<u>Police respond to statements by media</u> <u>organisations</u>

In the small hours of today (November 16), some rioters set barricades and hurled petrol bombs, suspected corrosive liquids and bricks on Nathan Road, Mong Kok. Police conducted dispersal operation by using tear gas. While Police were preparing for another round of dispersal operation in Portland Street, Police officers requested the reporters at scene to leave and fired one shot of 40mm react round.

Police are looking into this incident and the officer involved is currently on leave.

In response to the statements of relevant media organisations, Police reiterate that we fully respect press freedom. Police will maintain close communication with media organisations to enhance mutual understanding.