<u>Public urged to keep venues clean</u> <u>during fireworks display</u>

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) today (September 30) appealed to members of the public to keep places clean and mind their safety while watching the National Day Fireworks Display on October 1.

The LCSD, together with the law enforcement teams of other relevant departments, will strengthen patrols at LCSD venues. Measures will be stepped up to tackle littering, illegal hawking and vandalism.

These venues include the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza, the Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade, the Urban Council Centenary Garden, Middle Road Children's Playground, the Tsim Sha Tsui East Waterfront Podium Garden, the Hung Hom Promenade and Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Park along the Kowloon waterfront, as well as Tamar Park and the Central and Western District Promenade (Central Section) on the waterfront of Hong Kong Island.

A spokesman for the LCSD said that littering offenders will be subject to a fixed penalty of \$1,500. Members of the public should take away their belongings while leaving the venues and put trash into litter box. Publicity materials reminding members of the public to keep places clean will be displayed at the venues while additional cleaning staff and security guards will also be deployed.

The spokesman also reminded people that the above-mentioned venues will be very crowded during the fireworks display. For public safety, crowd management measures will be implemented in some venues. Visitors are advised to exercise tolerance and patience and take heed of on-site staff and police instructions.

Meanwhile, in the wake of the adverse impact brought about by Tropical Cyclone Mangkhut which has led to various levels of damage to the facilities and trees at many LCSD venues, the department is making great efforts to conduct clearance and repair work and members of the public are advised not to go near or enter the cordoned-off areas in these venues for the sake of safety.

<u>Special traffic arrangements for race</u> <u>meeting in Sha Tin tomorrow</u>

Police advise motorists that special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Sha Tin to facilitate the race meeting tomorrow (October 1).

The arrangements will come into effect two hours before the start of the first race and will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

Appropriate traffic signs will be put up and police will be on hand to quide motorists.

The Police also appeal to people going to Sha Tin Racecourse for the race meeting and to Happy Valley Racecourse for cross betting to make maximum use of public transport.

Parking spaces at the two racecourses are available only to holders of appropriate permits issued by Hong Kong Jockey Club and any vehicles illegally parked will be towed away.

IT platform helps feed the needy

FOOD-CO, the first IT platform for food support services in Hong Kong, is feeding the needy by matching up food donors and food service operators.

The government-funded initiative has attracted various contributors including charities, restaurants and logistics companies.

The platform supports a collaborative community of hundreds of members who help provide and shuttle food to the poor.

News.gov.hk interviewed the operator of FOOD-CO and some of its members to learn about their experiences.

The story appears on news.gov.hk (September 30) in text and video format.

Appeal for information on missing woman (with photo)

Police today (September 29) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing.

Liu Yin-ling, aged 66, cannot be reached by her family since she was last contacted on September 26. Her family made a report to Police yesterday

(September 28).

She is about 1.49 metres tall, 50 kilograms in weight and of fat build. She has a round face with yellow complexion and short black hair. She was last seen wearing a white vest with strips and blue sports shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of New Territories South on 3661 1173 or email to rmpu-nts-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any Police station.



<u>Passenger convicted of possession of illicit cigarettes</u>

A 49-year-old man was convicted and sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment at the Shatin Magistrates' Courts today (September 29) for possession of illicit cigarettes, in contravention of the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance.

Customs officers intercepted an incoming male passenger at Lo Wu Control Point yesterday (September 28) and seized about 33 000 illicit cigarettes with an estimated market value of about \$88,000 and a duty potential of about \$62,000 from two suitcases carried by him.

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.

A spokesman for Customs and Excise Department reiterated that stringent

enforcement against illicit cigarette activities would be continued at all control points.

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