

CSD emergency exercise Concord XXIII tests emergency response (with photos)

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) conducted a large-scale emergency exercise at Stanley Prison today (December 11). The exercise simulated a series of incidents, including mass indiscipline of persons in custody (PICs), a hostage-taking situation, assembly of members of the public intruding into a restricted area, and the discovery of explosives.

The exercise, code-named Concord XXIII, aimed to test the emergency response of various units of the Department in different scenarios, including command and communication capabilities, the effectiveness of contingency plans implemented at different tier levels of response associated with the development of emergency situations, emergency response, and information dissemination at departmental levels, as well as to test the CSD's co-ordination with other government departments.

More than 150 staff members from the CSD, including the Correctional Emergency Response Team and the Regional Response Team, and the Hong Kong Police Force, took part in the exercise.

The Assistant Commissioner of Correctional Services (Operations), Mr Chan Siu-hang, was in charge of the whole operation at the Department's Central Control Centre in Stanley. He said that the exercise enhanced the response capabilities of the Department and the effectiveness of its emergency support. It also improved interdepartmental communication and co-operation.

The CSD holds regular emergency exercises of different scales, including at institutional, regional and departmental levels, with a view to ensuring staff members are capable of handling different types of incidents, thereby providing a safe and secure custodial environment for PICs and maintaining Hong Kong as one of the safest cities in the world.



