EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

Australia and India, both of whom celebrate their National Day on the 26th January, today exchanged congratulatory messages. The message from the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Holt, to the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, read:-

"On behalf of my colleagues in the Government and all Australians, I extend to you and the people of India our sincere good wishes on your celebration of Republic Day.

Our countries are closely linked in sentiment and association, and on this day of joint celebration we express a special interest in the welfare and prosperity of the people of India and look forward to our continued friendship and co-operation."

Mrs. Gandhi in her message said:

"It gives me great pleasure to convey to you on behalf of the Government and people of India, and on my own behalf, our cordial greetings on the occasion of the National Day of Australia. By a happy coincidence, we share the same National Day. The relations between our countries grow closer and new avenues of co-operation and collaboration present themselves with welcome frequency. On this important day, I also send you our best wishes for your personal well-being and for the happiness, progress and prosperity of the Australian people."