



लोक सभा सचिवालय

प्रेस एवं जन सम्पर्क स्कंध

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

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INVITATION EXTENDED TO THE YOUTH OF BELARUS TO ASSOCIATE WITH SRI (SPEAKER RESEARCH INITIATIVE) IN LOK SABHA

- **Agreement to give a new dimension to the parliamentary relations between India and Belarus**
- **Indian Parliamentary Delegation holds two key bilateral talks in Belarus**

Camp Minsk (Belarus) 11 June 2018 : An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Sumitra Mahajan is on a visit to Belarus where an agreement was signed to give a new dimension to the parliamentary relations between India and Belarus.

India and Belarus share a close relationship based on mutual trust and understanding historically. In this context, Smt. Mahajan and other Members of Parliament had intensive discussions with the Chairman of House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus, Mr. Vladimir Andreichenko and other delegates regarding extending cooperation in all the aspects of bilateral relations along with the parliamentary activities.

Smt. Mahajan said that under the agreement signed between the two countries, the parliamentarians and parliamentary officials would focus on mutual interaction and cooperation for exchange of information on parliamentary procedures, practices and experiences. This also includes the proposal to invite the youth of Belarus to India for one month and three months' internships under the most important initiative of Parliament of India, viz. Speaker's Research Initiative (SRI). SRI, which will complete three years on 23 July, is striving to make the Indian youth accomplished in the field of parliamentary conventions, laws, parliamentary system, legislative drafting, etc. The youth are being benefited by the knowledge gained through this initiative and they will be able to make significant contribution in the nation building in times to come.

Smt. Mahajan said that she not only hoped but also believed that the Parliament of Belarus would send the students of Belarus to India to learn and understand Indian parliamentary democracy and would in turn make special contribution in the Governance system and development of Belarus. It is for the first time that the offer of Internship is being made to the youth of another country, i.e. Belarus, under SRI. This would lead to enhanced interaction, cooperation and mutual understanding between the peoples of both the countries.

The Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Smt. Mahajan held bilateral talks with the Chairman of House of Representatives of National Assembly of Republic of Belarus, Mr. Vladimir Andreichenko and the Chairman of the Council of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, Mr. Mikhail Myasnikovich. Detailed discussions were held between the two countries on several important matters. It is hoped that this visit will strengthen the existing historic and friendly relations and open new avenues of alliance.

Smt. Mahajan said that the bilateral economic and trade relations between the two countries have developed very well and both the sides need to work together to enhance the trade currently valued at 445 USD to 1 billion USD by 2020. Indian economy is the fast growing economy of the world at present. Belarus having a strong presence in the field of defence sector, heavy engineering and science and technology could avail this opportunity to become an important partner in 'Make in India' programme. Both the countries have been cooperating in the field of defence, Science and technology for a long time. Besides, textiles, IT and Space Research are other fields in which the two countries could cooperate for mutual benefit.
