

China Manned Space delegation to visit Hong Kong

A China Manned Space delegation will arrive in Hong Kong today (November 28) for a four-day visit at the invitation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

The delegation will be led by the Deputy Director General of the China Manned Space Agency, Mr Lin Xiqiang. Members of the delegation comprise astronauts who participated in the construction of the Chinese Space Station, including Shenzhou-12 astronaut Mr Liu Boming, Shenzhou-13 astronaut Ms Wang Yaping, Shenzhou-14 astronaut Mr Chen Dong, Shenzhou-15 astronaut Mr Zhang Lu, as well as experts from related fields of the manned space engineering systems.

The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, extended his warm welcome to the delegation, and gave thanks to the Central People's Government for the arrangements.

Mr Lee said, "The China Manned Space Program has made extraordinary achievements over the past three decades. It has made history by realising the Chinese nation's millennium-long dream of flying to the stars, of which we as Chinese are all profoundly proud. Through the delegation's visit, Hong Kong people can share the nation's pride in China's manned space development from close range, and develop a deeper understanding of the country's developments in aerospace technologies. The visit exemplifies the affection and support of the Central People's Government for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

During the visit, the delegation will attend a media briefing to introduce the latest developments of the China Manned Space Program and take questions from the press. The delegation will also officiate at the opening ceremony of the "China Manned Space Exhibition", and meet with representatives of Hong Kong's innovation and technology sector, as well as teachers and students from tertiary, secondary and primary schools for exchanges.

The delegation will also attend a variety show at the Hong Kong Coliseum to mark Hong Kong's welcoming of the China Manned Space delegation. From 1pm today, the Home Affairs Department will distribute a total of about 5 000 free tickets with assigned seat numbers for the variety show to members of the public at the 20 Home Affairs Enquiry Centres (see Annex). The limited number of free tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and each person may obtain a maximum of two tickets while stocks last. The variety show will be broadcast live at 5pm tomorrow (November 29) on TVB Jade. The show will be re-run at 1.15pm on December 2, also on TVB Jade.

For information about the delegation's visit to Hong Kong, please visit the relevant webpage at www.cmsvisithk.gov.hk.