<u>April 2019 issue of "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" now available</u>

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) published today (April 15) the April 2019 issue of the "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" (HKMDS).

Apart from providing up-to-date statistics, this issue also contains two feature articles entitled "Hong Kong's Balance of Payments, 2009 to 2018" and "Statistics on Innovation Activities in Hong Kong, 2013 to 2017".

"Hong Kong's Balance of Payments, 2009 to 2018"

The Balance of Payments (BoP) records economic transactions between Hong Kong and the rest of the world. BoP represents a comprehensive set of statistics, covering trade in goods and services, investment and income. These statistics on cross-border transactions are useful for monitoring financial flows between Hong Kong and other economies, thus providing an objective basis for gauging financial soundness and policy formulation.

This feature article highlights the salient features of Hong Kong's BoP as well as the latest trends from 2009 to 2018.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Balance of Payments Branch, C&SD (Tel: 3903 6979; email: bop@censtatd.gov.hk).

"Statistics on Innovation Activities in Hong Kong, 2013 to 2017"

Innovation is a key impetus to economic growth and development towards a knowledge-based economy. Innovation activities encompass research and development activities, product and process innovation activities as well as organisational and marketing innovation activities which are not directly related to technological advancement but help enhance competitiveness and business performance.

Statistics on innovation activities are useful in shedding light on the diffusion of innovation activities in an economy and can offer insight into possible development areas. This feature article aims at portraying the latest development of innovation activities in Hong Kong, with separate analyses for research and development, technological innovation and non-technological innovation activities.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Science and Technology Statistics Section, C&SD (Tel: 3903 7282; email: stbl@censtatd.gov.hk).

Published in bilingual form, the HKMDS is a compact volume of official statistics containing about 140 tables. It collects up-to-date statistical series on various aspects of the social and economic situation of Hong Kong. Topics include population; labour; external trade; National Income and Balance of Payments; prices; business performance; energy; housing and

property; government accounts, finance and insurance; and transport, communications and tourism. For selected key statistical items, over 20 charts depicting the annual trend in the past decade and quarterly or monthly trend in the recent two years are also available. Users can download the Digest free of charge at the website of C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp460.jsp?productCode=B1010002).

Enquiries about the contents of the Digest can be directed to the Statistical Information Dissemination Section of C&SD (Tel: 2582 4738; email: gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk).