

Economics References Committee inquiry into  
“The Australian manufacturing industry”  
Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committees on Economics  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
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I am a Malaysian by birth and are currently working as a Civil Engineer in Australia. I am horrified and ashamed by the amount of imported construction material we used in Australia. We used to manufacture steel in Australia and now we have to import construction material overseas from cladding to insulation. I have not even started on other construction material such as wiring and lighting technology such as LEDs.

I would like to address the following term of reference:

**a. what manufacturing capacities Australia requires for economic growth, national resilience, rising living standards for all Australians and security in our region;**

We as an Australian should not become a third world country (no offence to other third world countries) where we dig out dirt from the ground and export them while importing construction material at a higher price premium and with no added economic benefit to Australian.

Take COVID outbreak as a good example, prices of construction material went through the roofs because of border closure. This will not happen if we dig, process and sell construction material within Australia or even better, export finished product overseas.

Government must ensure locally sourced products are mandated in all public contracts. Why are governments allowed to source products and materials overseas? Sure, there are some products and services not available in Australia. If that is so, why can't the Australian government ensure these products and services are made available through importation of knowledge e.g. import talent through temporary VISA external workers who can train Australian or ensure overseas companies who want to sell products in Australia train Australian in the technology? This is not rocket science.

**b. the drivers of growth in manufacturing in Australia and around the world;**

The drivers of growth in manufacturing in Australia and around the world is

**i. Knowledgeable workforce**

Give a Man a Fish, and You Feed Him for a Day. Teach a Man To Fish, and You Feed Him for a Lifetime. Government must enforce laws ensuring overseas companies that want to do business in Australia must train their Australian employees through knowledge transfer.

Government must also ensure students are taught proper up to date skills and knowledge and not having their time wasted on left wing agenda and ideologies. Teachers caught pushing their own agenda and ideologies in schools must be punished.

Schools are where young children learn about their world and if they are interested in agenda and ideologies sure let have a discussion about it in Universities where they are old enough to make up their own mind. Until then, keep it to the basic.

**ii. Increase in efficiency through technology know-how**

Children are taught critical race theory and other fringe left wing ideologist when they should be taught mathematic and science in schools. Quality of education in Australia has been trailing behind other countries and this is shameful. We should go back to basic and stop teaching nonsense ideology in school at start teaching the basic.

**iii. Cheap and reliable energy**

Government and private sectors especially Superannuation must invest in Australia by building new power plant. I do not care if the power is from nuclear, coal, gas, and/or other renewable sources JUST GET IT DONE and stop bickering. Time wait for no one and Australia is quickly sinking into anonymity in the world stage.

Why are Superannuation companies allowed to invest Australian money oversea and why are there are no laws preventing this from happening? Australian money should be invested for the good of All Australian.

**iv. Cheap and reliable water source**

Same argument as per point iv. Why aren't government and private sectors investing in building new dams? Precious clean Australia rainwater is wasted every year flowing into the ocean or flooding properties because there is no sufficient hydrological control upstream.

Australia is not in drought we get plenty of heavy rainfall. What Australia has is a drought of good leaders, leaders that can foresee what Australia needs and plan steps on how to get there.

**c. the role that government can play in assisting our domestic manufacturing**

Government must make a law banning using material and product from oversea in their public tender. If the product is not available, Australian government is required to train and invest in ensuring these products are made in Australia by Australian. Australian workers shall also get trained to make this product here.

I am very cynical of Australian Government after listening to Australia mainstream media for 14 years. I believe the Australian Government can do better in fixing Australian economy. They fail abysmally because they either don't bother or it is against their self-interest. We have all the natural resources here in Australia and they squander it all.

Gas prices in Japan (which they got from Australia) is cheaper compared to Australia. Let that sinks in for a second or two. How is that possible? Who would invest in a place like Australia if the energy price here is so expensive?

Please make Australia great AGAIN!