



**ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION
REPRESENTATIVE IN INDIA**

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South Asia Education Strategy 2025

International education is one of Australia's flagship sectors and is currently the nation's third largest export and a world class destination for close to 700,000 international students. The South Asia region represents a significant proportion of those students. Future projections are positive, with a range of significant bilateral educational, research, scientific, business investment and collaborations underway. With this growth comes opportunity and challenge.

In May 2017, the Australian Government asked Mr Peter Varghese AO, Chancellor of the University of Queensland to lead the development of an independent report to the Australian Government on an India Economic Strategy.

The report, *An India Economic Strategy To 2035* was released in February 2019. The report stated that "there is no sector with greater promise for Australia in India than education."

Building on this report, the Australian Association of Education Representatives in India (AAERI) has commissioned an independent review to explore the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing Australia's international education sector in South Asia over the next five years, and beyond. The AAERI report will set a roadmap for how the international education sector can prepare for the changes that will come as South Asian economies transform and grow.

Commencing shortly with interviews in both South Asia (India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka) and Australia, the review will be undertaken by a panel of independent consultants: Dr John Duncan, Mr John McPartland and Professor John Wood. The Panel will also work with independent subject matter experts and engage with a range of key stakeholders to identify ways in which the interests of the Australian international education sector can be both safeguarded and developed further.

The interviews will include Government departments in South Asia and Australia, trade bodies, diplomatic missions, study destination groups, educational institution providers and associations across all sectors, student bodies, industry and professional organisations, media representative, and agents operating across the region. Written submissions will also be invited.

The interim findings will be released to the AAERI Conference in New Delhi on 9 August 2019 with a final report to be presented at the AAERI event in Perth WA in October 2019.

The independent review will be strategic, future focused and provide a road map for that ensures Australia remains competitive in South Asia by growing its international student cohort and strategic partnerships. The role of education agents in South Asia will also be examined with current models of operation explored to ensure that their key role in supporting Australia's wider objectives and aspirations for international education and collaboration is captured.

The review will contain a number of key recommendations with actions that will form the basis of discussion with key stakeholders.

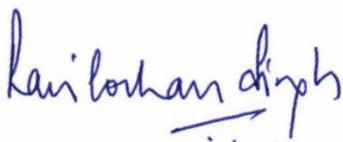
More information about the review and a series of preliminary questions can be found at <http://www.aaeri.in>

Organisations who are interested in making a submission to the Panel can find the research questions and information about the submission process here: (<http://www.aaeri.in>). Please email your submission to southasiareport2025@aaeri.in.

To assist the Panel, all submissions should be received by 1 July 2019.

I encourage our members and stakeholders to engage with the Panel in coming months.

Yours sincerely



Ravi Lochan Singh

President, AAERI.

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