



लोक सभा सचिवालय
प्रेस एवं जन सम्पर्क स्कंध
संसद भवन, नई दिल्ली
LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
Press and Public Relations Wing
Parliament House, New Delhi

प्रेस विज्ञापित PRESS RELEASE

SOUTH ASIAN SPEAKERS' SUMMIT ON ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS BEGINS TOMORROW IN INDORE

Indore, 17 February 2017: The South Asian Speakers' Summit on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals begins in Hotel Radisson Blu in Indore tomorrow, *i.e.* 18 February 2017 at 1000 hrs. The two-day Summit will be inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Sumitra Mahajan.

Besides Smt. Mahajan, the Summit is being attended by Dr. M. Thambidurai, Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha; Mr. Saber Chowdhury, President, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); Mr. Abdul Raouf Ibrahim, Speaker of *National Assembly of Afghanistan*; Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of Parliament of Bangladesh; Mr. Jigme Zangpo, Speaker of National Assembly of Bhutan; Mr. Tshering Dorji, Deputy Chairperson of National Council of Bhutan; Mr. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of Parliament of Sri Lanka; Mr. Abdulla Maseeh Mohamed, Speaker of Parliament of Maldives; Ms. Onasari Gharti, Speaker of Parliament of Nepal, and Members of Parliaments from the participating countries. Speaker of Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Dr. Sitasaran Sharma and other dignitaries will also grace the Inaugural function.

The Summit will have a Plenary Session on *Identifying Resources for SDGs Implementation in South Asia: Opportunities for Parliamentary Cooperation*. The Session will inform the Delegates about the implementation of SDGs in South Asian region and will discuss ways in which Parliaments can ensure that adequate financial and other resources accompany implementation of national and regional SDGs strategies.

The Working Session on *Gender Equality as a critical factor for Sustainable Development* will discuss opportunities that the SDGs present to strike a better gender balance, and to determine the gender impact of sustainable development policies. The other Working Session on *Dealing Effectively with the Challenge of Climate Change and Natural Disasters: Opportunities for Regional Parliamentary Cooperation* will discuss how Parliaments of the region can cooperate and share resources to address the challenges of climate change and natural disasters.

The Summit proposes to adopt '**Indore Declaration**' at the Closing Ceremony at 1200 hrs on 19 February 2017.

During the Summit, cultural programme, highlighting the heritage of India, will be showcased for the Delegates. The Delegates and accompanying persons will leave for *Mandu* on a Post Conference Tour on 20 February 2017.

The Delegates have already started arriving in Indore today.