

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town
International Agreements Committee
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12 May 2022

Dear Dianne,

I am writing to update you and your committee on the third round of the UK-India Free Trade Agreement. You will also note the Written Ministerial Statement that I laid in the Lords today and the Joint Outcome Statement issued by the UK and Indian Chief Negotiators which can be found [here](#).

A delegation of 47 UK officials undertook technical talks in New Delhi from 25 April – 6 May. The negotiations, at official level, were conducted in a hybrid fashion, with some negotiators in New Delhi, and others attending virtually.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a raft of commercial agreements and hailed a new era in the UK and India's trade, investment and technology partnership, during his two-day visit to India, 21-22 April. This included confirmation of more than £1 billion in new investments and export deals in areas from software engineering to health, creating almost 11,000 jobs across the UK. The Prime Minister also discussed our wider trade and investment relationship with Prime Minister Modi, and how the FTA can build towards our shared Roadmap to double trade and investment by 2030. Work is already progressing on cutting red tape for businesses following the UK-India Enhanced Trade Partnership launched by both Prime Ministers last year. During the visit, our respective Prime Ministers announced the UK and India aim to conclude the majority of talks by the end of October.

I will continue to update your committee as the official level negotiations progress. I would like to reiterate the commitment made by our Department to make the Chief Negotiator and relevant Senior Civil Service experts available to brief the committee in private as negotiations progress. I would be happy to talk to your committee if you feel this would be useful.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grimstone', written in a cursive style.

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
Minister for Investment
Department for International Trade
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy