<u>Rioters maliciously assault Police</u> officers

Rioters continue to block roads and wreak havoc at various districts, seriously jeopardising public safety and order. At around 6.45am today (November 14), some rioters shot an arrow from Hong Kong Polytechnic University to several patrolling Police officers at the junction of Austin Road and Chatham Road South. Such an act can be fatal. When more officers came to their aids, rioters still threw flower pots from heights, endangering public safety.

In face of the situation, Police officers have deployed tear gas to effect dispersal, during which rioters shot another round of arrows. Then at around 8.50am, rioters shot the third around of arrows, causing an immense threat to public safety. Currently, a section of Austin Road close to Nathan Road and Chatham Road South was closed off.

In this incident, no Police officer was injured. Six arrows were seized at the scene. The case is pending as "Assaulting Police Officer". The Investigation Team of Yau Tsim District is pursuing the case. No one has been arrested.

Police strongly condemn all despicable acts calculated to jeopardise public safety. Such acts constitute "Assaulting Police Officer" and even "Wounding with Intent", which carries a maximum penalty of 2 years and life imprisonment respectively. Due to the rioters' atrocious acts, Police appeal to members of the public to stay vigilant when passing through the area and mind their own safety. Members of the public are also advised not to stay to watch and leave immediately if they come across any illegal activities.

Police warn rioters to stop all illegal and violent acts and will bring all offenders to justice through resolute enforcement actions.