

## PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP DOORSTOP, TREASURY, 17 FEBRUARY 1992

E&EO PROOF COPY

- PM: The discussions were held in the friendly environment of the Accord. We have been doing this for now nearly a decade, and it has changed Australia. It is one of the reasons we have got a low inflation rate, it is one of the reasons why we have got a big emphasis now on productivity, it's one of the reasons we have been so successful on exporting, manufacturing and we are now using these processes to induce a recovery and create jobs. We think we will get there. And that the Unions have put their positions, and we will be talking about wages after the Statement, when they get a chance to read it. It was a very useful exchange of views. Which is as the Accord processes should be.
- J: Is the Government prepared to support a general wage increase sometime this year?
- PM: Well you will read about that. But we know where their views are, where they're going, and they know where we are going I think, and I found the whole meeting very satisfactory. Thank you.

ENDS