

PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)  
PRESS WING

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(PR No. 107/2019)

**High Commissioner-designate of Singapore calls on President Dr. Arif Alvi**

**ISLAMABAD; JULY 24, 2019:** Pakistan was desirous of broadening and deepening its bilateral relations with Singapore at all levels of engagement, especially exploring all avenues to solidify its economic ties with Singapore, said President Dr. Arif Alvi, while talking to the High Commissioner-designate of Pakistan to Singapore, Ms. Rukhsana Afzaal, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad today.

The President highlighted that the current volume of bilateral trade between the two countries was not commensurate to the true potential and urged High Commissioner-designate to take proactive measures to enhance the quantum of bilateral trade and also work towards recommencing meaningful negotiations on Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries. He also advised the Ambassador-designate to persuade the Pakistani entrepreneurs in Singapore to benefit from investment-friendly environment of Pakistan.

The President underlined the need for regular interactions at Joint Ministerial Commission level. Furthermore, he directed the Ambassador-designate to make all possible efforts for Pakistan's Full Dialogue Partnership in ASEAN.

The President wished High Commissioner-designate a successful stay in Singapore and hoped that her tenure will bring more vigor and energy to the bilateral relationship between the two countries.

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