

## Priorities identified for practical cooperation



Presidents Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Alexander Lukashenko continued negotiations in an extended format with the participation of official delegations of the two countries.

Special emphasis was placed at the meeting to the enhancement of trade and economic cooperation, the development of industrial cooperation and interregional exchange.

The head of our state noted that over the last two years, the volume of bilateral trade has grown almost fourfold, and that it is essential to uphold and shore up the established dynamics of trade.



It was stressed that for this to be secured it is important that the two sides bolster direct partnerships among suppliers of products, regularly hold business forums and exhibitions, maximize the use of reserves and cover all areas of mutually advantageous cooperation.

“The Intergovernmental Commission should deeply analyze trade flows and come up with concrete proposals as to how we can increase our turnover manifold in the coming years,” Shavkat Mirziyoyev insisted.



Alexander Lukashenko noted that Belarus and Uzbekistan have always been bound with more than just friendly relations. The rich program of the current visit is a clear confirmation of the shared desire for a comprehensive development of dialogue.

“Uzbekistan has made a qualitative breakthrough in the diversification of the economy; new industries have been created, including the automotive, petrochemicals, and agricultural machinery. Belarus is willing to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in the economic track through the implementation of joint investment projects,” Alexander Lukashenko declared.



The two parties pointed to the mutual interest in adopting a long-term cooperation program, setting up joint ventures and service centers, modern complexes for processing dairy products, pharmaceutical enterprises, as well as in expanding partnerships in the IT sector.

The Presidents underscored the importance of galvanizing the cooperation among leading industrial enterprises in Uzbekistan and Belarus and at the level of small business. They discussed prospects for the production of competitive goods through the exchange of experience and technology, joint promotion of products both in the domestic market and in the markets of third countries. Among the priorities are cooperation projects in agricultural, mechanical engineering, textile, leather and food industries, pharmaceuticals and other areas.



Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Alexander Lukashenko called for the realization of the potential of trade and economic cooperation among the regions of the two countries. Held in Minsk on the eve of the Uzbek President's visit, the Forum demonstrated shared desire to augment practical cooperation and the availability of extensive opportunities.

Agreements were reached on the development of interaction in the fields of science, digital technologies, education, culture and tourism.

As an outcome of the negotiations, the two sides agreed to work out and adopt a joint roadmap for the implementation of decisions and deals.

**Source**