

2000/39499

Ms Margaret Swieringa
Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Public Works
Suite R1 119
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Swieringa

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CHANCERY, NEW DELHI

1. Thank you for your letter of 22 July 2003 to the Secretary, Department of Defence. Mr Smith has asked me to respond on his behalf.
2. The construction of the new chancery in New Delhi is a project being managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on an 'all of Government' basis. While Defence has been adequately accommodated in the past and has no intention of increasing its complement in the foreseeable future, the department has been closely consulted on its requirements in the new chancery and has taken the opportunity to rationalise its office accommodation.
3. Defence continues to support the project and is comfortable with meeting its share of the fitout costs.
4. My point of contact on overseas accommodation matters is Mr Barry Millar, telephone 6266 2503.

Yours sincerely

GEOFF DAVIS
Assistant Secretary General Services

Tel: (02) 6266 2852

6 August 2003

cc Mr Cos Cameron