<u>Companies Registry releases statistics</u> for first half of 2024

A total of 66,734 local companies were newly registered during the first half of 2024, according to the statistics released by the Companies Registry today (July 19). As at the end of June this year, the total number of local companies registered under the Companies Ordinance reached 1,440,935, which is an all-time high figure.

In the first half of 2024, 501 non-Hong Kong companies have newly established a place of business in Hong Kong and were registered under the Companies Ordinance. The total number of registered non-Hong Kong companies reached 14,959 by the end of June 2024, which is also an all-time high figure.

To respond to evolving business needs, the new e-Services Portal of the revamped Integrated Companies Registry Information System was launched on December 27, 2023, to provide electronic services to members of the public through a single integrated platform. The Registry will continue to enhance the system to cater for legislative and procedural changes in future and the provision of quality electronic services.

The number of charges on properties of companies received for registration in the first half of 2024 was 5,721. The number of notifications of payments and releases received for registration in the same period was 8,808.

The number of documents delivered to the Registry for registration during the first six months of 2024 was 1,520,759.

A total of 2,564,604 searches of document image records were conducted using the Registry's electronic search services in the first half of 2024.

For limited partnership funds (LPFs), the number of new registration in the first half of 2024 was 113. The total number of LPFs by the end of June 2024 was 844.

For open-ended fund companies (OFCs), the number of new incorporation in the first half of 2024 was 129. The total number of OFCs by the end of June 2024 was 371.

As for the licensing of trust or company service providers, during the first half of 2024, 324 new licenses were granted by the Registry. The total number of licensees was 6,974 as at the end of June.

For the licensing of money lenders, during the first half of 2024, 75 new licences were granted by the Licensing Court. The total number of licensed money lenders was 2,193 as at the end of June.

For details of the half-yearly statistics, please visit the "Statistics" section of the Registry's website $(\underline{www.cr.gov.hk})$.