## 'To foster overseas Korean identity': OKA and Ministry of Veterans Affairs to cooperate

Commissioner Lee Sang-duk and Minister Kang Jeong-ae sign MOU at National Memorial of Korean Provisional Government

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) will work with the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (Minister Kang Jeong-ae) to foster the Korean identity among overseas Koreans.

The two organizations signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to this effect on March 6 at the National Memorial of the Korean Provisional Government in Seodaemun-gu, Seoul, attended by Lee Sang-duk and Kang Jeong-ae.

The MOU includes  $\blacktriangle$  Supporting veterans education to foster the identity of the next generation of overseas Koreans,  $\blacktriangle$  Promoting veteran commemoration projects related to independence and wartime at home and abroad with overseas Koreans,  $\blacktriangle$  Preserving and utilizing historic sites and heritage related to the independence movement abroad, and  $\blacktriangle$  Strengthening the discovery and honoring of the descendants of independence heroes living abroad.

Lee gave meaning to the event by saying, "Since the establishment of the OKA, we have been promoting a policy of



OKA Commissioner Lee Sang-duk (R) and Veterans Affairs Minister Kang Jeong-ae pose for a photo after signing the MOU.

shared growth between Korea and overseas Koreans, and with the cooperation between the two organizations, we have now laid the foundation for mutual growth between Korea and overseas Koreans in the field of veterans' affairs."

After signing the MOU, Lee visited the exhibition titled "The Korean Liberation Army and the South Korean National Army" held in the special exhibition room on the first floor.

## OKA and Incheon Yeonsu-gu District Office 'Join Hands' to support overseas compatriots returning to Korea

Deputy Commissioner Byun Chul-hwan meets with District Mayor Lee Jae-ho to discuss improving educational environment

The Overseas Koreans Agency and the Yeonsu-gu District Office of Incheon metropolitan city (District Mayor Lee Jae-ho) have agreed to work together to support overseas Korean returnees. Byun Chulhwan, deputy commissioner of the OKA, met with District Mayor Lee Jae-ho at the Yeonsu-gu government office on March 7 and agreed to work together to synergize efforts to support overseas Korean returnees.

Hambak Village, located in Yeonsu 1-



OKA Deputy Commissioner Byun Chul-hwan (R) visited the Yeonsu-gu Office in Incheon, South Korea, on March 7 to discuss how to cooperate in supporting overseas Korean returnees with District Mayor Lee Jae-ho.

Goryeo-in Village in Gwangsan-gu, Gwangju.

The OKA is conducting various policies and projects to help the growing number of returning overseas Koreans quickly adapt to Korea and live in mutual prosperity and to help them grow into the engines of Korean society, which is facing a demographic cliff.

"We look forward to expanding our mutual cooperation with the Yeonsu-gu District Office, which is actively implementing efforts, such as the

dong, Yeonsu-gu, is home to more than 6,500 Koryo people who have returned from Russia and other CIS countries. The village is home to the third-largest number of overseas Koryo compatriots in the country, after Ttaetgol Village in Ansan, Gyeonggi Province, and establishment and operation of the Win-Win Exchange Center and the Dagachi Learning Center in Hambak Village," Byun said. "The OKA is focused on improving the educational environment for the youth, who will grow into the future resources of Korean society."