

Proactive Release

Date: 11 August 2026

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minute have been proactively released by the Ministry for Trade and Investment:

Title of Paper	Title of Minutes
Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2025	CAB-26-MIN-0023

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Minister for Trade and Investment



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2025

Portfolio **Trade and Investment**

On 9 February 2026, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** the report from Hon Todd McClay under CAB-26-SUB-0023 on his travel, from 10 to 13 December 2025, to New Delhi, India to conduct bilateral Free Trade Agreement negotiations;
- 2 **noted** that the costs for the above travel increased from \$30,475 [CAB-25-MIN-0435] to \$43,823.62, due to the travel being rescheduled from 7 to 9 December to 10 to 13 December 2025;
- 3 **approved** the travel cost increase from \$30,475 to \$43,823.62, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel).

Diana Hawker
for Secretary of the Cabinet

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In Confidence

Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2025

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to New Delhi, India, from 10 to 13 December, in my capacity as Minister for Trade and Investment.

Report

- 1 The purpose of travel to India was to hold ministerial trade negotiations with my counterpart, Minister Goyal, in order to conclude bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations.
- 2 I met with Minister Goyal several times through the course of my visit, to advocate for New Zealand's position on key outstanding issues in the FTA negotiations. Working in conjunction with the negotiation team, we successfully concluded the Agreement by the end of the visit.
- 3 New Zealand emerged from the negotiation with a set of strong outcomes which position exporters well to realise the opportunity of India's economic growth. India is the world's 4th-largest economy, with a rapidly expanding middle class of over 445 million people, projected to be larger than the entire European Union within the next five years.
- 4 India and New Zealand announced the conclusion of FTA negotiations on 22 December. We look forward to signature and entry-into force of the FTA as soon as possible this year.

Proactive release

- 5 I propose to release this paper proactively in part.

Recommendation

- 6 I recommend that Cabinet:
- 7 note that costs increased from \$30,475 to \$43,823.62 due to travel being rescheduled from 7-9 December to 10-13 December;
- 8 note that this increase was approved by the Prime Minister's office;

- 9 approve the travel cost increase from \$30,475 to \$43,823.62;
- 10 note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade and Investment

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