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Mahajan to address world IT meet at Jakarta today

In a bid to promote and project India's efforts in strategising deliverables in IT as an 'Investment hub centre', minister for information technology, Pramod Mahajan will deliver the key note address at the Indonesia International Telecommunication, Media and Information Technology Conference and Exhibition (IITELMIT) on Saturday at Jakarta. which began on Thursday

India-China to discuss cooperation in IT

NEW DELHI, July 16:

India and China are likely to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in critical areas of



knowledge-sharing, Information Technology and strategic business partnership during the forthcoming visit of Information and Technology Minister Pramod Mahajan to China beginning tomorrow.

Mahajan, who is leading a high-level official delegation to China, will hold wide-ranging discussions with Chinese Government officials and businessmen on strengthening bilateral cooperation in IT, Human Resource Development, Research and Development and institutional linkages for boosting ties between emerging new knowledge-based economies, an official statement said here today.

Mahajan's five-day visit would focus on India's proficiency in it with the global information industry and strategic locale for venture investments while also exploring possibilities of partnership, collaboration and joint ventures of mutual interest between the two countries.

Policy initiatives on IT front, particularly on financial sector reforms and E-commerce, would form the backdrop of discussions between the officials of the two countries.

Information and communication technology infrastructure, legal and regulatory framework and technology for E-commerce besides it regulatory

environment in the country are likely to be discussed at length during the official interaction, the release said.

Indian delegation would also hold discussions with Chinese hardware companies for forging strategic partnership between India's software expertise and Chinese hardware production facilities.

Mahajan would also hold extensive discussions with Guang Sheng, Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation and Wu Jichuan, Chinese Minister for Information Technology, the release said.

The discussions would focus on identifying new inputs for cooperation in IT, R&D and business partnership.

He is also scheduled to visit Zhong Guancun, Beijing's high-tech development zone where the Indian delegation would hold extensive business interaction with the legend group of Industries and Computer Software and Technology Service Corporation.

Mahajan, who will be accompanied by secretary, Information Technology, P V Jayakrishnan and Phadke, senior advisor, Ministry of Information Technology, would also visit Shanghai on the last leg of his tour, the release added. (PTI)

India, China sign first-ever MoU on IT cooperation

BEIJING, July 17:

India and China today signed the first-ever Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen bilateral cooperation in critical areas of Information Technology (IT) and boost strategic business partnerships.

The MoU was signed by visiting Information Technology Minister Pramod Mahajan and his Chinese counterpart Wu Jichuan here.

"Under the MoU, the two ministries would exchange policies and strategies on IT industry, encourage mutual investment, establish joint ventures and transfer technologies," Mahajan told PTI.

He said that the two sides have identified a number of areas for future cooperation including in enterprise network, micro-electronic technology and integrated circuit, software and its application and products.

Valid for five years, the MoU would enhance Sino-Indian cooperation in IT and encourage economic and technical cooperation

between enterprises, research institutes and economic entities, he said.

Mahajan, who is here on a five-day official visit as Wu's guest, described the MoU as a breakthrough in Sino-Indian cooperation hoping that it would lead to enhanced science and technology cooperation between the two neighbours in the new millennium.

Earlier in the morning, Mahajan held detailed talks with Wu on India-China collaboration in IT and issues of common concern. He also held wide-ranging discussions with Chinese Government officials on strengthening bilateral cooperation, human resource development, research and development and institutional linkages for boosting ties between emerging new knowledge-based economies.

Mahajan invited Chinese companies, which are highly advanced in the area of computer hardware, to set up manufacturing bases in India.

At the same time, he said the IT Ministry would encourage Indian software giants to explore the huge Chinese software market and also team up with the companies here to bid for opportunities in third country markets.

Mahajan also met Chinese Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Minister Shi Guangsheng and discussed the prospects of India-China trade ties, and ways to boost the current trade from the present figure of two billion US dollars.

Mahajan described the two meetings as positive for India-China cooperation in IT and even the general trend of relations between the two neighbours.

Tomorrow, Mahajan is scheduled to visit the Zhongguancun high-tech development zone in the Northwest Beijing, where the Indian delegation including the IT Secretary, P V Jayakrishnan, would hold talks with China's famous Legend Group which has emerged as a major IT company in Asia-Pacific region.

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