

# News Release

---

June 19, 1995

No. 112

## MACLAREN WELCOMES VISIT OF INDIAN ENERGY MINISTER

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today announced the visit to Canada of the Honourable Satish Sharma, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, from June 21 to 24.

During his visit to Calgary on June 22, Mr. Sharma and a delegation of Indian business people will attend InterCan '95, the Province of Alberta's annual oil and gas trade show. He will also deliver a keynote address to the South Asia Business Association and meet privately with Canadian industry representatives.

On June 23, the Honourable Anne McLellan, Minister of Natural Resources, will host a luncheon in Mr. Sharma's honour during his visit to Edmonton.

"India's oil and gas market, estimated to be about US\$4 billion and growing at about 15 per cent annually, offers a wealth of opportunity for Canada. Once the exclusive domain of the public sector, this industry is gradually being liberalized. At present, more than half of India's requirements are met through imports," said Mr. MacLaren.

"This visit provides an opportunity not only to promote Canadian capabilities, but to encourage Canadian firms to consider joint ventures and other strategic alliances in India's emerging oil and gas sector," said Ms. McLellan.

Canada's trade and economic strategy for India, released by Mr. MacLaren on June 12, provides an extensive analysis of India's oil and gas sector. Copies of *Focus India* are available through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's InfoCentre at 1-800-267-8376.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada