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His Excellency Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, called on the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (November 23, 2017).

Welcoming the Sri Lankan Prime Minister to India, the President said that India supports his vision to create a stable and prosperous Sri Lanka. The President also appreciated Mr Wickremesinghe's positive role in Sri Lanka's active engagement with the world.

The President said that relations between India and Sri Lanka are unique, warm and friendly. They are based upon shared historical, cultural, ethnic and civilizational ties and extensive people-to-people linkages.

The President said that development cooperation forms an important part of India-Sri Lanka bilateral engagement. India is keen to strengthen the economic pillar of its relationship with Sri Lanka. There is a lot that can be achieved, given the synergy and economic complementarities between the two countries. The President iterated India's firm commitment to partner with Sri Lanka on projects of mutual interest.

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## **END**

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