

## Annual reciprocal visit between HKSARG and MFA to take place next week

At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will lead a delegation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to visit Sichuan and Beijing from January 21 to 25 under the annual reciprocal visit arrangement between the HKSAR Government and the MFA. The visit arrangement has been in place since 1999 to enhance communication and exchange between the two sides.

The Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Roy Tang, will lead the HKSAR Government delegation to visit Sichuan from January 21 to 23, and the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Patrick Nip, will lead the delegation to visit Beijing from January 23 to 25.

While in Sichuan, the delegation will meet with officials of Sichuan and Chengdu and tour various developments of the province from January 21 to 23. It will then visit Beijing from January 23 to 25, where it will meet with officials of the MFA and other central ministries and departments.

Mr Nip will return to Hong Kong in the afternoon on January 25. During his absence, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Andy Chan, will be the Acting Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs.