



THE HON CHRISTOPHER PYNE MP
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
LEADER OF THE HOUSE
MEMBER FOR STURT

MC18-002436

Mr Kailash Sriram
Managing Director
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Module 3, Endeavour House
11-15 Forth Avenue
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17 OCT 2018

Kailash,
Dear Mr Sriram

Thank you for your kind words congratulating me on my appointment as Minister for Defence.

I am proud of what we have achieved over the past two years within the Defence Industry portfolio, creating a sovereign defence industry in our great country, ensuring our national security, protecting the members of the Australian Defence Force, and ensuring that as much of this work is done in Australia.

The Government's \$200 billion commitment to the defence of our nation over the next decade is being used to not just ensure the men and women of our defence forces are best equipped to fight and win on the battlefields of the future, but to also transform our strategic industrial base and generate Australian jobs in a way that has never been done before.

We have set a robust foundation for defence industry through the release of cornerstone policies such as the Naval Shipbuilding Plan, Defence Industrial Capability Plan and Defence Export Strategy.

As Minister for Defence, the safety and security of the Australian people, and the defence of our interests is my first and abiding priority. As we face greater global security uncertainty and complexity, I am committed to enhancing Australia's defence capability, deepening our international security partnerships and continuing our collaboration with defence industry, and science and technology research partners.

I have forwarded your email to my office who may be able to assist with an introduction to the BAE Systems Canada team for their future frigate program. I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Yours sincerely

Chris
Christopher Pyne MP