Amitabh Bachchan visits La Tobe University – video transcript 5/5/14

Narrator:

Bollywood film legend Amitabh Bachchan visited La Trobe University as part of his first visit to Melbourne, one of the world’s most liveable cities.

La Trobe has had strong connection to India ever since Prime Minister Indira Gandhi visited the campus almost fifty years ago. Today was another big event for the University and local students and many members of Melbourne’s Indian community were there to catch a glimpse of the film idol.

Professor John Dewar:

This is a really significant day. Amitabh Bachchan is a huge figure in Indian cinema and Indian culture. It’s been an absolute pleasure to welcome him on campus. The excitement of the students and the Indian community is absolutely palpable.

Narrator:

He was at La Trobe University to launch the beginning of a new prestigious education partnership. Every four years and Indian citizen will be presented with a A$200,000 four year scholarship to complete a PhD at La Trobe University.

Roshan Kumar, who is originally from the Indian city of Ranchi, was the first to be presented with the Shri Amitabh Bachchan Scholarship.

Roshan Kumar:

Even getting the scholarship is a great honour, but getting the scholarship from Amitabh Bachchan is like…oh, a person like me can just dream of this, and its true, its true for me.

Narrator:

After that Mr Bachchan had a short-guided tour of La Trobe University’ which is ranked in the top 100 Universities across the world aged less than fifty years old and home to world class facilities.

For many staff and students it was the chance of a lifetime to meet with and get a picture a living film legend. And while the visit was over all too quickly, it’s marked the beginning of another long partnership.

Journalist:

We hope you have enjoyed your time here…

Amitabh Bachchan:

Absolutely, it’s been a great honour and a wonderful experience, and I wish the University all success, thankyou.

END