



29 June 2015

## **Australia India Business Council (AIBC) Welcomes HE Navdeep Suri, High Commissioner of India to Australia**

The Australia India Business Council (AIBC) held an official welcome for HE Navdeep Suri High Commissioner of India to Australia on Friday 26 June 2015.

It was a very successful event with over 100 AIBC members and distinguished guests attending.

The event was hosted by CBA at their headquarters in Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Ms Annette Pinder, CBA Executive Manager Migrant Financial Services, welcomed the High Commissioner HE Navdeep Suri , Mr Bryce Hutchesson of DFAT, members and guests.

Ms Pinder said CBA was pleased to be partnering the AIBC for this very special event.

She said Mr. Suri has served in India's diplomatic missions in Cairo, Damascus, Washington, Dar es Salaam and London and as India's Consul General in Johannesburg. He was India's Ambassador to Egypt prior to his present assignment. She said Mr Suri's innovative use of social media in public diplomacy had received extensive recognition and two prestigious awards.

Ms Sheba Nandkeolyar, AIBC National Vice Chair, officially welcomed High Commissioner Mr Suri on behalf of AIBC. She said the AIBC was looking forward to working closely with Mr Suri in strongly promoting trade and investment between Australia and India.

Mr Suri delivered the India Economic Update, following the first year of Indian NDA Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government.

Mr Bryce Hutchesson of DFAT provided an Australian perspective highlighting the opportunities that CECA would provide for this relationship.

At a time when India is poised for tremendous growth HE Navdeep Suri appointment as High Commissioner India to Australia comes at a key moment in Australia-India bilateral trade and commercial relationship. Trade and investment between Australia and India is poised to grow in the next few years with negotiation of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) likely to be completed by the end of 2015.

Mr Bryce Hutchesson, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, presented the Economic Update from an Australian perspective. He provided a briefing on the current position of the CECA negotiations.



Mr Dipen Rughani, AIBC National Chairman moderated the very interesting Q&A session with a flow of questions for the speakers from AIBC members and guests.

Mr Raja Venkateswar, President of AIBC NSW concluded the event by thanking the sponsors, supporters and all relevant people who had made this event possible.

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