



India-Australia CECA Negotiations

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Australia is pushing to finalise the **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)** with India by the next 6-7 months, ahead of their federal elections scheduled for mid-2025.

- CECA is a **comprehensive trade agreement** between India and Australia.
 - It is more comprehensive than earlier [India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement \(ECTA\)](#).
- The ECTA is a **limited trade agreement** that came into force in **December 2022**.
- **CECA** negotiations were launched in **May 2011**, which were suspended in 2016 and again **re-launched in 2021** with the intention of **quickly concluding an ECTA** to liberalise and **deepen bilateral trade in goods and services**, and to then use this foundation to resume negotiations on the **more ambitious CECA**.
- The CECA is intended to cover 5 main tracks i.e. **goods, services, digital trade, government procurement** and **Rules of Origin/Product Specific Rules** Schedule.
 - New areas of interest include **competition policy, MSMEs, innovation, agri-tech, critical minerals** and **sports**.
- In 2023-24, **India's imports** from Australia **declined 15%** to USD 16.15 billion, while **India's exports increased 14.23%** to USD 7.94 billion. Australia is India's 13th largest export destination and 14th largest import source for India.

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