

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong and Shenzhen jointly develop the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mr C Y Leung, and Standing Committee Member of the CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee, Party Secretary of the CPC Shenzhen Municipal Committee, Mayor of Shenzhen Municipality, Mr Xu Qin, witnessed on January 3, 2017 the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding on Jointly Developing the Lok Ma Chau Loop by Hong Kong and Shenzhen" between the HKSAR Government and the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding, both sides will jointly develop the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park at the 87-hectare Loop. With a site area four times that of the current Hong Kong Science Park, the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park will establish itself as a key base for co-operation in innovation and technology research. Related higher education, cultural and creative, as well as other complementary facilities will also be provided at the site.

The Chief Secretary for Administration of Hong Kong, Mrs Carrie Lam, and Mr Xu also co-chaired the annual Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting after the signing ceremony. Both sides took stock of the progress made in the past year and set out the direction for co-operation in the coming year.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Invest Hong Kong reveals highlights of upcoming StartmeupHK Festival

To celebrate and showcase Hong Kong vibrant startup ecosystem, Invest Hong Kong is organising the second StartmeupHK Festival from 16-20 January. The department revealed on 4 January some of the key highlights of the Festival, which covers retail technology, fashion technology, smart city, fintech and digital health, with more than 80 speakers to join panel sessions, interactive discussions, competitions and speaking events.

The Festival's signature event, the StartmeupHK Venture Forum, will take place on 17 January with various special guest speakers include best-selling author and founder of the Moven mobile banking service, Mr Brett King, and cyber illusionist Mr Marco Tempest.

Other events include Retail's Cutting Edge and FashionTech Asia on 16 January; The Connected City on 17 January; the FinTech Finals on 18 and 19 January; as well as HealthTech Asia 2017

and Hong Kong Tech & Start-ups Job Fair on 20 January.

To check out the latest programme schedule, please visit the website www.startmeup.hk/festival2017.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Hong Kong Palace Museum to be built

The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) of Hong Kong will collaborate with the Palace Museum in Beijing to develop the Hong Kong Palace Museum in the West Kowloon Cultural District, with a view to showcasing the exquisite collections of the Palace Museum on a long-term basis. A Memorandum of Understanding of Co-operation was signed in Beijing on 23 December, 2016 by the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Board Chairman of the WKCDA, Mrs Carrie Lam, and the Director of the Palace Museum, Dr Shan Ji-xiang, under the witness of the HKSAR's Chief Executive, Mr C Y Leung, and the Minister of Culture of China, Mr Luo Shugang.

The Hong Kong Palace Museum will stand out prominently on the western harbourfront of the West Kowloon Cultural District, with the proposed Exhibition Centre lying to its north. The museum will have a site footprint of around 10,000 square metres. Major facilities will include exhibition galleries, activity rooms, a lecture theatre, souvenir shop and restaurant.

The Hong Kong Palace Museum will not be a branch museum of the Palace Museum. A wholly-owned subsidiary company under the WKCDA will be set up to oversee the construction, management and day-to-day operation of the museum. The Palace Museum will provide, on a long-term loan basis, collections for display in the Hong Kong Palace Museum and provide expert advice and assistance on museum design or curatorial matters where necessary. It will not be involved in the daily management of the museum.

The project is anticipated to complete by 2022.

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Hong Kong signs arrangement with the Mainland on mutual assistance in taking of evidence in civil and commercial matters

The Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong, Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC, signed the Arrangement on Mutual Taking of Evidence in Civil and Commercial Matters between the Courts of the

Mainland (China) and the HKSAR (Arrangement) with the Executive Vice President of the Supreme People's Court, Mr Shen Deyong, on 29 December, 2016 on mutual assistance in taking of evidence in civil and commercial matters between the HKSAR and the Mainland.

Currently, in cases of mutual assistance between the two places in obtaining evidence in civil and commercial matters, letters of requests made between the two jurisdictions have to be transmitted through intermediary bodies before the requests could ultimately be transmitted to the executing authority. Furthermore, litigants are not entirely clear about the types of assistance available under the respective laws of the Mainland and the HKSAR.

The newly-signed Arrangement can help litigants of the two jurisdictions to obtain evidence in civil and commercial matters with enhanced efficiency and greater certainty.

The full text of the Arrangement is available at the Department of Justice's website:

<http://www.doj.gov.hk/eng/topical/pdf/mainlandmutual4e.pdf>

[*Click here to read the details.*](#)

Hong Kong's annual air passenger throughput hits 70 million mark in 2016

Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) welcomed its 70 millionth passenger of the year on 29 December, 2016. The remarkable milestone was made only two years after the 60 million mark was surpassed in 2014. The Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA) is delighted to witness this strong growth momentum and expects that all three traffic categories – passengers, cargo and flight movements – will set new annual records in 2016.

To meet the increasing passenger demand, the AA has initiated a number of major medium- and long-term developments. The construction of the Three-runway System commenced on 1 August, 2016, and the expansion of Terminal 1 is underway. HKIA will also continue to apply innovations and smart technology with a view to providing even more convenient services for its passengers and enhancing the overall airport experience.

[*Click here to read the details.*](#)

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