



English Translation of Prime Minister's Press Statement during the Joint Press Statement with the Chancellor of Austria

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Your Excellency, Chancellor Stocker,

Delegates from both countries,

Friends from the media,

Namaskar!

Grüß Gott!

Chancellor Stocker, I extend a warm welcome to you on your first visit to India. We are delighted that you have chosen India for your first visit outside of Europe. This reflects your vision and your commitment to India-Austria relations.

The Austrian Chancellor's visit to India after 40 years is very important. After the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement in 2026, a new phase has started in India-EU relations. Through Chancellor Stocker's visit, we are ushering India-Austria relations into a new era.

Friends,

India and Austria are trusted partners in infrastructure, innovation, and sustainability. From the Delhi Metro to the Atal Tunnel-built at an altitude of 10,000 feet in the Himalayas, Austria's tunnelling expertise has made a lasting impact.

Not only that, from railway projects to Gujarat's Girnar Ropeway, and from clean energy to urban development, Austrian companies have been active partners in numerous engineering projects across India.

Friends,

Chancellor Stocker's visit is set to bring fresh energy to trade and investment. We are pleased that he has come to India with a strong vision and a large business delegation.

By combining Austria's expertise with India's speed and scale, we aim to build reliable technologies and supply chains for the world. We will also deepen our partnerships in defense, semiconductors, quantum

technology, and biotechnology.

At the same time, we will further strengthen cooperation in engineering and technical education. The Memorandum of Understanding being signed today between IIT Delhi and Austria's Montan University is a shining example of this knowledge exchange.

Friends,

India's talent has the potential to enhance Austria's innovation and productivity. In 2023, we concluded a comprehensive Migration and Mobility Agreement with Austria. Under this Agreement, we will now further advance mobility in the nursing sector as well.

We will also further strengthen joint research and start-up collaboration. To promote youth exchange, we are also launching the India–Austria Working Holiday Programme today.

Friends,

Today, the entire world is going through a very serious and tense situation, and its impact is being felt by all of us. In such a tense global environment, India and Austria are in agreement that solutions cannot be achieved through military conflict. Whether in Ukraine or West Asia, we support a stable, sustainable, and lasting peace.

We are also in agreement that reform of global institutions is essential to address the growing global challenges. Eradicating terrorism at its roots remains our shared commitment.

Your Excellency,

My visit to Austria in 2024 also took place after four decades. Following that visit, it is a matter of great pride and pleasure for us to welcome you to India today. Let us work together to make the India–Austria partnership innovation-centric and future-ready.

Thank you very much.

Danke schön

DISCLAIMER: This is the approximate translation of Prime Minister's address. Original address was delivered in Hindi.

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