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INDIAN GIFT TO QUEENSLAND
FLOOD VICTIMS

The Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, said today that he had been delighted by India's friendly gesture in making available 20,000 lbs. of tea to Australia for distribution to families affected by the recent flooding in Queensland.

The offer of the gift of tea was made by India's Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, and conveyed through her Foreign Secretary, Mr Kewal Singh, who is in Canberra to lead the Indian delegation to the round of talks with Australian foreign affairs officials in Canberra.

The Prime Minister said: "India is a country which has suffered greatly from natural catastrophes of this kind. Australia has responded to India's misfortunes in the past. It is most pleasing to have our misfortune noted in this manner by the Indian Government and we are deeply appreciative of this gift."