

Ties between Singapore and Tatarstan Broadening: Tharman

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SINGAPORE: Ties between Singapore and the Russian state of Tatarstan are growing and broadening, said Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam on Saturday.

The minister, who is now visiting Tatarstan, also said that more Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) are set to be signed.

Speaking at the Tatarstan-Singapore Business Forum, he said the first is a MOU between International Enterprise Singapore and Tatarstan, which seeks to promote collaboration in the Innopolis innovation centre. This will be accomplished through the exchange of information and knowledge and by facilitating Singapore companies to participate in the project.

The Innopolis project, master-planned by Singapore's RSP Architects, has the potential to be a key regional hub for innovation, technology and education.

The second is an agreement between Educare International Consultancy and the Ministry of Education and Science of Tatarstan. This will facilitate the delivery of training programmes and consultancy services by Educare until 2016. These services include professional development and education leadership programmes.

Mr Tharman said they reflect the emphasis that Tatarstan has placed on investing in its people.

He said such agreements serve as catalysts to deepen the scope of engagement with Tatarstan, as well as other regions of Russia.

Mr Tharman believes Tatarstan can be an excellent point of entry for Singapore firms into the large Russian market.

- CNA/jc