Co-operation of India and Australia

What are the focus areas?

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- India and Australia focus on three areas of our relationship that show great potential: **economic, knowledge and strategic partnerships.**
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- India’s economic take-off is lifting millions out of poverty, transforming the country into the world’s fastest-growing major economy, with **forecasted growth of 7.5% in 2017**.
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- This is a stunning result for India, and a rare opportunity for Australia.
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- Two-way trade is growing, and approaching $20 billion, but that’s far too low and there’s so much more we can do.
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- The Government will announce the results of the tenth round of the **Australia-India Strategic Research Fund**.
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- **Worth more than $100 million**, this initiative has enabled our sharpest minds to collaborate in areas such as food security and health, and advance the boundaries of human knowledge in quantum computing, nanotechnology and astronomy.
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Connecting via education:

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- For decades students have been criss-crossing the Indian Ocean in search of knowledge.
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- Last year, Australia was the second-most popular study destination for Indian students — 60,000 came to Australia to learn.
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- Through the Government’s New Colombo Plan, more and more young

Australians choosing India as a place to study and boost their own qualifications and experience.
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- Consider the numbers — **the Indian Government is aiming to train 400 million people by 2022.**
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- A great strength of our education relationship is found in the higher education and research sector.
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- Collaboration between our institutes on high-end research, innovation, science and technology are central to developing our knowledge partnership.
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Shared strategic priorities:

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- Close economic cooperation is also matched by shared strategic priorities.
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- The security and stability of the Indo-Pacific is fundamental to both of us and my visit provides an opportunity to discuss key regional and geostrategic issues and strengthen our engagement.
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The Indian link:

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- India — its culture, its art, its food, its people — has become such a large and important part of Australian life.
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- Half a million Australians are of Indian descent.
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- That number increases each year. Whether it’s Little India in Melbourne, Diwali celebrations in Brisbane, or the long-established Sikh community on the North Coast of New South Wales, modern Australia, the most successful multicultural society in the world, could not be imagined without the contribution of Indian-Australians.
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Source: The Hindu

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