

Your ref: A775292  
Our ref: CWS-2019-0430  
Enquiries:

Ms Jessica Shaw MLA  
Chair  
Economics and Industry Standing Committee  
laeisc@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Ms Shaw

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA**

Thank you for your letter dated 30 August 2019 regarding the Inquiry into Western Australia's Economic Relationship with India.

The Transport Portfolio, comprising the Department of Transport (DoT), Public Transport Authority and Main Roads does not directly undertake international trade development as this falls under the jurisdiction of various other departments; in particular, the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation.

DoT is the public sector agency that principally assists the Minister for Ports to administer the five port authorities (PAs) regulated by the *Port Authorities Act 1999*. One of the primary functions of PAs is to facilitate trade within and through the ports they manage.

DoT sought comment from PAs in relation to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference and their responses are as follows:

The Kimberley Ports Authority (Broome) and Mid West Ports Authority (Geraldton) currently do not currently have any trade connections with India.

Major Pilbara Ports Authority (PPA (Port Hedland, Dampier and Anketell)) port users have optimised their port berths to load Capesize vessels for iron ore exports. However, iron ore exports to India are constrained due to Indian ports being unable to accommodate Capesize vessels.

In recent years, PPA has facilitated the trial of iron exports to India on smaller vessels. From January 2016 to 30 July 2019, about 8.8 million tonnes of iron ore were exported to India from the Port of Port Hedland.

Should India become a significant importer of iron ore exports on smaller vessels, there would be an overall loss of throughput from Pilbara ports due to the loss of efficiency.

The Southern Ports Authority (Albany, Bunbury and Esperance) currently has the following trade connections with India:

- Lanco (via Griffin Coal) continues to assess the potential of coal exports (up to 10 mtpa) to India via the Port of Bunbury. The economic viability of this trade has not been established.
- Alcoa and South 32 Worsley both export some alumina to India (a total of 252,061 tonnes in the last 12 months) from the Port of Bunbury.

The ports of Albany and Esperance have not received any direct trade enquiries relating to India.

The Fremantle Port Authority (FPA) has reviewed the Terms of Reference and concluded it does not have any formal comment. However, in relation to the "Current status of India's trading relationship with Western Australia", FPA has extracted the past three years of statistics (refer to Attachment 1), showing trade volumes through Fremantle from/to India, for the Committee's reference.

If you require further information please contact Ms Anne-Marie Brits, A/Executive Director Freight, Ports, Aviation and Reform, by telephone on \_\_\_\_\_ or by email to \_\_\_\_\_

Yours sincerely



**Richard Sellers**  
Director General Transport

31/10/2019

*Att.*

Tonnes - Total Trade		Import	Export	16/17	17/18	18/19
Inner Harbour	Export			226,828	249,490	293,075
	Import			65,739	84,602	95,945
Outer Harbour	Export			674,818	756,282	422,657
	Import			0	0	41,962
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>967,386</b>	<b>1,090,374</b>	<b>853,639</b>

Tonnes - Bulk Cargo		Year			
Import	Export	Commodity	16/17	17/18	18/19
Export		ALUMINA	643,668	734,172	410,070
		LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS [LPG]	0	0	12,587
		SULPHURIC ACID	0	22,110	0
		WHEAT	31,150	0	0
Import		PETROLEUM, CRUDE	0	0	28,526
		PETROLEUM, REFINED	0	0	13,437
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>674,818</b>	<b>756,282</b>	<b>464,620</b>

Tonnes - Breakbulk Cargo		Year				
Import	Export	Commodity	16/17	17/18	18/19	
Export		MACHINERY - AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL		0	0	142
		OTHER TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND PARTS		149	73	0
		SCRAP METALS ETC		20,017	0	11,379
		VEHICLES - INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL		937	125	92
Import		MOTOR VEHICLES - NEW		522	372	165
		VEHICLES - INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL		76	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>21,701</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>11,777</b>	

TEU - Container Trade		Year				
Import	Export	Full	Empty	16/17	17/18	18/19
Export	Full			11,027	14,708	16,488
	Empty			0	0	14
Import	Full			5,436	6,755	7,483
	Empty			0	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>16,463</b>	<b>21,463</b>	<b>23,986</b>

#### Top 5 Container Commodity Exports

SCRAP METALS  
WASTE PAPER  
TITANIUM DIOXIDE  
RUBBER MANUFACTURES (used scrap)  
OATS

#### Top 5 Container Commodity Imports

MANUFACTURES OF METAL  
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS  
RUBBER MANUFACTURES (new tyres etc)  
MACHINERY - AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL  
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE UP ARTICLES