High Commission of India

Port Louis

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**VISIT OF INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION LED BY**

**HON’BLE SPEAKER OF LOK SABHA**

 At the invitation of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Mauritius, Mrs. Santi Bai Hanoomanjee, an Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, is currently on a visit to Mauritius from 07 to 11 June 2017. Smt. Mahajan is accompanied by Shri. Sushil Kumar Singh, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri. Bhairon Prasad Mishra, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri. Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik, MP (Lok Sabha), Smt. Neelam Sonker, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri. Ragesh Kottakandy, MP (Rajya Sabha), Shri. Ripun Bora, MP (Rajya Sabha) and senior officials from the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats.

 On 08 June 2017, the delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha visited the Aapravsi Ghat and paid their tributes to the memory of the arrival of the Girmityas in Mauritius. Smt. Mahajan and the Indian Parliamentary delegation called on the President of Mauritius, Dr. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, who also hosted a lunch in honour of the delegation at the State House, Le Reduit, on 08 June 2017. Smt. Mahajan, accompanied by her delegation, also attended the presentation of the budget, by Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, at the National Assembly of Mauritius on 08 June 2017.

Smt Mahajan met Minister Mentor and Minister of Defence and Rodrigues, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, on 09 June 2017. Smt. Mahajan held bilateral discussions with the Speaker of National Assembly, Mrs. Santi Bai Hanoomanjee on 09 June 2017. This was followed by an exchange of views on parliamentary cooperation between the Indian Parliamentary delegation and their Mauritian counterparts. The Lok Sabha of India and the National Assembly of Mauritius also signed an Agreement for Cooperation on 09 June 2017.

The Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha called on Prime Minister of Mauritius of Mauritius, Mr. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth on 09 June 2017. During the meeting, Smt. Mahajan, recalled the unique and exceptional relations between Indian and Mauritius and reiterated India’s commitment to strengthening the bilateral parliamentary cooperation.

 Smt. Mahajan will be gracing an Indian Community
Reception being hosted by High Commissioner of India today evening. During the visit, the Indian Parliamentary delegation will also be meeting a cross-section of political leaders from Mauritius.

 The delegation will be visiting the Mahatma Gandhi Institute where the archival ship records, tracing the ancestry of Mauritians to their Indian forefathers, are housed. They will also be visiting Ganga Talao, the holy site which testifies to Mauritius’ spiritual connect with India, and the UNESCO World Heritage site, Le Morne.

 India has a long history of parliamentary cooperation with Mauritius. With the visit of the Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha, both India and Mauritius have renewed their commitment to intensifying the efforts for facilitating bilateral exchanges and capacity building.

*09 June 2017*

*Port Louis*

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