

MINISTER S ISWARAN IN INDONESIA FROM 24 TO 26 APRIL 2017

1. Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) S Iswaran is visiting Jakarta and Medan, Indonesia from 24 to 26 April 2017. The visit aims to deepen our bilateral economic relations with Indonesia and pave the way for more business opportunities for Singapore companies in Southeast Asia's largest economy.
2. Mr Iswaran will meet Indonesian Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Ignasius Jonan and Minister for Industry Airlangga Hartarto in Jakarta, and the North Sumatra Vice-Governor Ibu Nurhajizah in Medan. These meetings will affirm Singapore's strong bilateral ties with Indonesia and explore the expansion of economic collaboration in the areas of energy, tourism, infrastructure, vocational education and the digital sector. Mr Iswaran's visit to the North Sumatra Governor's office also signals a deepening of economic ties with regional governments beyond Jakarta where there is scope for Singapore companies to internationalise. Mr Iswaran will also visit the East Ventures Hive in Jakarta, a co-working space for tech startups.
3. As part of Singapore's continued efforts to help Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) seize opportunities in Indonesia, Mr Iswaran is also leading a business delegation comprising 10 companies to both cities. The business mission is organised by International Enterprise (IE) Singapore. Indonesia's economic development is centred on energy, tourism, vocational training, and infrastructure. Coupled with a rising middle class, there are good opportunities for Singapore companies to contribute to Indonesia's goals of enhancing energy supply and accessibility, enriching tourism destinations, refining vocational training, and developing infrastructure.
4. 2017 also marks the 50th anniversary of Singapore-Indonesia diplomatic relations. Bilateral economic relations remain strong. In 2016, bilateral trade amounted to S\$56.1 billion, making Indonesia Singapore's fifth largest trading partner while Singapore was Indonesia's third largest trading partner. Singapore remained the top investor in Indonesia in 2016. Both countries are among each other's top source market for international visitor arrivals for many years. In 2016, about 2.9 million visitors from Indonesia visited Singapore.
5. Mr Iswaran will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Economic Development Board (EDB), IE Singapore, and the Singapore Tourism Board (STB).

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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For media queries, please contact:

Puurani Ragupathy
Senior Assistant Director, Corporate Communications Division
Telephone: 6332 7511
Email: Puurani_RAGUPATHY@mti.gov.sg