

NOT TO BE RELEASED BEFORE 10.30 p. m. ON 8 APRIL, 1968

FOR PRESS:

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VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton

The Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, will make an official visit to Australia from 21 to 27 May at the invitation of the Australian Government.

In the course of her visit, Mrs. Gandhi will spend time in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne and the agreed itinerary is:-

Tuesday	21 May	a. m.	Arrive at Sydney and leave by air for Canberra
Wednesday	22 May		Canberra
Thursday	23 May	a. m.	Canberra-Melbourne
Friday	24 May	p. m.	Melbourne-Sydney
Saturday	25 May		Sydney
Sunday	26 May		Sydney
Monday	27 May	a. m.	Leave for New Zealand

Mrs. Gandhi had originally planned to visit Australia in January but it was agreed that this be postponed to later in the year.

I am extremely happy that Mrs. Gandhi is coming to Australia. Mrs. Gandhi represents a great nation and a great people. Australia attaches high importance to its relations with India and to co-operation between the two countries, and Mrs. Gandhi will find great friendship here among the Australian people no less than on the part of the Australian Government. I hope that during her visit she will be able to meet a wide range of Australians.

CANBERRA
8 April 1968