

# 高鐵助港打通「經脈」 融合發展進新階段

## 中英社評

從構思、規劃到興建接近二十年之久的廣深港高速鐵路香港段昨日正式營運，開啓香港高鐵新時代。高鐵香港段首日整體運作大致暢順，可說有了好的開始。

事實上，廣深港高鐵香港段開通意義重大，提供準時、方便、快捷與舒適的跨境交通基礎設施，便利港人在內地工作、就學、營商與生活，促進內地與香港深化合作、推動粵港澳大灣區走向一體化。

高鐵對香港經濟進一步發展有着重要關鍵作用。高鐵香港段接全國高鐵網絡，令香港與國家三大經濟圈連接在一起，即珠三角、長三角及首都經濟帶，產生區域經濟發展效益實無可估量。高鐵聯通無疑為內地與香港帶來更顯著的優勢互補、協同發展效益，令香港更好貢獻國家，同時也可為自身經濟發展，開拓更多新增長點。

高鐵香港段「連繫更遠，成就更多可能」並不是空話。內地與香港高鐵互聯互通，為香港發展帶來新機遇，促進了經貿、旅遊與專業服務等行業可持續發展，而行走高鐵香港段「動感號」列車，好像為香港經濟發展不斷添加活力與動能，高鐵無疑有助香港打通「經脈」。

事實上，高鐵猶如聯繫內地與香港的一條主動脈，高鐵香港段接二萬五千公里的國家高鐵網絡，令香港發展不再局限於一千一百平方公里面積，突破



廣深港高鐵香港段開通意義重大，提供準時、方便、快捷與舒適的跨境交通基礎設施便利港人

土地與人才等資源樽頸。

目前「動感號」高鐵列車已直達內地四十四個站點，勢將成為香港經濟新一輪突破發展的重要新引擎，助力內地與香港之間人流、物流、資金流、信息流加速流動，推動建立粵港澳大灣區一小時生活圈。同時，由於國家高鐵網絡日後可能延伸至東南亞國家，將進一步強化香港在「一帶一路」建設中的地位與角色。

目前香港首要用好高鐵紅利，着力發掘經濟新增長點。一是藉着高鐵之便

，加強與內地創新科技合作。高鐵香港段通車之後，大大縮短內地與香港的時空距離，其中從香港西九往福田、深圳時間不到半小時，有利於香港與深圳創新科技的交流合作，其中創科人才可便捷地往返香港與深圳之間，提升港深創科雙劍合璧的功能。

二是加強粵港金融合作，特別是金融創新方面，有很大發展空間與潛力，可以在粵港澳大灣區實施先行先試措施，體現大灣區制度創新的特點。

其實，高鐵可激發粵港建立更頻繁

的人員交往與更緊密的經貿聯繫，從而帶動跨境金融服務需求大增。例如在內地與香港金融互聯互通與人民幣國際化方面，香港便有重要的角色扮演。最近香港推出快速支付系統，除了促進香港電子支付普及化，也是為了內地與香港跨境金融支付實現對接而進行鋪橋搭路。

高鐵新時代下，內地與香港融合發展邁向更高水平。特區政府宜抓緊高鐵路新機遇，做好相關的政策措施的部署與制定具前瞻性的長遠規劃，發掘香港經濟新亮點。 2018-09-24

## WORDS AND USAGE

### Put sth through (phrasal verb)

●To bring something to completion. (完成，接通)

Examples:

- 1.They put the project through on time.
- 2.Production will start up again when these changes have been put through.

### Link up to/with sth (phrasal verb)

●To connect to or join up with something.

(連接，聯線)

Examples:

- 1.Now my computer can link up with a computer bulletin board.
- 2.The train links up with the ferry at Dover.

### Beyond measure (idiom)

●To an extreme degree; exceedingly.

(無可估量，極度)

Examples:

- 1.Mankind's knowledge of the universe has increased beyond measure.
- 2.Her joy was beyond measure.

### Break through (sth) (phrasal verb)

●To successfully deal with something that is stopping you making progress. (突破，克服)

Examples:

- 1.There is still scope for new writers to break through.
- 2.I broke through the poverty barrier and it was education that did it.

### Map sth out (phrasal verb)

●To plan in detail how something will happen.

(安排，籌劃)

Examples:

- 1.The department has issued a new document mapping out its policies on education.
- 2.The committee mapped out the five-year plan with an extensive slideshow showing all the projected improvements.

## Opening of express rail link helps Hong Kong "dredge blood vessels" and move into a new stage of integration and development

The Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, which it had taken two decades to **put through** - from visualising, planning to completion of construction, formally began operating yesterday to open a new era of high-speed rail for Hong Kong. The first-day operation of the Hong Kong section of the express rail link was smooth in general, which could be said to have a good start.

As a matter of fact, the opening of the Hong Kong section of the express rail link is of great significance. It provides a punctual, convenient, fast and comfortable cross-boundary transportation facility to facilitate Hong Kong residents working, studying, doing business and living on the Mainland, to promote the deepening of cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong, and to push forward the integration of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area.

The express rail link is crucial for Hong Kong's further economic development. The Hong Kong section links up to the national express rail network, connecting Hong Kong to the country's three major economic rims, namely the Pearl River Delta, the Changjiang (Yangtze) River Delta and the Capital economic rims. The benefits this brings on regional economic development are **beyond measure**. Getting Hong Kong linked to the national express rail network no doubt brings more obvious complementation of advantages and benefits of coordinated development between the Mainland and Hong Kong, enabling Hong Kong to make better contributions to the nation and at the same time to cultivate more new points of growth for its own economic development.

"Better Connections Unleash Endless Potential", the slogan of the Hong Kong section of the express rail link is by no mean empty talk. Connection of the Hong Kong section to the national express rail network brings Hong Kong new opportunities, and promote sustainable development of Hong Kong's economy, trade, tourism and professional services. The Vibrant Express trains rolling along tracks of the Hong Kong section of the express rail link are as if to keep injecting vitality and energy into Hong Kong's economic development. The express rail link no doubt helps Hong Kong "dredge blood vessels".

In fact, the Hong Kong section is like an artery to **link Hong Kong up** to the 25,000-kilometre national express rail network, so much so that Hong Kong's development is no longer limited to an area of 1,100 square kilometres, breaking through the bottlenecks of land and talent resources.

At present, the Vibrant Express trains already go directly to 44 stations

on the Mainland, which is bound to become an important new engine for a new round of **breakthrough** development in Hong Kong, to help accelerate the flows of people, goods, capital and information between the Mainland and Hong Kong, and to facilitate the formation of a one-hour commuting radius of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area. Moreover, the possible extension of the national express rail network into Southeast Asian countries in future will further strengthen Hong Kong's status and role in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Right now, Hong Kong's priority is to make good use of the dividend generated by the express rail link to cultivate new economic growth points. The first is to take advantage of the express rail link to strengthen cooperation with the Mainland in innovation and technology. The opening of the Hong Kong section greatly shortens the time-space distance between the Mainland and Hong Kong. Among others, it takes less than half an hour from Hong Kong's West Kowloon to Shenzhen's Futian, which is favourable for exchange and cooperation in innovation and technology between Hong Kong and Shenzhen. Talents in this field could conveniently and quickly travel between the two cities to advance their cooperation in innovation and technology.

The secondly is to strengthen financial cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong. In particular, there is great room and potential for development in financial innovation. Measures could be pioneered for trial in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area first, to highlight the Bay Area's special feature of institutional innovation.

In fact, the express rail link can stimulate more frequent personnel exchange and closer economic and trade ties, to greatly boost demand for cross-boundary financial services. For examples, Hong Kong has an important role to play in mutual financial market access between the Mainland and Hong Kong and in renminbi's (RMB) internationalisation. Hong Kong has recently introduced in a Faster Payment System, which is, besides to promote the popularisation of electronic payment, also to pave way for achieving mutual financial payment between the Mainland and Hong Kong.

In the new era of express rail, integration between the Mainland and Hong Kong will move up to a higher level. The SAR Government should take this new opportunity to well **map out** relevant policies and measures and do forward-looking long-term planning, so as to dig up some new shining points for Hong Kong's economy.

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## 時事英語

《大公報》八月底多篇報道揭露了「香港大學民意研究計劃」總監鍾庭耀接受美國資助、為其不可告人的政治目的而操弄民意調查結果。「鍾氏民調」的立場和公正性歷來備受質疑，這些報道讓人們進一步認清其真實面目。

民意調查英文叫做opinion poll，簡稱poll或survey，是統計學的一種較簡單的應用。由於問卷設計和抽樣方式或多

## 謊言 該死的謊言 統計數字

或少帶有主觀因素，民調並不是一門精密科學 (exact science)，也鮮被視為學術研究。香港的最高學府20多年來允許鍾庭耀打着「學術研究」的招牌掛羊頭賣狗肉 (to cry up wine and sell vinegar)，實乃咄咄怪事。

據《維基百科》，已知最早民調是1824年美國大選期間，賓夕法尼亞州一家報社所作的當地選民意向調查。這種調查當時叫做straw poll，中文直譯可為「風向調查」。Straw是乾草，往空中揚撒一把乾草，看它們往哪飛就可知道當時的風向。那時的「風向調查」是舉行模擬投票，看選民傾向誰人當總統。此

後近百年期間，此類調查只局限在某個城市或區域。

直到1916年，《文學文摘》(Literary Digest)開始向全國範圍的選民寄出明信片詢問他們的投票意向，據此成功預測了1916、1920、1924、1928和1932年的總統選舉結果。不過在1936年，該雜誌卻陰溝裏翻船，錯誤預測羅斯福 (Franklin Roosevelt) 不會連任。失誤的原因在於它的調查對象集中在親共和黨的選民。《文學文摘》不久即告結業。

而當時年僅35歲的喬治·蓋洛普 (George Horace Gallup) 運用統計學，以抽樣的方式 (sampling) 調查了不同階

層的選民，成功預測了選舉結果，這一年標誌抽樣調查的興起 (taking off)。此後，「蓋洛普調查」雖然名聲顯赫，預測美國大選也曾出現幾次失誤。可見，再權威的民調結果也不能全信，更談不上是學術研究。

西諺有曰：There are three kinds of lies: Lies, damned lies, and statistics (謊言有三種：謊言，該死的謊言，統計數字)，用來指斥玩弄數字的勾當。這句話經美國大文豪馬克·吐溫 (Mark Twain) 之筆而成為名言。

「鍾氏民調」屬於哪一種呢？亦然

## 走出校園

### 花費逾二千萬保存世界「最貴」一棵樹

著名作家老舍 (舒慶春) 的兒子舒乙有一篇文章：〈香港：最貴的一棵樹〉，由於列為國家語言文字工作委員會普通話水平測試60篇朗讀文章之一，熟悉其內容者不少。文中講述港島金鐘太古廣場頂層有一棵香港乃至全世界「最貴」的樹，筆者一直感到好奇，終於在路經該區時順道看個究竟。

該文指人們可在太古廣場乘滾動扶梯 (即扶手電梯) 到頂層，出後門便見。筆者學生曾往尋而不見，於是向她解釋「出後門」是指離電梯後左轉，經過酒店後便見。樹的所在地叫「榕園」，只見一棵枝極蔓延、綠葉成蔭的大榕樹屹立園中。這棵榕樹約植於1870年，樹齡近150歲，所在地原為駐港英軍域多利兵房 (Victoria Barracks) 的一部分，直至1979年。

英軍遷離後，太古地產公司投得該地以興建商場和商廈，港英政府要求不可砍伐或遷移老榕樹，公司同意。為了保留榕樹，該公司在地下建造一個直徑18米、深10米的巨型圓筒花盆，把老榕架在大樓上面，使它看似長在樓頂上。整個工程花費港幣二千三百八十九萬二千二百七十七元，公司認為「相信是世界上耗資最鉅來保存的一棵樹」。樹旁有銅文介紹老榕的來歷和有關工程。

保護這棵百年老榕的費用確實驚人，但觀賞它是分文不取的，人們在逛太古廣場「嘆冷氣」之餘，可順道到頂層外觀賞此大樹，並在樹下享受自然之涼。

大專講師 梁勇 (文/圖)



▲世界上最貴的樹位處金鐘太古廣場頂層榕園