

# The West Australian

## Rinehart urges Australia to follow Trump, Modi

Jenne Brammer

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Gina Rinehart wants Australia to emulate policies of Trump, Modi. Picture: Mitchell Woodcock/South Western Times

Billionaire Gina Rinehart has called upon Australian governments to follow the examples of Donald Trump and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi in creating a more internationally-competitive environment by cutting company taxes and red tape.

Ms Rinehart was speaking last night at an event in Canberra to commemorate the inaugural National Agriculture and Related Industries Day, for which she is founder and patron.

She said US President Trump won the election because he and his team listened to the people of America.

“He is now delivering for America - and despite the naysayers who didn't vote for him but have a loud voice - what was a struggling economy is now rebounding,” he said.

“Trump's work in cutting government tape and company tax is making it better to do business in America, stimulating investment and creating thousands of jobs.

Ms Rinehart said Australia could also learn lessons from India, which was enjoying great success after cutting previously-notorious red tape under the “very dedicated” leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

Following the reduction in red tape, India was now the world's fastest growing economy of significance, said Ms Rinehart, who plans from 2018 to export up to 300,000 cattle a year to China after last year buying with Chinese partners the nation's biggest pastoral company, S. Kidman & Co.

The red tape reductions in India had encouraged growth in various industries and led to more than a doubling of the country's living standards in a short period of time, creating jobs and lifting many out of poverty, she said.

Ms Rinehart said as an export-orientated nation, with a relatively small population, Australia's prosperity and living standards depended on its ability to export competitively and sell goods overseas.

"We need our governments to understand, despite its members usually not being from a business background, that we cannot tax our way to prosperity, and the government needs to be more financially responsible," she said.