# Starmer faces backlash over UK-India trade deal favouring Indian workers on National Insurance



The recent trade deal between the UK and India has ignited substantial controversy, particularly as the Labour Party faces significant fallout from its electoral setbacks in strongholds like Durham and Doncaster. Critics are sounding alarm bells over what they see as a devastating mistake by Prime Minister Keir Starmer, with many viewing this agreement as a direct threat to British workers.

Reports indicate that the deal allows Indian workers transferred to the UK by their employers to be exempt from National Insurance contributions for up to three years. This exemption raises serious concerns, especially as many British workers brace for tax hikes and increased National Insurance contributions. Such a policy clearly prioritizes foreign employees over those who have been loyal contributors to the UK economy, effectively marginalizing the interests of British workers in favor of incoming Indian labor.

It is estimated that employing Indian workers will become about 20% cheaper than hiring British nationals, a troubling fact that underscores an alarming trend. The previous Conservative government, despite its own controversial trade deals, never sanctioned terms as disadvantageous as those in the current agreement with India. It seems that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has secured what can only be described as a significant win, having formerly stalled negotiations with the Conservative government, now rewarded for simply waiting out Labour's ascension.

Furthermore, the deal was finalized without any impact assessments or cost analyses, raising critical questions about the possible flood of Indian workers and the ramifications for the UK's labour market. The lack of transparency points to either severe governmental negligence or a willful disregard for the potential outcry from the British public.

Insider reports from senior officials within the Home Office express deep concerns regarding the agreement's implications for domestic worker priorities. Observers note that this trade deal aligns with a broader trend of policies under Starmer's leadership that increasingly favour foreign interests at the explicit expense of British workers.

The discontent incited by this agreement has bolstered movements championing the rights of British workers. These voices argue that Starmer's decisions, including the recent trade pact, jeopardize the Labour Party’s standing among the electorate, especially as citizens face rising costs while foreign workers gain significant tax advantages.

As the political landscape continues to shift, the ramifications of this trade deal extend well beyond immediate economic concerns, compelling voters to seriously reconsider Labour's approach to domestic worker rights and immigration policy. The increasing dissatisfaction could resonate in future elections, marking a critical moment for opposition parties advocating for the prioritization of British employment.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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