

India, New Zealand to work on FTA conclusion as fourth round of talks begins

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Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal will be in New Zealand this week to push the on-going bilateral free trade agreement negotiations towards conclusion even as some issues related to market access for dairy and agriculture and greater mobility for professionals are yet to be ironed out, sources said.

"The fourth round (November 3-7) of negotiations for the India-New Zealand FTA commenced today in Auckland, marking another step forward in advancing a balanced and mutually beneficial partnership between the two nations," per an official statement issued by the Commerce Department on Monday.

Goyal is scheduled to join the Indian delegation on Tuesday and will meet top representatives from the government and industry during his visit, a source tracking the matter told *businessline*.