## <u>CE meets Union Minister for Investment</u> <u>and Foreign Economic Relations and</u> <u>Chairman of Myanmar Investment</u> Commission (with photo)

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, met the Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission, U Thaung Tun, at the Chief Executive's Office this morning (September 12).

Mrs Lam welcomed U Thaung Tun's visit to Hong Kong again to attend the fourth Belt and Road Summit held yesterday and today. The Summit is jointly organised by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. Mrs Lam expressed her gratitude to U Thaung Tun for attending the Summit for two consecutive years to share his insights with other participants. Noting that Hong Kong and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), including Myanmar, lie in the Belt and Road, she said that Myanmar enterprises may leverage Hong Kong's advantages as an international financial, transportation and trade centre to explore the Belt and Road as well as global markets. She added that Hong Kong is actively assisting other regions in capacity building and is very willing to share Hong Kong's experience in city management and training of talents with Myanmar.

She said that the parts relating to Hong Kong and some ASEAN member states including Myanmar under the Free Trade Agreement between Hong Kong and ASEAN have taken effect and Hong Kong is actively negotiating an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement with Myanmar. Mrs Lam highlighted the extension of the Tourist Visa Exemption Pilot Scheme of Myanmar, which grants visa-free access to HKSAR passport holders, for one year until September next year, and said she believes that the relations between the two places will be further enhanced and more areas for co-operation between both sides will be explored.

