

The Hon Lisa Singh
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



29 October 2025

Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary,

Re: Building Asia capability in Australia through the education system and beyond

The Australia India Institute (AII) welcomes and supports the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education's inquiry into the development of Asia capability within Australia.

We particularly note the Committee's interest in *good practice models for building Asia capability, including through language learning, intercultural understanding, and regional engagement - including immersive experiences and utilising digital technologies*, as it pertains to India.

Established in 2008, the Australia India Institute is Australia's leading centre dedicated to enhancing Australia-India relations. Hosted at the University of Melbourne – Australia's leading research-intensive university – the Institute aims to increase the policy and public importance of India as a crucial partner in Australia's future, and of Australia as a crucial partner in India's future. Our activities across the academic, political, business and community sectors have helped to shape engagement with India among Australian decision makers, change perceptions about Australia in India, promote trade and investment and activate bilateral networks.

Of most relevance to this inquiry is our education program, which strengthens cooperation between Australia and India in talent development, research, and innovation. With support from the Australian Government Department of Education, this work enables us to play a critical role in strengthening learning, skilling, and research engagement between the two nations.

Recent activities under this pillar include:

Toolkit for Teaching Applied Learning

The Toolkit for Teaching Applied Learning is a collaborative initiative designed to provide secondary school teachers in India and Australia with practical, evidence-based resources to support effective applied learning pedagogies. To be launched at the end of this year, the Toolkit will offer a range of strategies, techniques, and best practices to enhance teachers' professional development in applied pedagogies and classroom practices. The Institute is delivering this project in partnership with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore, and the University of Melbourne.

New Frontiers for Australian Dual-Sector Education in India

The research, [*New Frontiers for Australian Dual-Sector Education*](#), highlights new opportunities for Australian dual-sector education providers to engage with Indian state governments as they seek to build a globally competitive workforce through pathways between skills development and

The Hon Lisa Singh
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



higher education. Supported by the Victorian Institute of Technology, the research focuses on the Indian states of Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Goa, outlining their approaches for expanding workforce capacity by linking skills training and higher education in priority growth areas.

Mapping Higher Education Engagement Between Australia and India

[*Mapping Higher Education Engagement between Australia and India*](#) is a compendium which provides a 'stocktake' of the growth and activities through formalised partnerships between Australian and Indian higher education institutions. The research looked at 38 Australian universities and found Australian and Indian higher education institutions already share more than 400 partnerships. It offers key insights regarding the diverse aspects of education engagement which include academic mobility, student articulation, pathways programs, joint degree and doctorate programs, and research collaboration.

Australia India InnovEd Forums

Advancements in information and communication technologies (ICT) are revolutionising how higher education is experienced, disseminated, and delivered worldwide. The [Australia India InnovEd Forums](#) provided a timely platform for stakeholders to engage in meaningful dialogue about innovative education. The forums convened education researchers, academic leaders, government policymakers, and industry stakeholders to engage on critical themes related to the integration, recognition, and impact of online, hybrid, and technologically evolving modes of teaching and learning.

Australia-India Education Researcher Forums

The [Australia-India Education Researcher Forums](#) showcased research in education disciplines from Australia and India, identified ongoing bilateral research projects in this field, and explored opportunities for new research collaborations. Topics included early childhood education, digital interventions and technology in reshaping education and student welfare, and the internationalisation of higher education.

The Australia India Institute commends the Committee for its attention to this important area and would welcome the opportunity to provide further information about our work. Correspondence can be directed to aai-ceo@unimelb.edu.au.

Best regards,

[Redacted Signature]
Lisa Singh
Chief Executive Officer
Australia India Institute
[Redacted Contact Information]