

CE meets Director of General Administration of Sport of China and cheers for HK athletes at Asian Winter Games in Harbin (with photos)

â€¢ The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, today (February 9) met with the Director of the General Administration of Sport of China (GASC), Mr Gao Zhidan, and watched competition at the 9th Asian Winter Games Harbin 2025 in Harbin to cheer for the participating Hong Kong athletes.

Mr Lee, accompanied by the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Miss Rosanna Law, and representatives of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, met with the Director of the GASC, Mr Gao Zhidan. Mr Lee expressed his warmest congratulations on the successful hosting of this high-level Games, as well as his gratitude to the GASC for its continuous support to the sports development of Hong Kong. He said that the Mainland has rich resources in winter sports, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will promote the exchange and co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in winter sports, supporting Hong Kong athletes in showcasing their competence in major competitions.

Mr Lee said that the HKSAR Government will draw reference from the country's wide-ranging experience in successfully holding large-scale sports events and continue to spare no effort to promote the development of sports through a five-pronged approach: promoting sports in the community, supporting elite sports, promoting Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events, enhancing professionalism, and developing sports as an industry. It will also work closely with the Guangdong Provincial Government and the Macao Special Administrative Region Government to conduct the "simple, safe and wonderful" 15th National Games.

Mr Lee and Miss Law also watched curling event to show their support for the participating Hong Kong athletes. Mr Lee remarked that it was particularly significant as the Hong Kong, China Delegation sent its first-ever curling team to compete in an international multi-sport event, demonstrating the capabilities of Hong Kong athletes. He said he believes that Hong Kong athletes can gain valuable experience and enhance their skills through participation in various international competitions and exchanges with athletes from other countries. In addition, public awareness of and interest in sports can also be raised.

Mr Lee and the other officials also visited a well-known snow sculpture art exhibition, the Taiyangdao Island International Snow Sculpture Expo, and a famous ice and snow theme park, the Harbin Ice and Snow World, to learn more about the operation and development of the two places.

Mr Lee will continue his visit programme and meet with leaders of Heilongjiang Province tomorrow (February 10).

