

# Proposal to increase Bilateral relations between Republic of India and Australia

### Introduction

AICA Group of Companies has been operating in Australia for the past 16 years. The company's subsidiaries are working in many states of Australia and India. We have been involved in various business verticals including Energy, Education, Tourism, Health and Import & Export.

The Founder & Managing Director, Mr Shiju Mathews<sub>CPA</sub> has been part of Austrade, Ausindustry, DFAT and has worked with both the Governments in promoting Trade and Economic relationship between the countries. He has been part of various business councils, chamber of commerce & industry confederation that were aimed at improving the trade relationships between the countries.

Our business expertise is involved in distributing energy resources, engineering solutions, training with upskilling the workers both professional and tradesmen. These are done by introducing virtually integrated traineeship, internship and placement programs. As part of this initiative, educational institutions from WA and India have expressed their interest in this program. An online platform has been developed and we are waiting for government ascent to formulate this innovative model to be implemented successfully.

This submission is being presented with the view of looking at developing sister-state/city relationships between the two countries.

#### Areas for collaboration

# 1) Tourism

Indians have always had an interest in travelling and going on trips to other places around the world. They are also keen to travel to Australia but the stringent rules and unreasonable refusals hold them all back. Even those with healthy travel history and financial backgrounds find it difficult to prove their genuine travel needs. Many Indians travel to Europe and US to enjoy the scenic beauties and experience local wineries, cuisine and learn about their history. Western Australia is able to develop specific tourism packages which add values to state like, outback adventure tourism, Wine Farm stay packages, regional tourism. health related Ayurvedic, Dental or medical visors.



The same travelling and exploring interest is there among Australians, who visit India frequently for historic, archaeological and cultural tourism. However they are often not sure of the apt places and struggle to find correct guides who can lead them to places as they have planned. The proposal is to provide gateways for tourists to freely explore the touristic places in respective countries and in turn help the economic growth.

## 2) Medical

The medical sector in both countries are developed and highly competitive in various areas. The dental sector especially has developed a lot in India and people from around the globe visit for aesthetic and cosmetic purposes. The Australian healthcare is highly developed and among the best in the world as per recent studies by joint medical councils. The healthcare facilities can be availed by Indians who would like to come and explore the options to get opinions and medical care for various ailments. The possibilities of medics and patients having a broader spectrum to try and explore the optimum medical treatments, is the next proposal from us.

## 3) Energy

AICA has been playing a very crucial role in retail engineering in Australia and India. We are working on R&D projects with Universities to develop energy storage capacities for residential and commercial businesses. The same is being developed in India through P2P business models. Through constant technical innovation, we have established a series of proven power system automation technical systems with proprietary intellectual property rights, with its grid protection control and automation technology having been successfully applied in over 30000 substations around the world. Among the future programs, AICA aims to uphold ways to serve the global energy and provide inputs to the development of national energy projects. AICA intends to maintain its advantage in technology, quality, service and management while pursuing excellence to promote innovation and development in the energy field.

# 4) Technology (AgriTech/FinTech/EvTech)

Our business intelligence aligned with current demand in industries for technology transformation like automation, big data analytics, artificial intelligence, P2P trading can be achieved through our advanced computing technologies with the support of iOT devices and real time satellite imageries.



# **Proposition**

To constitute an economic development committee with industry leaders and businesses like AICA to understand the challenges or further deliberate on opportunities to improve bilateral and trilateral trade relationship between the countries.

### Conclusion

The recent Novel Coronavirus which originated in China has brought our State and country with many other world nations to an economic standstill. Many of the basic human needs like sanitation, food & health products, digital life supported products like electronics and other trade areas where most countries are relying on Chinese goods and support for business operations have been affected as well. It is important to avoid the reliance on one country for all needs and instead we propose to diversify the trade and economic areas to countries like India for more joint growth and development. Such joint initiatives would not only add value to the Australian community but help to develop relations and economic ties between both countries. The proposals have been written based on current conditions where AICA can confidently work with the Government to develop relations and build ties.

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