

Akran Marketing announced today that the Prime Minister of Canada, the Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, invited President and CEO Raman Agarwal of Akran Marketing to officially welcome Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a three day state visit to Canada, the first such visit in 42 years, at the Ottawa airport on Tuesday, April 15, 2015.

As the elected Prime Minister of the world's largest democracy, Hon. Narendra Modi has been making efforts to bring India into a new century, with the goal of making the dreams of a better life for every Indian come true. His historic visit to Canada demonstrates the commitment of both countries to taking bilateral trade relations to new heights. "This is a defining moment in Canada-India relations," said Agarwal. "In meeting with Canadian business leaders, Prime Minister Modi saw our strengths and true commercial potential." Agarwal added, "The advantages of bilateral trade and increased investment are a win-win opportunity for both countries.

Trade between Canada and India is worth \$6 billion, up 47 percent since 2010, but far greater trade opportunities exist." With its expanding population and impressive economic growth, no other market right now in the emerging markets space offers such a strong opportunity as India. Sixty percent of India's population is under the age of 35, with over 250 million people considered middle class. The nation has the 3rd largest economy in the world, which is predicted to becoming number one by 2030.

"As part of the 1.2 million-strong Indo-Canadian community and a Canadian business leader, I was honoured to be invited by the Prime Minister of Canada to greet Prime Minister Modi," said Agarwal. "The Indian business community is essential in advancing future interactions with India and forging transnational ties that will benefit all Canadians."