

about the rules of the game will be essential to sustaining international business confidence.

As we enter into this new and exciting period in our relationship, we want to capitalize on opportunities for greater India-Canada commercial co-operation.

India's continuing efforts to modernize its infrastructure - especially in the areas of power generation and distribution, telecommunications services, transportation, and environmental protection - present enormous challenges for both our countries.

Canadian companies have great expertise in these sectors, which they have successfully marketed around the globe. During my visit, I invited our Indian counterparts to meet with our delegation and to visit Canada to learn more about Canada's expertise.

Here in Canada, we have developed a forward-looking strategy known as Focus: India, which will be the cornerstone of our business development efforts. Focus: India is a Team Canada approach that involves federal and provincial governments and, far more important, the private sector. It aims not only to raise Canada's commercial profile in India but to facilitate Canada-India business linkages, sharing technology and expertise with Indian industry.

But this limited new era in the relationship cannot be limited to commercial exchange alone.

We shall continue to co-operate in areas of sustainable development. We shall embrace the rich intellectual interchange provided by our academic and cultural relations. We shall continue to work together on important issues such as the environment. And, we shall continue to work through the Commonwealth and other international organizations to resolve the outstanding issues arising from the New World Order. We must also continue to address the more difficult and sensitive matters related to regional security and human rights in a mature and constructive manner.

In this regard, I met with several ministers to discuss concerns expressed by many Canadians with whom I have met over the last year and a half in my capacity as Secretary of State. With my visit host, Minister of State (External Affairs) Salman Khurshid and the appropriate other ministers, I made a strong pitch for Indian understanding of the problems caused in Canada by the alleged ill-treatment of some visiting Canadian nationals when they arrive in India. Both Minister Khurshid and Home Minister Chavan assured me they would address these concerns. I have instructed my officials in Ottawa to monitor this issue closely and I am in regular contact with our ambassador in New Delhi.