

I appreciate your welcome and the time you have taken today to meet me and my delegation which includes an all-party group of Members of the Parliament of Canada. It has been a great pleasure for us to have the opportunity to meet so many eminent members of the business community.

India and Canada have had the closest of relations since the earliest days of your republic. We worked together in the post war years in giving shape to the Commonwealth ... and now our two Prime Ministers, with remarkable teamwork, are helping to give it new purpose. We have co-operated with some success in the United Nations, and in other international organizations which bring the world together. Our soldiers have served together under the bright blue flag of U.N. peacekeeping forces, and now our economists will try together to achieve a GATT round which serves the interests of both industrialized and developing countries.

In business, in education, in the co-operative movement, in shared traditions of democracy and the common law, our citizens have pursued common purposes. We have even changed the look and texture of one another's country. In Canada today, some 250,000 of our people are of Indian origin and enrich our culture with the foods and faiths and traditions of your own. On Monday afternoon, in Gujarat, I drove by yellow fields of mustard, and of an oilseed we call canola, which is now growing here, because our farmers work together. It is hard to add to the rich array of colours of India, but Canada has done that, and now some of your fields look like some of ours. Over the last three decades, Canadians have contributed more than \$2 billion to India in development assistance. That development priority will continue. But in the last few years, the pace and range of commercial and industrial co-operation has expanded. Your new government has indicated a welcoming attitude towards foreign investors and the private sector, and Canadians are already responding.

All that is prelude to a new era of economic co-operation which beckons Canada and India.

I want to speak today to the significant trade and economic opportunities which await us. But first let me speak to a challenge we face in common -- international terrorism. I have, during this visit, signalled to the Indian authorities our readiness to intensify co-operation in order to preserve the values we cherish.

I was most heartened a few days ago at the vote in the UN General Assembly on international terrorism. Unanimity is rare in that organization on any issue. But