Hospital Authority welcomes announcement of new batch of recognised medical qualifications by Government

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) welcomed the Government's announcement today (June 26) regarding a new batch of recognised medical qualifications by the Special Registration Committee. The HA fully supports the Government's policy, and has been conducting various visits and recruitment activity promotions in different countries and regions in order to attract more qualified non-locally trained doctors to practice in Hong Kong.

The HA spokesperson said, "The HA has put much effort in recruiting overseas healthcare talent, including the establishment of the Global Healthcare Professional Recruitment Centre to co-ordinate all overseas recruitment programmes and regularise overseas recruitment activities. Recruitment events had been held in London and Manchester of the United Kingdom in April this year, with an aim to proactively encourage medical students to return to Hong Kong to work upon graduation, and to attract qualified overseas medical practitioners to serve the public in Hong Kong. The number of non-locally trained doctors currently working in the HA has increased to around 140 in May 2024 from 55 in March last year, and is expected to increase to around 250 by the end of this year."

To tackle the rising service demand for the public healthcare sector, the HA will prioritise the recruitment of all suitable medical graduates from local universities, and will also recruit more qualified non-locally trained doctors under special registrations and limited registrations. The HA has set up various channels including online platforms to handle enquires and applications from non-locally trained doctors by a dedicated team.

Teacher study tour to Henan on ancient civilisation of Xia, Shang and Zhou dynasties kicks off tomorrow

â€<Co-organised by the Chinese Culture Promotion Office (CCPO) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Education Bureau (EDB), a teacher study tour to Henan on the ancient civilisation of the Xia,

Shang and Zhou dynasties, in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 27th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, will be held from tomorrow (June 27) to July 1. More than 20 secondary school Chinese history teachers will join the five-day study tour to visit places including Zhengzhou, Anyang and Luoyang of Henan Province to enhance their understanding of the historical background of Henan's Xia, Shang and Zhou dynasties for promoting history education and enriching teaching content, through visits to cultural institutions and archaeological sites, as well as from expert scholars' sharing and interviews.

The first exhibition of the CCPO's General History of China Series, "The Hong Kong Jockey Club Series: The Ancient Civilisation of the Xia, Shang and Zhou Dynasties in Henan Province" exhibition, is currently held in the Hong Kong Museum of History. To tie in with the exhibition and with the full support of the Henan Provincial Administration of Cultural Heritage, the study tour allows teachers to visit various museums and archaeological sites, including Anyang Municipal Museum, Luoyang Museum, Yinxu Museum, the National Museum of Chinese Writing and the Erlitou Site. During the visit to the Henan Museum, teachers joining the study tour will attend a seminar, at which experts will share experiences on how they make use of museum resources to promote history education, to see what can be learned for Hong Kong. They will also explore teaching resources provided by Mainland institutions to support Hong Kong students in learning Chinese history and culture.

Teachers play a pivotal role in promoting and preserving Chinese culture. The Chinese History and Culture — Train-the-Trainer Workshops coorganised by the CCPO and the EDB are tailor-made for secondary and primary school teachers, and will cover Chinese history and culture, arts, technology, and intangible cultural heritage with a view to providing support for teachers to teach students of different ages and levels Chinese culture, thus enabling the inheritance of Chinese heritage. In recent months, the CCPO has held various teaching seminars, and will arrange diversified events in the new academic year commencing in September, including guided tours for exhibition at the Hong Kong Museum of the War of Resistance and Coastal Defence and exhibitions related to Chinese culture, film screening and thematic talks on intangible cultural heritage and ancient astronomy.

The LCSD has long been promoting Chinese history and culture through organising an array of programmes and activities to enable the public to learn more about the broad and profound Chinese culture. For more information, please visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ccpo/index.html.

Hong Kong Customs adopts three-pronged

operation combining enforcement, inspection and public education to protect intellectual property rights during major sports events (with photos)

As a number of international sports events will be held consecutively starting this month, Hong Kong Customs conducted a three-week special operation from June 3 to 23 by adopting a three-pronged strategy combining enforcement, inspection and public education to protect intellectual property rights.

On the enforcement front, Customs officers combat infringing activities at every level, including cross-boundary transhipments, local retail, and online and technology-related crimes. During the operation, Customs detected 33 related cases in total and seized about 68 000 items of suspected infringing goods with a total estimated market value of over \$52 million. Nine persons were arrested.

Regarding cross-boundary transhipments, through big-data and intelligence analysis, as well as in-depth investigations and surveillances, Customs identified and raided over 60 logistics centres in Kowloon Bay, Kwai Chung, Tsing Yi, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long, and selected a container arriving in Hong Kong from Nansha, Guangdong, at the Tuen Mun River Trade Terminal for inspection. As a result, Customs detected 27 related cases and seized about 67 000 suspected counterfeit goods, including watches, handbags, clothes, footwear and sporting goods, with a total estimated market value of about \$51 million. A 62-year-old woman who was responsible for arranging the transhipment of the goods was arrested.

After investigations, Customs believed that most of the suspected counterfeit goods would have been re-exported to Europe, America and Middle East regions.

On the technology crimes' side, after a comprehensive investigation and with the assistance of the copyright owners, Customs officers raided six retail shops in Wan Chai, Kwun Tong, Hung Hom and Yuen Long on June 12 to crack down on infringing activities involving unauthorised communication of copyright works to the public. The case involved about 130 suspected illicit streaming devices and a batch of electronic products and audio and visual equipment, with an estimated market value of about \$230,000. During the operation, four men aged between 32 and 48, including three shop owners and a salesperson, were arrested.

Also, Customs, carried out cyber patrols and made use of a big-data analytics system to conduct risk assessments and analyses and found that

suspected counterfeit jerseys had been put on sale online. After an investigation and with the assistance of trademark owners, two cases of suspected counterfeit jersey sales through online platforms were cracked down during the operation. Thirty-one suspected counterfeit jerseys, with an estimated market value of about \$30,000, were seized. A man and a woman, aged 24 and 30, were arrested.

On the retail side, Customs earlier received information alleging that some shops were selling suspected counterfeit sports-related products at low prices. Customs officers then swiftly took action on June 22, and raided four stalls inside a flea market at Kam Sheung Road and a retail shop nearby. During the operation, Customs arrested two shop owners, aged 50 and 39, and seized around 1 000 suspected counterfeit sports related products with an estimated market value of about \$700,000.

Investigations of the above-mentioned cases are ongoing. All arrested persons have been released on bail pending further investigation.

Customs also launched a high-profile seven-day operation from June 13 and deployed officers across the territory, including Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong, Wan Chai, Kwun Tong, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, Tai Po, Sheung Shui, and Islands District, to conduct anti-infringement activities inspections. Customs also took the opportunity to distribute promotional leaflets to stores, bars and restaurants, and explained the relevant legal requirements to the merchants to prevent them from violating the laws unwittingly.

Additionally, in terms of education, Customs organised an Intellectual Property Rights Seminar for members of "Customs YES" in June to promote Customs' work in protecting intellectual property rights, the relevant legislation and the Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance to campuses and to sow the seeds of respecting intellectual property rights among youth. In July, Customs will hold a seminar in conjunction with the Intellectual Property Department to deepen the understanding about the respect for intellectual property rights and legal requirements of the bar and catering sector.

Customs appeals to consumers to purchase goods at reputable shops or websites and to check with the trademark owners or authorised agents if the authenticity of a product is in doubt to avoid buying counterfeit goods. The department also reminds traders or online sellers not to sell counterfeit goods, and to be cautious and prudent in merchandising since selling counterfeit goods is a serious crime and offenders are liable to criminal sanctions.

Customs reminds practitioners in the logistics industry to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO) and to check with the trademark owners or authorised agents if the authenticity of a product is in doubt when handling cargoes.

Under the TDO, any person who imports or exports or sells or possesses for sale any goods to which a forged trademark is applied commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Customs also reminds merchants not to take part in activities involving unauthorised communication of copyright works to the public. Also, members of the public should respect intellectual property rights and not buy any illicit streaming devices. Unknown websites connected with the illicit streaming devices might contain computer viruses or malware which can pose a risk to users.

Under the Copyright Ordinance, any person who, without the authorisation of the copyright owner, communicates a copyright work to the public for the purpose of or in the course of any trade or business that consists of communicating works to the public for profit or reward; or communicates the work to the public to such an extent as to affect prejudicially the copyright owner, commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is imprisonment for four years and a fine of \$50,000 in respect of each copyright work.

Customs will continue to step up inspections and enforcement to vigorously combat different types of infringing and counterfeiting activities.

Members of the public may report any suspected counterfeiting or infringing activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002).





HKETO Tokyo promotes Hong Kong as premier logistics hub for Korean companies in Seoul (with photos)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Tokyo), the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Logistics Association jointly held a networking event in Seoul, Korea, today (June 26) to promote Hong Kong's

advantages as a premier logistics hub in Asia, and a gateway for trade between Mainland China and the rest of the world.

In his opening remarks, the Acting Principal Hong Kong Economic and Trade Representative (Tokyo), Mr Leo Tze, said that Hong Kong and Korea share robust trading partnerships. He noted that last year, in terms of merchandise trade, Korea was Hong Kong's sixth-largest trading partner, while Hong Kong was Korea's 10th-largest trading partner and fifth-largest export market.

"In the world of logistics, it is the connectivity that matters. Both Hong Kong and Korea are equipped with world-class aviation and maritime infrastructure, thereby enabling us to maintain a strong transportation linkage," he said.

He also noted that Hong Kong, being strategically located at the doorstep of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, is the ideal conduit for Korean products to enter this massive market with a population of over 86 million.

"The trading and logistics industry is one of the four key industries in Hong Kong. The Central Government's designation of Hong Kong as an international aviation hub and international maritime centre in the National 14th Five-Year Plan underlines Hong Kong's strengths in logistics development," he added.

With the theme "Seizing Opportunities for Growth: Strengthening Hong Kong-Korea Logistics Partnerships", the event was attended by a good mix of logistics industry players and corporate executives from various sectors of Korea, as well as representatives of the Hong Kong Logistics Association, who are visiting Seoul on a business mission.









Missing man in Kwai Chung located

A man who went missing in Kwai Chung has been located.

Tsang Chi-man, aged 62, went missing after he left his caring home on Wo Yi Hop Road in the small hours yesterday (June 25). Staff of the caring home then made a report to Police.

The man was located in a hospital on Princess Margaret Hospital Road this morning (June 26). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.