

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 279
ANSWERED ON 13.08.2026

THIRD INDIA-AUSTRALIA ANNUAL SUMMIT

279. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major agreements and MoUs signed during the India--Australia summit, including the key outcomes of the Joint Declaration on Defence and Security Cooperation;
- (b) the progress made in Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) negotiations and the outcomes relating to critical minerals and clean energy cooperation;
- (c) the key initiatives under the India--Australia Defence Innovation Corridor, including measures to enhance defence cooperation and interoperability; and
- (d) the follow-up mechanism and roadmap for implementing the summit outcomes, including the expanded defence partnership?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 279 FOR REPLY ON 13.08.2026 REGARDING THIRD INDIA-AUSTRALIA ANNUAL SUMMIT ASKED BY SHRI SUJEET KUMAR.

During the visit of Prime Minister to Australia from 08-10 July 2026 the major outcome documents that were finalized are as follows:

- Building on the Australia-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, both Prime Ministers welcomed finalisation and signature of the Administrative Arrangement, which will enable long-term Australian uranium exports to India.
- On the technology cooperation front, both sides agreed on an Australia-India Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains (PACTS) to raise the ambition of our relationship on critical technologies, supply chain diversification, cyber security, digital resilience, and defence research.
- In the area of education and skills cooperation, both sides finalized the MoU to set up a Centre of Excellence on Mining at National Skills Training Institute (NSTI), Bhubaneswar. Flinders University received an LoI to establish its campus in Bengaluru.
- The outcomes in the domain of defence and security include finalization of the Joint Declaration on Defense and Security Cooperation, the Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap and a Memorandum of Understanding between the Maritime Border Command and the Indian Coast Guard.

(The major agreements and MoUs signed during the 3rd India-Australia Annual Summit are enclosed as Annexure A.)

2. The Joint Declaration on Defense and Security Cooperation (JDDSC) renews the existing Joint Declaration on Security (2009). The JDDSC reaffirms the two countries' unwavering commitment to an open, peaceful, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. The two sides aim to strengthen comprehensive defence cooperation, deepen strategic dialogue, increase information sharing on terrorist threats to the region, and expand cooperation in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), among others.

3. During the Third India Australia Annual Summit, the Prime Ministers re-affirmed their commitment to progressing an ambitious, balanced and mutually beneficial Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) to unlock the full potential of the economic relationship and strengthen prosperity for both countries. They also underscored the importance of partnerships in the critical minerals sector between Indian and Australian government agencies, public and private companies and research institutions to promote investment, secure long-term supply and offtake arrangements, and support the development of processing and value-addition capabilities.

4. The two countries underscored the importance of expanding defence science and technology research cooperation into new areas. In addition, under the Defence Research Collaboration Pillar of the 'Australia-India Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains (PACTS)', both sides aim to facilitate deeper ties between their respective defence innovation and start-up ecosystems, including business-to-business engagement.

5. The progress of summit outcomes including the expanded defence partnership would be taken up through the established bilateral mechanisms existing between the two countries.

Annexure A

S. No.	Title	Brief description
1	Joint Declaration on Defense and Security Cooperation (JDDSC)	Renews the existing Joint Declaration on Security (2009). It identifies interoperability of forces, capacity building, maritime domain, defense industrial collaboration, cyber security and technology, counter terrorism, HADR, and unified approach in UNCLOS, ASEAN, PIF, IORA, as areas of cooperation.
2	Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap (MSCR)	Enhances maritime security cooperation by promoting information sharing, and capability development, and operational coordination.
3	India-Australia Joint Statement on Energy Security	Reaffirms the commitment of both countries to energy security in the face of geopolitical tensions.
4	Finalisation of Administrative Arrangement of the India-Australia Civil Nuclear Agreement	Operationalises the India-Australia Civil Nuclear Agreement signed in 2014, and enables supply of uranium from Australia to India.
5	Australia-India Partnership for Cyber, Critical Technologies, Supply Chains (PACTS)	Builds on the 2020 Framework Arrangement on Cyber and Cyber Enabled Critical Technology Cooperation. Aims to support national and regional security, promote collaboration to make critical supply chains more resilient, and strengthen collaboration in critical technologies, cyber security, and digital resilience.
6	India-Australia Sports Collaboration Roadmap	Aimed at promoting establishment and operationalisation of High-Performance Sports Centres in India. It will promote experience sharing for major sporting events such as Olympics and Commonwealth Games and identifies Para sports as a key priority.
7	MoU between Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Maritime Border Command (MBC) of Australia	Establishes cooperation in the field of Maritime Law Enforcement, domain awareness, and maritime border protection between ICG and MBC
8	MoU between Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), and Technical and Further Education (TAFE), Government of Western Australia to set up a Centre of Excellence in Mining and Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS)	Sets up a Centre of Excellence in Mining Equipment, Technology and Services at National Skill Training Institute (NSTI), Bhubaneswar to develop a Centre of academic excellence in sub-domains of mining operations, mine safety, mineral processing, mine machinery, etc. It will enable exchange of students/trainees between National Centre for Excellence and TAFE, Western Australia.
9	Handing over Letter of Intent	Enables setting up of the campus of Flinders

	(LoI) to Flinders' University for setting up its campus in India (Bengaluru)	University in Bengaluru.
10	Signing of Letter of Intent (LoI) between National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) and Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)	Acknowledges the importance of quality assurance in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). It will strengthen regulatory frameworks in vocational training systems, co-development and alignment of occupational standards in priority sectors, and enable capacity building of officials, staff exchanges, joint workshops/research activities.
11	MoU under Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership	Aims to advance trilateral cooperation in emerging technologies and innovation, under the Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership
12	MoU between GeoScience Australia (GA) and Geological Survey of India (GSI)	Builds on the MoU on Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed in 2015. Aimed at adoption of advanced exploration methodologies, capacity building and skill development, and enable technological upgradation and modernization of GSI infrastructure.
13	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library access agreement between Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and IP Australia	Provides access of the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database to IP Australia.
14	MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and University of Melbourne	Establishes linkages between both institutions for future collaboration including collaborative research programs towards drug target identification, trainee programs, and faculty exchange Programs
15	MoU between Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata with Griffith Film School, South Brisbane, Australia.	Establish flexible and open-ended framework for collaboration including joint academic activities and workshops, development of joint projects in cinema and allied fields, and collaboration on short-term workshops, or summer schools.
16	Handing over of Letter of Approval to Victoria University	Permits the Victoria University to set up and operate its campus in Gurugram.
