

"Anti-drug Info Zone: Stride Ahead Into A Drug-free Future" Roving Exhibition officially launched (with photos)

The 'Anti-drug Info Zone: Stride Ahead Into A Drug-free Future' Roving Exhibition (Anti-drug Roving Exhibition) was officially launched at its first stop at Central Market today (June 26). This Anti-drug Roving Exhibition aims to allow the public to properly understand the adverse effects caused by drugs through interactive exhibits.

Officiating at the opening ceremony of the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition, the Secretary for Security, Mr Tang Ping-keung, said that today is World Drug Day, and this year also marks the 185th anniversary of the Destruction of Opium at Humen event. In the past, anti-drug pioneer Lin Zexu broke new ground in the anti-drug efforts of China and the world by destroying opium to save our country. No matter whether it is opium in the past, or emerging new drugs of the present, their harmful effects are well documented in history. Anti-drug work has always been an arduous and important mission.

In addition, speaking at the same opening ceremony, the Chairman of Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), Dr Donald Li, said that drugs would bring nothing good, only harm to society. It is never easy for drug abusers to beat their addiction. Members of the public will ruin their prospects if they take part in criminal offences including drug trafficking, possession of drugs, etc. He added that ACAN will have been established for 60 years by next year. The committee will keep making efforts to safeguard people's health and fight against drugs with the community.

The Anti-drug Roving Exhibition is co-organised by the Narcotics Division (ND) of the Security Bureau and ACAN, and is designed with the theme of interstellar space. Drugs are portrayed in the exhibition as aliens that should be defeated. This visual representation helps present the adverse effects caused by drugs on one's mind and body in a vivid manner. And by seeing the aliens, everyone will be strongly reminded again to stay away from drugs at all times, and the dire consequences of committing drug crimes.

Including the elements of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and multimedia, the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition is divided into different theme zones with games, digital exhibition panels and photo booths to share anti-drug knowledge with visitors, and provide them with information about criminal liability for drug offences, how to seek help and so on. Anti-drug videos, animations and leaflets will also be available at the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition to provide visitors with precise information about resisting drugs and seeking help.

The first stop of the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition is open to the public free of charge for five days from today until June 30 (from 10am to 8pm) at the Event Space, 1/F, Central Market. After the first stop, the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition will be held at the Hong Kong Book Fair (Booth 3C-A32, Children's Paradise), shopping malls in different districts and tertiary institutes by the end of March next year. For more details of the Anti-drug Roving Exhibition, please visit the dedicated webpage on the ND's website (www.nd.gov.hk/en/rovingexhibition.html).

Moreover, an anti-drug TV programme named "Sidewalk Scientist On Narcotics", which was commissioned by the ND and ACAN, will be broadcast on TVB Jade at 9.30pm on June 29 (Saturday). The programme analyses the harm caused by drugs from a scientific perspective in a straight-forward and easy-to-understand manner. The hosts invited a university lecturer in general education, a psychiatrist and a urologist to explain professionally how drugs can cause irreversible damage to one's physical and mental health. As well, the Hong Kong Police Force and Hong Kong Customs also took part in the production of the programme, including a short drama performed by the clever and agile customs detector dogs, to remind the public that taking part in drug trafficking will bring lifelong regrets. Members of the public are welcome to watch the programme to better understand the misconceptions about drugs.



