

**TRADE AND INVESTMENT MISSION TO INDIA BY  
THE DR GEOFF LEE MP  
NSW PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR MULTICULTURALISM  
24 - 30 OCTOBER 2015  
POST MISSION REPORT**

## **MISSION PURPOSE**

India is a NSW Government priority market and has potential for continued growth in two way trade. Consistent with the *NSW International Engagement Strategy (2013)*, Dr Lee's Mission to India aimed to:

- represent the Premier and the NSW Government at the Australian-India Leadership Dialogue, and
- progress development of the skills initiative under our Sister State Relationship with Gujarat.
- promote NSW VET capabilities.

## **MISSION DESCRIPTION**

Dr Lee visited three cities, Delhi, Amritsar and Ahmedabad, over four days. A primary focus of the mission was to represent the NSW Government at the inaugural Australia India Leadership Dialogue being held in Delhi, India is 26-27 October. India is a priority market for NSW and representation at this high level event will support the growth in trade and investment between NSW and India. Dr Lee also progressed development of the NSW Government's skills initiative under our Sister State Relationship with Gujarat.

## **MISSION BACKGROUND**

The NSW International Engagement Strategy (2013) identifies 10 priority markets and aims to have high level visits to each of these markets each year to promote trade and investment. The Mission undertaken by Dr Lee included the priority market of India and the State of Gujarat with which NSW shares a sister-state relationship.

Regular engagement is central to the continued fostering of strong economic relationships with key markets. While this market is a strong bilateral trading partner with NSW, the India economy is growing at a rapid pace and there is potential for enhancement of this trading relationship.

### **Delhi**

Dr Lee visited Delhi on 25-26 October 2015 to progress the NSW-India government to government relationship and trade and investment at the highest level. Dr Lee represented the NSW Premier and the NSW Government at the inaugural Australia India Leadership Dialogue.

While in Delhi, Dr Lee:

- participated in all sessions of the Australia-India Leadership Dialogue with members of the Australian Commonwealth Government, The Indian Government and business leaders from both Australia and India.

## **Amritsar**

Dr Lee visited Amritsar on 27 October to progress the NSW-Punjab government to government relationship at the highest level and to promote the NSW' Government's expertise in vocational education and training.

While in Amritsar, Dr Lee:

- Undertook a cultural visit to the Golden Temple and Jallianwala.
- Met the Mayor of Amritsar, Mr Bakshi Ram Arora to promote the NSW Government's Vocational education and training capabilities.
- Met with Dr Mehal Singh, Principal of Khalsa College to identify training needs in Punjab, and
- Undertook a tour of Khalsa College

## **Ahmedabad**

Dr Lee visited Ahmedabad in Gujarat on 28 October, 2015 to progress the NSW-Gujarat sister-state relationship.

While in Ahmedabad, Dr Lee:

- Undertook a cultural visit to the Ghandi Ashram to pay homage to Mahatma Ghandi.
- Met with the Director of Manufacturing of Ford India, Mr Kel Kearns to discuss skills and training and to gain an understanding of the plant's need for upskilling its workforce.
- Met with the Gujarat Minister for Transport, Water Supply, Labour and Employment to progress the NSW-Gujarat sister-state relationship by discussing Gujarat's need for vocational education and training.
- Presented a cheque on behalf of the Commonwealth Government to the Aga Khan Rural Support Program.

## **KEY OUTCOMES**

### **1. Further developed the NSW – India and NSW – Gujarat relationships**

Dr Lee met with government leaders including the Gujarat Minister for Transport, Water Supply, Labour and Employment and the Mayor of Amritsar.

In **Gujarat**, NSW will work with the Gujarat Government to further explore areas in which the NSW Government can offer expertise in vocational education and training services sector.

### **2. Promote NSW Education**

Share learnings on Indian vocational education and training needs to increase the NSW educational presence in India.

## **OFFICIAL DELEGATION**

Dr Geoffrey Lee MP  
Parliamentary Secretary for Communities

### **Accompanied by:**

#### **Based in India:**

Mr Rohit Manchanda  
NSW Trade & Investment Commissioner for India  
NSW Trade and Investment Office, India

## ESTIMATED COSTS AND DETAILS OF TRAVEL

<b>Minister</b>	Dr Geoff Lee MP
<b>Portfolio</b>	Parliamentary Secretary, representing the Premier of New South Wales
<b>Destinations(s) visited</b> a) Countries b) Cities	a) India b) Delhi, Amritsar, Ahmedabad
<b>Dates of travel</b> a) Departure date b) Return date	a) Sunday 24 October 2015 b) Friday 30 October 2015
<b>Number of official travel days</b>	5
<b>Number of accompanying</b> a) Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) N/A b) N/A
<b>Accompanied by spouse</b> a) in an official capacity b) in a private capacity	N/A
<b>Costs</b>	
<b>Airfares</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$5,645.63 b) N/A
<b>Accommodation</b> (includes any meals/incidentals charged to room) a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$2,048.76 b) N/A
<b>Official hospitality</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) N/A b) N/A
<b>Other expenses</b> a) Official gift presentation b) Ground transport c) Meals and refreshments d) Interpreter e) Other miscellaneous costs	a) \$228.90 b) \$185.98 c) N/A d) N/A e) N/A
<b>TOTAL estimated travel cost</b>	\$8,109.27
<b>Currency conversion rate</b>	1 AUD =48.19 Indian Rupee Date of conversion: 26 November 2015

## MEETING DISCLOSURE SUMMARY

Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose
26 October 2015	Australian-India Leadership Dialogue	Discuss the bilateral relationship between Australia and India. Discuss opportunities for Australia in India in education, mining, infrastructure, climate change, water management and professional services
27 October 2015	Bakshi Ram Arora, Mayor of Amritsar Also present: Rohit Manchanda and Alan Manly	Discuss opportunities for collaboration on education with Punjab, including for students in Australia and teachers in Punjab. Discuss possible collaboration between institutions in NSW and India.
	Khalsa College, Amritsar. Met Dr Singh (Principal), Registrar, Academic Dean, and academic staff. Also present: Rohit Manchanda, Jugandeep Singh Jawaharwala and Alan Manly	Discuss opportunities for collaboration on education, including jointly taught MBAs, recognition of qualifications, and potential for exchange of students from India and Australia through the Colombo Plan.
28 October 2015	Aga Khan Rural Support Program Also present: Rohit Manchanda, and Alan Manly	View an aid project empowering women in tribal areas to become economically self-sufficient, and present sponsorship cheque from DFAT.
	Mr Vijay Rupani, Minister for Transport, Water Supply, Labour and Employment, Gujarat  Dr Sandhya Bhullar I.A.S., Director, Employment & Training and M.D., Gujarat Skill Development Mission  Also present: Joanne Lovejoy, Rohit Manchanda and Alan Manly	Discuss opportunities for collaboration on education, including skill and VET, health care and trades. Discuss possibility of further MOU between Gujarat and NSW Governments on VET.
	Mr S.J.Haider, IAS, Secretary, Tourism, Devsthanm Management & Pilgrimage Industries & Mines Department, Government of Gujarat  Also present: Joanne Lovejoy, Rohit Manchanda and Alan Manly	Discuss opportunities for collaboration in tourism between Gujarat and NSW
	Kel Kearns, Site Plant Manager, Sanand Vehicle Assembly Plant, Ford India Private Limited  Also present: Joanne Lovejoy, Rohit Manchanda and Alan Manly	View a future automotive manufacturing centre of Gujarat and discuss VET sector training to deliver a qualified pool of staff in automotive trades that can be recruited when necessary to fill labour needs in factory.