

5 February 2026

195 Lambton Quay  
Private Bag 18-901  
Wellington 6160  
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000  
F +64 4 472 9596

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OIA 30614

Personal Details removed  
for Proactive Release

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email of 22 December 2025, in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- "1) What language / requirements / obligations etc are in the proposed agreement around any aspect of New Zealand's Financial System*
- 2) What language / requirements / obligations etc are in the proposed agreement around any aspect of the Indian Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system?*
- 3) What discussions were had around potentially having UPI work in New Zealand?"*

## **Background**

We have interpreted all parts of your request to be about the negotiation and subsequent conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between New Zealand and India.

## **Response to your request**

Parts one and two of your request are withheld in full under the following sections of the OIA:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 6(b)(i): to protect the passing of information from another government on a confidential basis; and
- 9(2)(j): to avoid prejudice to negotiations.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it.

Part three of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

For your reference, information on the outcome of the negotiation is publicly available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) website. The full text of the Agreement will be published on the website upon signature at the latest:

<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/free-trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements-concluded-but-not-in-force/new-zealand-india-free-trade-agreement>

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: [www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz). You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SC', written over a faint dotted line.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade