, Financial Management, and FinTech.

In recent years, the two nations' collaboration and coordination have grown at an exponential rate. Deepening India-Australia ties are built on common values, interests, geography, and goals.

Indo-Pacific economic framework: An initiative to counter China



By Ishaan Vats, Student, B.B.A. LL. B. (Hons.), Bennett University, India

In the last decade, India and Australia have strengthened their defense ties owing to China's growing presence in the Indo-Pacific region and the recent India-China confrontation at the Line of Actual Control in 2020. Both the countries have actively participated in several bilateral discussions and are active participants of the QUAD. The countries are also participants in the AUSINDEX, a bilateral naval exercise, and Malabar Exercise, a multilateral naval exercise between India, the U.S., Australia, and Japan.

Recently, both countries have

taken a step further in developing their bilateral relations as well as their relations with other countries by becoming part of the US-led Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, launched in May 2022. The framework focuses on four main pillars of cooperation for enhanced economic growth of the region - connectivity, resilience, clean economy, and just economy. In a significant victory for multilateralism, the framework has been accepted by seven of the ten ASEAN members, New Zealand, and South Korea apart from the QUAD members. Acceptance from these countries would be a blow to China's growing presence in the region especially in the South China Sea and near the Strait of Malacca. The framework is important as the same encourages the regional economies to decouple from the Chinese market, in order to regulate the rapid expansion of the dragon's presence in the region, especially after the recent defense pact allegedly signed between China and the Solomon Islands. The framework also aims to ensure an open and free trade in the region by restricting dominance by any particular country in regional economics.

Various aspects of India-Australia economic and trade relations



By Yashi Sharma, Student, B.B.A. LL. B. (Hons.), Bennett University, India

Earlier this year, India and Australia announced that they are set to conclude an Interim Trade Agreement in February 2022 and a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) some months thereafter. The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement was finally signed in April 2022.

A interim or early harvest trade agreement is used to liberalize tariffs on the trade of certain goods between two countries or trading blocs, before a

comprehensive Free Trade Agreement is concluded.

The "India-Australia" Agreement encompasses cooperation across an entire gamut of bilateral economic and commercial relations between the two friendly countries, and covers areas like:

- Trade in Services;
- Trade in Goods, Rules of Origin;
- Dispute Settlement, Movement of Natural Persons;
- Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT);
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures;
- Telecom, Customs Procedures.

The fourth meeting of the foreign ministers of the QUAD grouping was held in Melbourne, Australia, a few months ago as well. Both countries have

noted that the coalition has given a boost to the trade relations between all member countries of the QUAD. Australia noted that it already had a Free Trade Agreement with both the US and Japan, and that all four countries could start building a framework for economic cooperation within the countries of the QUAD after they announced a deal with India.

So far, India and Australia enjoy outstanding bilateral relations. These relations have undergone transformational evolution in recent years, developing along a constructive track, into a friendly association. This is a special partnership characterized by shared values of parliamentary democracies, commonwealth traditions, pluralistic, long-standing people-to-people ties, expanding economic engagement,

The expansive India-Australia dynamics and sports



By Yuvraj Singh, Student, B.B.A. LL. B. (Hons.), Bennett University, India

The bilateral relationship between India and Australia has evolved recently, progressing favourably towards becoming cordial cooperation. The ideals of pluralistic, Westminster-style

democracies, Commonwealth traditions, growing economic connection, and rising high-level interaction are shared by the two countries and serve as the foundation for their many similarities. Strong, thriving, secular, multicultural democracies, a free press, an independent legal system, and the English language are just a few of the many things they have in common. These things lay the groundwork for deeper cooperation and fruitful engagement. India is now seen as a possible partner by Australia in fostering regional security and stability.

Officials from the Department of Sports, the Sports Authority of India, state institutions, and sports federations make up the

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