



**Stuart Ayres**

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism  
and Western Sydney

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **BOOSTING BUSINESS LINKS WITH INDIA**

NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres has arrived in India to build business and tourism ties with one of the world's most dynamic economies.

Mr Ayres will meet senior leaders between 23 - 27 February and represent NSW at the Australia India Business Exchange (AIB-X), a Commonwealth-led initiative designed to deepen trade and investment with a series of events across India over several months.

"India is already the world's fifth-largest economy and Australia's fifth-largest export destination. It will also invest a staggering two trillion Australian dollars on infrastructure over the next five years," Mr Ayres said.

"The importance of India on the world stage is increasing every year, which is why we've reconfirmed its status as a priority market under the Global NSW Strategy, expanding our representation with a Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner in Mumbai and representation in Bangalore."

This week's events are part of an intensive program of in-market activity designed to build on Premier Gladys Berejiklian's visit in 2018.

As well as attending the AIB-X launch in New Delhi with Australia's incoming High Commissioner and former NSW premier Barry O'Farrell, Mr Ayres will visit the commercial capital of Mumbai for an aviation roundtable promoting tourism connectivity, part of an extensive diary of tourism meetings designed to boost tourist numbers in NSW.

"Diversifying markets, increasing tourism links, attracting investment and growing exports in places like India is a key element of Global NSW," Mr Ayres said.

"India's opportunity is undeniable and it's more important now than ever."

As well as showcasing NSW exports and taking part in the Taste of Australia program, Mr Ayres will promote investment opportunities and work to expand tourism and technology links.

“India has enormous growth potential and the NSW Government’s participation in the AIB-X will help raise the profile of NSW companies participating and demonstrates our commitment to working with the Commonwealth Government on key international trade initiatives,” he said.

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