CE to visit Beijing and Hebei

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, will visit Beijing and Hebei from October 23 to 25. The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan; the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau; the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Patrick Nip; and the Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, will accompany Mrs Lam on the visit.

Mrs Lam will depart for Beijing in the evening on October 23. She will attend the 4th Hong Kong/Beijing Co-operation Conference and the opening ceremony of the 22nd Beijing-Hong Kong Economic Cooperation Symposium the next day. While in Beijing, she will call on the central ministries and meet with municipal leaders.

The Hong Kong/Beijing Co-operation Conference, formerly known as the Hong Kong-Beijing Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference, was established in 2004 and three plenary sessions have been held. During Mrs Lam's meeting with the Secretary of the CPC Beijing Municipal Committee, Mr Cai Qi, and the Mayor of Beijing, Mr Chen Jining, in Beijing at the beginning of this year, both sides agreed to hold another plenary session as soon as possible to further co-operation between the two places in various aspects such as economic and trade, livelihood and social affairs.

The Beijing-Hong Kong Economic Cooperation Symposium has been held annually since 1997 and the two cities alternate to host the symposium. The Chief Executive also attended the symposium in Hong Kong last year. This year's symposium, with the Belt and Road Initiative as the theme, will feature a series of activities on the development and further opening up of the Belt and Road Initiative, technology and cultural innovation, major works projects and city management.

Mrs Lam will then go to Hebei where she will meet with leaders of Hebei Province and conduct a visit on October 25. She will return to Hong Kong in the evening.

During Mrs Lam's absence, the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, will be the Acting Chief Executive.

<u>Cancellation of LegCo subcommittee</u> <u>meeting</u>

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

The first meeting of the Legislative Council Subcommittee on Tax Reserve Certificates (Rate of Interest) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Notice 2018 originally scheduled for today (October 22) at 4.30pm has been cancelled.

Import and Export (Electronic Cargo Information) (Amendment) Regulation 2017 to come into operation on October 24

The Government announced by notice in the Gazette today (October 22) that the Import and Export (Electronic Cargo Information) (Amendment) Regulation 2017 will come into operation on October 24, 2018.

At present, the Road Cargo System (ROCARS) is operated at all land boundary control points for customs clearance of road cargoes. The Amendment Regulation seeks to extend the application of the relevant principal regulation, so as to enable ROCARS to operate at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port upon commissioning.

For enquiries on the operation of ROCARS, please call the hotline at 3669 0000 or visit its website at www.rocars.gov.hk.

SFST to visit Germany and Switzerland to promote financial services

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr James Lau, will depart Hong Kong in the early hours tomorrow (October 23) for a three-day visit to Frankfurt in Germany and Zurich in Switzerland to promote Hong Kong's advantages in financial services.

During the visit, he will take part in the NZZ Swiss International Finance Forum to be held in Zurich on October 25, where he will deliver a keynote speech on how Hong Kong can leverage its unique advantages in the opening up of the Mainland's financial markets.

Upon arrival in Frankfurt on October 23, Mr Lau will meet with senior management of various financial institutions and financial technology (Fintech) companies. He will also speak to leading business figures at a luncheon co-organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin.

In Zurich on October 24 and 25, Mr Lau will meet with key personnel of the financial regulators and the banking, asset and wealth management sectors as well as the Fintech community to strengthen ties and discuss the latest developments in Hong Kong's financial markets.

He will also give a keynote speech at a business luncheon co-organised by the Swiss-Hong Kong Business Association and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin.

Mr Lau will return to Hong Kong in the afternoon on Friday (October 26).

Missing man in Chai Wan located

A man who went missing in Chai Wan has been located.

Cheung Siu-lun, aged 34, went missing after he left a hostel in Shau Kei Wan Main Street East on October 3 morning. Staff of the hostel made a report to Police on October 8.

The man was located in Shau Kei Wan Main Street East on October 20 evening. He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.