

Police strongly condemn law-breaking behaviours of protestors

The procession held on Hong Kong Island yesterday (June 9) was mostly conducted in a peaceful and orderly manner. However, after the procession had concluded, some protestors conducted unlawful assembly and charged the cordon line of Police with force in the vicinity of The Legislative Council Complex (Complex) since the small hours today (June 10). Police then took actions to disperse them after repeated appeals asking them to leave were ignored. Police strongly condemned the law-breaking behaviours of protestors and reiterated that resolute enforcement action will be taken to track down the involved parties.

The protestors in the vicinity of the Complex had attacked police officers at scene with mills barriers, iron poles and other objects. They pushed the car park gate of the Complex, charged the cordon line of Police with force as well as attempted to block and occupy the main roads nearby with objects. The protestors refused to comply with the repeated warnings issued by Police who then discharged OC foam and used batons to disperse the protestors.

During today's operation, Police arrested 19 persons, aged between 19 and 34, for unlawful assembly and obstructing police officers. Among the 17 men and two women, seven arrestees are still being detained for enquiries while 12 others have been released on bail pending further enquires. During the operation, Police seized scissors, cutters, blades, multi-purpose knives, lighters and plastic ropes, etc.

Eight police officers were injured during the operation. Two of them were admitted to hospital while six others were discharged. One police officer sustained serious eye injuries after being kicked by a protestor. Police expressed regret over injuries of officers during the operation.

Police strongly condemned the protestors for their law-breaking acts which endangered the safety of others. Police have all along respected people's rights of freedom of expression and facilitated the conduct of all lawful and peaceful public events while at the same time ensured public safety and order. Police appealed to members of the public to comply with the laws of Hong Kong and maintain social order when expressing their views.

LegCo to consider Fugitive Offenders

and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) will hold a meeting on Wednesday (June 12) at 11.30am (or immediately after the meeting for the Chief Executive's Question Time to be held at 11am) in the Chamber of the LegCo Complex. During the meeting, the Second Reading debate on the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 will resume. If the Bill is supported by Members and receives its Second Reading, it will stand committed to the committee of the whole Council. After the committee of the whole Council has completed consideration of the Bill and its report is adopted by the Council, the Bill will be set down for the Third Reading.

On Members' motions, Dr Elizabeth Quat will move a proposed resolution under section 34(4) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance to extend the period for amending the Telecommunications (Method for Determining Spectrum Utilization Fee) (Spectrum for Auction) Regulation and the Telecommunications (Designation of Frequency Bands subject to Payment of Spectrum Utilization Fee)(Amendment) Order 2019 laid on the table of the Council on May 22, 2019 to the meeting of July 10, 2019.

Mr Wong Ting-kwong will also move a proposed resolution under section 34(4) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance to extend the period for amending the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2019 (Commencement) Notice laid on the table of the Council on May 22, 2019 to the meeting of July 10, 2019.

Mr Dennis Kwok will move a motion under Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. The motion states: "That, pursuant to Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, this Council summons the Secretary for Justice, Ms Teresa Cheng, SC and the Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Mr Chan Kwok-ki to attend before the Council at its earliest meeting after the passage of this motion to produce all relevant papers, books, records or documents and to testify or give evidence on handling of the matter of and in relation to the engagement of Ms Teresa Cheng, after taking the office of the Secretary for Justice, in or her being concerned with (either directly or indirectly as principal, agent, director or shadow director, employee, or otherwise) any other trade, business, occupation, firm, company (private or public), chamber of commerce or similar bodies, public body or private professional practice (in particular relating to arbitration), and relevant matters."

In addition, Mr Dennis Kwok will move a motion on no confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The motion states: "That this Council has no confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

Ms Claudia Mo will move an amendment to Mr Dennis Kwok's motion.

Mr Ho Kai-ming will move a motion on ensuring children's right to play for them to grow up happily. The motion states: "That, children in Hong Kong have long schooling time and heavy homework load, and lack time for leisure, play and even rest; coupled with the fact that the living environment (especially in sub-divided units) in Hong Kong is so cramped that children often do not have sufficient space for activities, not to mention space for playing; at present, public playgrounds for children are unevenly distributed among districts, channels for community participation in the design process are inadequate, play equipment is insufficient and designs are identical with no elements to stimulate the healthy growth of children; moreover, inclusive play equipment has failed to meet the needs of children with disabilities, and play equipment and services for in-patient children are also in acute shortage; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to formulate measures to ensure that local children can enjoy the rights stated in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the right to rest and leisure, and to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child, and at the same time improve the software and hardware of children's play equipment, so that children can obtain more diversified recreational experience, enjoy leisure and grow up happily; specific measures include:

(1) urging the Commission on Children to conduct studies on ensuring children's entitlement to the right to play and draw up criteria for the construction of children's play equipment, such as play equipment should embody the elements of variety, flexibility, inclusiveness and holistic and healthy development of children, and to make amendment proposals on the relevant laws and regulatory measures based on the findings of the studies;

(2) revising the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines to raise the standard for provision of children's playgrounds;

(3) requiring private housing courts to provide suitable children's play equipment through various means, including imposing land sale conditions, and providing financial assistance and technical support for owners or owners' corporations of private housing courts and Tenants Purchase Scheme to provide additional and upgrade children's play equipment in housing courts or estates;

(4) identifying suitable sites in public housing and private developments for constructing children's playgrounds, and providing at least one inclusive playground in each district for children with or without disabilities to play together;

(5) setting up additional children playrooms under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in various districts and improving the equipment

of existing playrooms, including setting up specifically designed playrooms for infants and pre-school children to provide more public play area for parents and children;

(6) setting up additional toys libraries in various districts to enable children of all ages and from different strata to have equal rights and opportunities to access to toys;

(7) increasing the number of child care centres and subsidised child care service places, so that young children can receive care and enjoy free playtime in a safe and healthy environment;

(8) urging the Hospital Authority to provide sufficient play equipment and services for sick children;

(9) reviewing the frequency of internal tests and examinations and homework load of primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, so that children will not have less time for rest and play due to excessive homework and tests and examinations, thereby promoting their balanced development;

(10) stepping up the development of game-based education and collaboration with non-governmental organisations to provide games and organise outdoor activities within and outside schools, as well as organise more outdoor activities during holidays; at the same time, providing appropriate subsidies for grass-roots children to ensure that they enjoy equal rights to participate in games and activities;

(11) providing training on game-based education for teachers and parents, and promoting to them the benefits and importance of play to children, with a view to reversing the social atmosphere of pursuing examination success and catching up with the curricula, so that teachers and parents can attach more importance to children's right to play; and

(12) expeditiously reviewing the outdated holiday policy to align statutory holidays with general holidays to 17 days, so that all employees in Hong Kong can enjoy the same number of holidays, thereby increasing their family time and playtime with children."

Mr Ip Kin-yuen, Dr Kwok Ka-ki, Dr Fernando Cheung, Dr Chiang Lai-wan and Mr Hui Chi-fung will move separate amendments to Mr Ho Kai-ming's motion.

During the meeting, Members will also ask the Government 21 questions on various policy areas, six of which require oral replies.

The agenda of the above meeting can be obtained via the LegCo Website (www.legco.gov.hk/index.html). Please note that the agenda is subject to change, and the latest information about the agenda could be found on the LegCo Website.

Members of the public are welcome to observe the proceedings of the meeting from the public galleries of the Chamber of the LegCo Complex. They may reserve seats by calling 3919 3399 during office hours. Members of the public can also watch or listen to the meeting via the "Webcast" system on

Correctional officers stop fight among persons in custody

Correctional officers at Shek Pik Prison stopped a fight among persons in custody today (June 10).

At 8.52am today, two male persons in custody aged 40 and 43 respectively were found fighting inside the toilet of recreation room. Officers at the scene immediately stopped the fight and called for reinforcement.

During the incident, one of the persons in custody sustained injury to his head and back etc. while the other person in custody sustained injury to his head and leg etc. Both of them were required to be referred to a public hospital for further examination and treatment after receiving treatment provided by the institution Medical Officer.

The case has been reported to the Police for investigation.

The two persons in custody were sentenced to imprisonment for the offence of theft and trafficking in a dangerous drug respectively.

Applications for purchase under the Sale of Home Ownership Scheme Flats 2019 and White Form Home Ownership Scheme Secondary Market Scheme 2019 to close on June 12

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Housing Authority:

The Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) reminded members of the public that the Sale of Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) Flats 2019 (HOS 2019) and White Form Home Ownership Scheme Secondary Market Scheme (WSM) 2019 (WSM 2019) will close on Wednesday (June 12) at 7pm. Applications submit after the application period will not be accepted.

"There are two more days for submitting applications. It is expected that a large number of applicants tend to submit their online applications shortly before the close of application, particularly a few hours before the deadline. The online system is expected to be very busy. In order to avoid experiencing difficulties in logging-in or delay in processing the applications, applicants are therefore urged to submit their online applications as early as possible to ensure a successful submission before the deadline," the spokesman said.

The spokesman reminded applicants that they should prepare all required information before filling in the online application form. Information includes the identity document(s) of the applicant and all family members (if any), the total household monthly income and total household net asset value, as well as a valid credit card. Before filling in the application form, please choose the correct application form (Green Form or White Form) and the scheme type (HOS, WSM or both). Family applicants please click the button for "Fill in Particulars of Family Member(s)" to fill in particulars of all family members before submitting the applications. Online amendments are not allowed after the applications are confirmed and payments are completed. If applicants find that they have filled in their information incorrectly, please inform the HA's HOS Sales Unit in writing to correct the information given (with the application number or identity card number specified) before the close of application (June 12).

For paper-based applications, White Form applicants, holders of a valid Green Form Certificate and households of Hong Kong Housing Society should submit the completed application forms together with the required documents to the HA Customer Service Centre (HACSC) at Lok Fu before the close of application. For submissions by mail, the date of submission will be determined by the postmark. Households of the HA are required to submit their completed application forms to their respective estate offices before the close of application.

As at 5pm today (June 10), the HACSC at Lok Fu had received a total of about 51,000 paper-based applications for HOS 2019 and WSM 2019. For online applications, 144,000 for HOS 2019 and 72,000 for WSM 2019 were received by the HA through e-Submission.

For information on HOS 2019, please visit the HOS 2019 website (www.housingauthority.gov.hk/hos/2019). The spokesman reminded members of the public to read the Application Guides before applying. Online applicants should refer to the step-by-step e-Submission video to find out how to apply online before filling in the form.

Members of the public may visit the HACSC at Lok Fu from 8am to 7pm during the application period, or call the 24-hour HA Sales and WSM hotline on 2712 8000 for matters relating to HOS 2019 or WSM 2019.

Employment agency convicted for overcharging foreign domestic helpers

A licensee of an employment agency (EA) was convicted at Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (June 10) for overcharging nine foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) and was fined a total of \$84,000. The court also ordered the EA to refund the placement fee in excess, totalling \$60,297, to the FDHs concerned.

From October 2018 to January 2019, the Employment Agencies Administration (EAA) of the Labour Department (LD) received complaints from nine FDHs against Philip-Indonesian Helpers Employment Limited, located in North Point, for charging them excessive commission. The complainants agreed to assist in the investigation. As there was sufficient evidence following investigation that the concerned EA had overcharged them, the LD decided to take out prosecution against the licensee of the EA.

According to the law, an EA is not allowed to collect from a job seeker any fees or charges other than the prescribed commission, which is an amount not exceeding 10 per cent of the first month's salary of the job seeker upon successful placement.

The LD reminds EAs to operate in full compliance with the law, as well as the Code of Practice for Employment Agencies at all times. Failure to do so may lead to prosecution and possible revocation of licences. The Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2018, effective since February 9, 2018 also raises the maximum penalty for overcharging job seekers to a fine of \$350,000 and imprisonment for three years.

For complaints about unlicensed operation or overcharging of commission by EAs, please call the EAA of the LD at 2115 3667, or visit its office at Unit 906, 9/F, One Mong Kok Road Commercial Centre, 1 Mong Kok Road, Kowloon.