

Secretary for Justice reviews Fire Services passing-out parade

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, reviewed the Fire Services passing-out parade for 22 station officers, 146 firemen and 50 ambulancemen at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy today (November 17).

Speaking at the parade, Mr Lam commended the Fire Services Department (FSD) for forming the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region search and rescue team with members from other government departments to carry out search and rescue work in quake-stricken areas in Türkiye in February and successfully rescuing four survivors. The team was awarded the inaugural Chief Executive's Award for Exemplary Performance in July. Hong Kong people took pride in the team's selfless devotion, which has also enhanced Hong Kong's international reputation.

He said, "To strengthen the graduates' understanding of the country, the FSD organised the National Studies Course in which the graduates were given an opportunity to exchange views with the Fire and Rescue Corps of Guangdong Province and learn about the Mainland's advanced equipment and new technologies. Graduates are encouraged to continue to actively participate in the exchange sessions organised for fire and ambulance personnel of both Hong Kong and Guangdong Province to foster closer co-operation between the both sides. Such sessions would also enhance the professional and technical standards of both sides, and further contribute to strengthening the emergency response and rescue capabilities of the Greater Bay Area."

Mr Lam pointed out that the FSD has been actively taking part in the education on the rule of law, including instilling positive values and law-abiding spirit among the youth through the Fire and Ambulance Services Teen Connect and social media platforms.

He added that to safeguard national security and prevent terrorist attacks, the FSD has formulated operation strategies and conducted joint operations and interdepartmental counter-terrorism exercises with other relevant departments in order to enhance emergency response capabilities.

The parade was followed by a demonstration of firefighting and rescue techniques by the graduates. The 218 graduates will be posted to various fire stations and ambulance depots.