

Hong Kong Customs combats illicit cigarettes activities (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (August 23) stepped up enforcement action against illicit cigarette activities across the territory. Apart from the detection of three incoming cargo and passenger cases at the Shenzhen Bay Control Point, Lok Ma Chau Control Point and the Hong Kong International Airport, a mobile distribution den in Yau Tong was also smashed.

During the operation, about 690 000 suspected illicit cigarettes and 38 000 suspected illicit heat-not-burn products with a total estimated market value of about \$2 million and a duty potential of about \$1.4 million were seized.

Six men aged from 30 to 64 were arrested, including two buyers who were caught in Kowloon City and Kwun Tong.

A cross-boundary truck has also been detained.

Investigation is on-going.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

Under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, anyone involved in dealing with, possession of, selling or buying illicit cigarettes commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$1 million and imprisonment for two years.

Members of the public are particularly reminded that both the selling and buying of illicit cigarettes are illegal. Hong Kong Customs will continue to step up enforcement efforts against illicit cigarette activities at the control points and within the in-town area.

Members of the public may report any suspected illicit cigarette activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



Government strives to build dementia friendly community (with photos)

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Dr Law Chi-kwong, said today (August 24) at the "CareNin" movie screening and sharing session of the Dementia Friendly Community Campaign organised by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) that the Government is highly concerned about elderly persons with dementia and their carers' needs. He called on different sectors in society to work together with the Government to build a dementia friendly community.

Dr Law added that in 2018-19, the Government has allocated about \$264 million as recurrent resources to strengthen community care and support services for elderly persons with dementia and their carers. Measures include additional recurrent provision to elderly community care and support services units for strengthening manpower and staff training, as well as regularisation of the Dementia Community Support Scheme.

The SWD also launched the three-year Campaign in September last year. The Campaign comprises a set of television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, a thematic webpage, a television docudrama jointly produced by the SWD and Radio Television Hong Kong, a number of district-level talks and activities organised by district social welfare offices, and commissioning the Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association (HKADA) to assist in organising Dementia Friends information sessions, to enhance public understanding of dementia and to show care and take action to support people with dementia and their carers.

At present, more than 11 000 people have attended the information sessions and registered as internationally recognised Dementia Friends, far exceeding the original three-year target of 10 000, which reflects the public's concern and support. Speaking at the event as Dementia Friends, the

Director of Social Welfare, Ms Carol Yip, appealed to all for continuous support to elderly persons with dementia and their carers. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the HKADA, Dr David Dai, deepened people's understanding about the needs of people with dementia in his discussion.

"CareNin", the Japanese movie shown in today's event, was adapted from a true story and vividly depicts a 21-year-old care worker's reflections gained from looking after an elderly lady with dementia in a small residential care facility. Through trial and error, the young care worker gradually developed insight about dementia.

Mr Matthew Shum, the founder of the Illuminant, a social enterprise that co-organised today's event, spoke on his experience in taking care of elderly persons with dementia. Mr Shum studied a masters degree in elderly welfare in Japan and worked at a residential care home for the elderly there. Through training and public education, he hoped to cultivate a new culture on elderly care and to promote autonomy as well as dignity for the elderly.

One of the audience members today was Mr Liu Man-him, who became a health worker in a residential care home after he completed the training offered by the Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services of the SWD. He noted that he met many elderly people with dementia there and was therefore eager to gain more relevant knowledge. He also encouraged young people to join care services of the welfare sector.

Ms Tsang Yuk-sau, a service recipient of the Dementia Community Support Scheme provided at a District Elderly Community Centre, also discussed her experience in taking care of her husband and pointed out that elderly persons with dementia and their carers face numerous challenges. She expressed the hope that the public would have more understanding of their needs and provide support.



Police conducting dispersal operation in Kwun Tong

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

A large group of violent protestors have occupied Sheung Yuet Road and Wai Yip Street outside Ngau Tau Kok Division Police Station today (August 24), started fires and hurled bricks at police officers. Their acts pose a serious threat to the safety of everyone at scene.

After repeated warnings to the protestors went futile, police officers have deployed tear gas and minimum force to disperse protestors outside Ngau Tau Kok Division Police Station.

Police appeal to everyone at scene to leave immediately and advise residents of the area to stay tuned to the latest situation and if necessary, keep their windows shut and stay indoors.

Police condemn all violent acts by the protestors.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (August 24) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall

3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –
Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –
Lei Tung Community Hall
Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai –
Wan Chai Activities Centre
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –
Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –
Shek Kip Mei Community Hall
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate
Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –
Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –
Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –

Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –

Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –

Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –

Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

Protestors blocked Wai Yip Street and vandalised Government properties

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

Since around 2pm today (August 24), some protestors have set up barricades with water-filled barriers, bamboo sticks and other objects on Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, seriously paralysing traffic and affecting the

emergency services in the area.

Some violent protestors maliciously damaged lampposts on Sheung Yuet Road, Kwun Tong and vandalised Government properties, neglecting other road users' safety.

The report room services of Ngau Tau Kok Division Police Station are now temporarily suspended. Police appeal to members of the public not to obstruct the emergency vehicles access so as to avoid affecting the emergency services provided to the public. In case of emergency, please call 999.

Police warn the protestors concerned to stop all illegal acts. Police appeal to other peaceful protestors to leave the area immediately and strongly condemn all unlawful acts.