



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 380
24 November 1974

INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

The Prime Minister today released an exchange of correspondence with the Industries Assistance Commission.

"I have asked the Industries Assistance Commission to provide to the Government the fullest information about the social and locational implications of its recommendations. The Chairman of the Commission intends re-examining reports as yet undecided by the Government to identify any supplementary recommendations which might be appropriate in the current state of the economic cycle" said Mr Whitlam.

"I have also told the Chairman of my wish that more attention be directed towards a general approach set out in the Commission's Annual Report for 1973-74, which would have the effect of avoiding a significant scaling down of some high cost activities where change would present intractable social problems."

"The Commission has been asked to take into account in its recommendations that the Government's structural adjustment measures and non-metropolitan subsidy scheme are not designed to meet all the problems, whatever the stage of the business cycle, which might arise from a structural change seen as in the national interest by the Commission."

The Prime Minister concluded by saying that the system of public inquiry and public advice into assistance measures and the ability of the Government to use the results for the national good would be enhanced by these moves.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.