




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 6 May 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Tourism Industry

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.08 pm): Yesterday at a signing ceremony at Parliament House it was my great pleasure to announce that Jetstar is launching new direct flights from China to the Gold Coast. I was joined by my tourism minister, Kate Jones. This will send Gold Coast tourism soaring.

From September there will be two flights a week from the Gold Coast to Wuhan. These flights potentially generate some \$53 million in visitor expenditure, supporting tourism, small business and jobs. China is already Queensland's largest international market by visitor expenditure. Gold Coast Tourism says that Chinese visitors spent \$591 million in the year to September 2014. This important new Jetstar service will open that market further and ensure long-term growth into the future. Importantly, this is yet another announcement showing that my door is open to business and business is knocking.

Opposition members interjected.

Ms PALASZCZUK: They don't like it, Mr Speaker. I would like to congratulate Jetstar on this decision and thank the Gold Coast City Council, Gold Coast Tourism, Tourism and Events Queensland, and Gold Coast Airport for attracting the Wanda Group's investment in the region. There will be even more aviation announcements in the months ahead; more signs of confidence in my government and in Queensland as a place to live, work, visit and invest.