



## Department for Business & Trade

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Dear Angus,

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

A delegation of Indian officials undertook technical talks in London from 6-10 February. As with previous rounds, this was conducted in a hybrid fashion - a number of Indian officials travelled to London for negotiations and others attended virtually.

Technical discussions were held across 11 policy areas over 43 separate sessions. They included detailed draft treaty text discussions in policy areas such as goods market access, services, and procurement.

The UK-India trade relationship was worth £34 billion in the year to Q3 2022. A balanced deal which respects the domestic sensitives of both sides will strengthen the economic links between the UK and India, boosting the UK economy and bringing benefits to UK businesses, families and consumers.

My department continues to welcome your interest in the Government's FTA programme, and I remain committed to the transparency and scrutiny of new trade deals, while ensuring Committees and all Parliamentarians are appropriately informed.

I would like to reiterate the commitment made by my department to make the Chief Negotiator and relevant Senior Civil Service experts available to brief the committee in private as negotiations progress.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kemi Badenoch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**THE RT HON KEMI BADENOCH MP**

Secretary of State for Business and Trade & President of the Board of Trade and  
Minister for Women & Equalities