



PRIME MINISTER

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INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN

The Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, announced that the Australian Government had invited Japanese motor vehicle companies to study the feasibility of their manufacturing cars in Australia.

Studies have already begun and Japanese technical groups will visit Australia in the next few months to investigate existing production facilities. A team of Australian officials led by Mr N. Currie the Secretary of the Department of Manufacturing Industry discussed the proposal in Japan this week.

Studies would be conducted within the framework of the guidelines for future motor vehicle policy in Australia announced by the Prime Minister on 25 October. Important aspects of the studies would be encouraging employment into areas of greater technological skill and the use of existing resources.

The Prime Minister welcomed this development as a further step in long term industrial co-operation between Australia and Japan.

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