

SJ leads legal sector delegation to Shanghai to promote HK-Shanghai co-operation in legal profession (with photos)

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The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, led a delegation comprising about 40 representatives from the Law Society of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Bar Association, and local and international law firms to visit Shanghai for two consecutive days. The delegation attended a roundtable meeting to promote Hong Kong professional legal services, and met with leaders of Shanghai to facilitate exchanges and co-operation between the two places.

Mr Lam began his visit programme in Shanghai yesterday (March 23). Together with the delegation, he visited the headquarters of an Internet and technology company in East China to learn about the development and business needs of Mainland enterprises.

Mr Lam then visited the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Justice to meet with the Secretary of the CPC and Director-General of the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Justice, Mr Gu Quan. They exchanged views on strengthening professional co-operation with the legal, arbitration and mediation sectors, and on training of foreign-related legal professionals.

In the afternoon, Mr Lam and his delegation attended a roundtable meeting and networking dinner for Shanghai and Hong Kong lawyers and enterprises to promote how Hong Kong, as an international financial centre and international legal hub, can make use of its advantages in the common law system and legal and dispute resolution services to assist Mainland enterprises in going global. The participants discussed topics including the trend of Mainland enterprises expanding overseas, legal issues in using Hong Kong as a fundraising platform, regulation of legal risks in cross-boundary transactions and investments, and the handling of foreign-related commercial disputes.

Mr Lam said that Hong Kong's common law system is closely aligned with international commercial rules and brings together a large pool of legal and other professionals who are familiar with international rules. Coupled with its efficient and fair dispute resolution services, Hong Kong can provide comprehensive professional support to Mainland enterprises for expanding overseas, making it an ideal springboard for Mainland companies to go global. He expressed the hope that Hong Kong's legal sector will work closely with its Mainland counterparts to establish joint ventures or strategic partnerships to help Mainland enterprises secure steady and long-term success in overseas markets.

In the morning today (March 24), Mr Lam and his delegation met with Vice President of the Shanghai High People's Court Mr Wang Guangxian to exchange experiences on judicial practice and strengthening talent training.

Mr Lam then met with Vice Mayor of Shanghai Mr Lu Shan to learn about the latest developments of Shanghai and to highlight Hong Kong's unique advantages of its robust

common-law system and being connected to the Mainland and the world under the "one country, two systems" principle, which can provide support in legal and other professional service areas for Shanghai enterprises in furthering their overseas expansion.

In the afternoon, Mr Lam will arrive in Hangzhou and meet with Vice Governor of Zhejiang Province Mr Yang Qingjiu to discuss ways to strengthen co-operation and exchanges between Zhejiang and Hong Kong. The delegation will continue its visit to Hangzhou tomorrow (March 25).

Ends/Tuesday, March 24, 2026