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## Canada offers to help Myanmar with governance and accountability

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The Canadian government pledged to assist Myanmar in developing parliamentary practices Canada during a visit by a parliamentary delegation from the country last week.

Deepak Obhrai, parliamentary secretary to the Canadian minister of foreign affairs and the leader of the delegation, told reporters at the end of the weeklong visit that Canada's long experience with parliamentary democracy made it well-placed to assist Myanmar develop its Parliament.

The Canadian delegation comprised members of parliament, political advisers, and officials of several institutions, including its House of Commons. They arrived in Yangon on February 16.

They met government officials and MPs to discuss governance, accountability and related issues.

The delegation was sponsored by the Canadian Parliamentary Centre at the recommendation of Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird who visited Myanmar for the first time last March.

Canada imposed economic and trade sanction on Myanmar in 2007, but lifted most of them last April.

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