



Minister of Sports C B Ratnayake who is currently in India to attend the Commonwealth Games met Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports of India Dr M S Gill recently. High Commissioner Prasad Kariyawasam and officials of the Ministry of Sports also attended the meeting.

Minister Gill at the outset said he was happy to see a good contingent from Sri Lanka for the Commonwealth Games and extended his best wishes for its success. In order to enhance contacts among the youth of the two nations, he expressed the interest to have a youth exchange programme with Sri Lanka. India already has such programmes with a number of other countries. He informed that the Sports Authority of India is a very strong organization with which Sri Lanka could closely collaborate. Minister Gill indicated that Sri Lankans could also benefit from the Sports University of India which offers both undergraduate and post graduate degrees in Sports.

Minister Ratnayake congratulated India for the successful Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games and said that Sri Lanka is proud of India's success. The Ministry of Sports of Sri Lanka looks forward to have a greater cooperation with India. He requested India's assistance in several fields. It was agreed that a team of officials from both countries would visit each other soon to identify areas of collaboration.