Appeal for information on missing woman in Tin Sum (with photo)

Police today (July 3) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing in Tin Sum.

Siu Lai-yee, aged 39, went missing after she left her residence in Hin Keng Estate on June 19 afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on the next day (June 20).

She is about 1.6 metres tall, 59 kilograms in weight and of fat build. She has a round face with yellow complexion and long straight black hair. She was last seen wearing glasses, a black short-sleeved T-shirt, black trousers and dark coloured shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of New Territories South on 3661 1176, 9689 7445 or email to rmpu-nts-2@police.gov.hk, or any police station.



LegCo Members visit Kwu Tung and Long Valley (with photos)

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

Legislative Council (LegCo) Members conducted a site visit to Kwu Tung

and Long Valley today (July 3) to follow up on a case about issues relating to the housing and agricultural rehabilitation arrangements for Kwu Tung North villagers affected by the North East New Territories New Development Areas Project.

Accompanied by representatives of the Development Bureau, the Lands Department, the Planning Department, the Civil Engineering and the Development Department, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department as well as the Hong Kong Housing Department, Members visited squatters in Kwu Tung and Long Valley to better understand the impacts of the development project on the local farmers and households. They were briefed by the government representatives on the housing and agricultural rehabilitation arrangements. During the visit, Members also took the opportunity to exchange views with the affected residents to learn more about their needs.

After the site visit, Members held a closed-door meeting with the Administration at the LegCo Complex to follow up the case.

Members who participated in the visit were Duty Roster Member Mr Chan Chi-chuen (Convenor) and other invited Members, Mr Alvin Yeung, Mr Chu Hoidick, Mr Lau Kwok-fan, Dr Cheng Chung-tai and Mr Gary Fan.





SDEV speaks to media on quarterly land sale programme for July to September 2018

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, at the question-and-answer session of the media session today (July 3) on the quarterly land sale programme for July to September 2018:

Reporter: Mr Wong, the Government is reallocating a few more numbers of plots from private residential sites to public housing. How would this balance the

proportion of private and public housing? As there is going to be a reduction of the number of flats ..., how are you going to make up for those in the longer run? It leads me to the question of how are you going to work with Mr Stanley Wong, the Chairman of the Task Force on Land Supply (Task Force), before the Policy Address?

Secretary for Development: You asked me three questions. I will try my best to answer them one by one. For the first question about the split between public and private housing, the target was actually set in 2014 when the Government decided upon the 10-year long-term strategy for public housing. That proportion and that split have not been changed this time. I think the Chief Executive explained it quite clearly in her announcement earlier on. It remains 28 000 units of public housing, and private development at 18 000 units. That remains unchanged.

On measures to increase land supply in the longer term, we are working very hard. That is why the Task Force on Land Supply is working full steam to discuss various strategies. On the Government's part, the Development Bureau is also spearheading efforts to align the standards between our three departments: the Planning Department, the Lands Department and the Buildings Department. At the moment, for some work procedures, sometimes they are looking at the same procedures separately, sometimes the standards applicable are different. Within the Development Bureau, the Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands), Ms Bernadette Linn, is leading a task force to look at how to speed things up, how to simplify the procedures and how to align the standards. So, we do think that in the medium term, that would help.

Your last question is about Mr Stanley Wong and me. We are on the phone practically almost daily. You might have heard that some Task Force members, after hearing what the Chief Executive has said, have also suggested the Task Force to hold a meeting in the near future to discuss how best they can facilitate the Policy Address process. Stanley himself has said that in terms of broad direction, there might be something that the Task Force can do. The Task Force has scheduled to produce a full report around Christmas time this year. But before that, it might be possible, in terms of broad direction and some preliminary findings, the Task Force may be able to contribute towards the Policy Address preparation process. So, that is something that we will work on.

<u>LegCo Subcommittee visits public</u> <u>markets (with photos)</u>

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

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets conducted a visit to public markets today (July 3) to understand the present situation of public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD).

In the company of the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, as well as representatives of the Food and Health Bureau and FEHD, Members visited Shui Wo Street Market and Cooked Food Centre, Aberdeen Market and Cooked Food Centre and Wan Chai Market to learn more about the present operating environment of public markets. Members were briefed by government representatives on the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme. They were also briefed about the prevailing arrangements for retrofitting air-conditioning systems in public markets. During the visit, Members took the opportunity to chat with stall tenants of public markets to understand their business and hear their views on how they would like the markets to be improved.

Members who participated in the visit were the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr Wilson Or; Subcommittee members Mr Shiu Ka-fai, Mr Shiu Ka-chun and Mr Au Nok-hin; as well as non-Subcommittee members Mr Paul Tse, Mr Yiu Si-wing and Dr Lo Wai-kwok.







Hong Kong Customs mounts joint operation with Mainland Customs to combat ivory smuggling activities (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs mounted a joint-operation with Mainland Customs to combat cross-boundary ivory smuggling activities. During the operation, Hong Kong Customs seized a total of about 277 kilograms of suspected ivory with an estimated market value of about \$2.77 million in San Tin.

Mainland Customs earlier conducted investigations on a suspected cross-boundary ivory smuggling syndicate and took action on June 25. A total of about 47 kg of suspected ivory was seized. Six persons were arrested.

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (July 2) also raided a warehouse of the syndicate in San Tin and seized about 277 kg of suspected ivory in total. Eight persons aged between 22 and 60, including the mastermind of the syndicate, were arrested.

Investigation is ongoing.

Customs reiterated that it is committed to combating stringently the smuggling of endangered species including ivory through intelligence analysis, risk management and cross-boundary joint operation.

Under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting an endangered species without a licence is liable to a maximum fine of \$10 million and imprisonment for ten years.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

