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News Release

**SINGAPORE COOPERATION ENTERPRISE SIGNS
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HIMACHAL
PRADESH, INDIA TO SHARE SINGAPORE'S EXPERIENCE IN
URBAN PLANNING, HOUSING AND TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Singapore

Monday, 27 February 2017

Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) announced today the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Government of Himachal Pradesh, India to share Singapore's experience in urban planning, housing and smart integrated township.

The MOU was signed between Mr. Umesh Kumar Sharma, Chief Engineer of Himachal Pradesh Housing and Urban Development Authority (HIMUDA) and Mr. Kevin Chong, Director of Singapore Cooperation Enterprise. The signing was witnessed by Mr. Sudhir Sharma, Minister for Urban Development Development, Housing, Town and Country Planning, Government of Himachal Pradesh and Mr. S Iswaran, Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry), Singapore.

Shimla, also referred to as the "Queen of Hills", is the capital and largest city of the northern India state of Himachal Pradesh. The hilly topography in Shimla has led to a scarcity of buildable land; in addition, as one of the districts with the highest urban population in Himachal Pradesh, Shimla faces the challenges of congestion, lack of

housing and over utilization of infrastructure. With Singapore also being land scarce and a highly dense city, HIMUDA expressed interest to tap on Singapore's expertise in urban planning and development, where it has managed to achieve a sustainable environment under likened conditions.

Under the MOU framework, SCE will work with the relevant Singapore government agencies and private sector companies to collaborate with HIMUDA in the urban master planning and development of a smart integrated township in Shimla, as well as other possible areas of collaboration in support of the development of this township.

Mr. Kevin Chong, Director of SCE said, "***We are glad to collaborate with the Himachal Pradesh Housing and Urban Development Authority and share Singapore's best practices in the planning and development of residential townships. This cooperation marks SCE's first engagement in Himachal Pradesh and we look forward to deepening our friendship with India to deliver quality homes in scenic Himachal Pradesh.***"

Mr. Umesh Kumar Sharma, Chief Engineer of HIMUDA said, "***The increasing population in Shimla has created a critical need for sustainable urban development in order to address the challenges of congestion and lack of housing. We hope that through our collaboration with the Singapore Government, we are able to tap on the expertise of Singapore in urban and township planning to ease the congestion, and develop a modern and smart integrated township for our people.***"

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