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## **PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**

### ***Farewell courtesy call by the High Commissioner of India to Malta on the Speaker of the House of Representatives***

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Anġlu Farrugia, received Gloria Gangte, High Commissioner of India to Malta, for a farewell courtesy call at the Parliament Building in Valletta.

During the meeting, Speaker Farrugia conveyed his appreciation for High Commissioner Gangte's efforts in strengthening the longstanding friendship between Malta and India, particularly during her tenure in Malta since 2022. He commended her commitment to deepening bilateral cooperation in trade, education, culture, and people-to-people ties, and noted the significant progress made in recent years in expanding engagement between the two countries.

The meeting also served to highlight the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malta and India, marked earlier this year. Both sides reflected on the fruitful collaboration achieved over the past six decades, underpinned by shared values of democracy, rule of law, and respect for multilateralism.

The Speaker of the house of Representatives expressed Malta's interest in continuing to build on this positive momentum, particularly in areas such as renewable energy, digital innovation, health, and tourism, while encouraging further exchange between Maltese and Indian parliaments and peoples.

High Commissioner Gangte thanked the Speaker and the Maltese authorities for the warm friendship and cooperation extended to her throughout her tenure, and reaffirmed India's commitment to further strengthening bilateral ties. She also informed that she would soon be departing Malta to assume her new role as Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway.

On behalf of the Parliament of Malta, Speaker Farrugia extended his best wishes for her future endeavours and expressed confidence that the excellent relations between Malta and India will continue to grow under her successor.