

For immediate release

**MINISTER S ISWARAN TO ATTEND FOUNDATION STONE LAYING
CEREMONY OF AMARAVATI, ANDHRA PRADESH**

1. Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry), S Iswaran will be attending the foundation stone laying ceremony at Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh's new capital city, on 22 October 2015. Mr Iswaran is representing Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who was invited to the ceremony by the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Ministers from other Indian states will also be present at the event.
2. Singapore and Andhra Pradesh signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 8 December 2014 to jointly prepare a master plan and develop the latter's new capital city and surrounding region. Surbana Jurong Private Limited was appointed as the master planner to help create three master plans for the new capital city. The final seed development master plan was completed and delivered in July this year.
3. As part of the partnership, Singapore also worked with Andhra Pradesh to train and share expertise in urban governance with Andhra Pradesh government officials who will be involved in the development of Amaravati and the capital region. More than 20 officials have been trained to date.
4. A Singapore consortium comprising Ascendas-Singbridge Group and Sembcorp Development Ltd has expressed interest to develop the Seed Area in Amaravati. They are preparing to submit a bid for the project.
5. Mr Iswaran will be accompanied by Singapore's Special Envoy to Andhra Pradesh, Ambassador Gopinath Pillai and officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

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**Ministry of Trade and Industry
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For media queries, please contact:

Puurani Ragupathy
Senior Assistant Director, Corporate Communications Division
Ministry of Trade and Industry
DID: 6332 7511, HP: 9451 8220
Email: Puurani_RAGUPATHY@mti.gov.sg