

## SHA commends volunteer leaders of youth uniformed groups

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The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, today (August 29) presented commendation certificates to 32 volunteer leaders of 11 youth uniformed groups in recognition of their long service in promoting youth training and development.

Speaking at the presentation ceremony of the Secretary for Home Affairs' Commendation Scheme 2009, Mr Tsang said that through the diversified training and activities of uniformed groups, youngsters would be able to acquire knowledge and skills outside the classroom and tap their potential. They could also develop good character and physique, build confidence, learn to be responsible as well as develop positive values for a meaningful life. With these characteristics, they would be able to learn to become responsible citizens and even outstanding leaders, Mr Tsang said.

Mr Tsang thanked uniformed group leaders for their contribution to the community through devoting time and efforts to nurture young people and set a good role model for them.

In the coming months, there will be large-scale activities in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China as well as active preparations for the fifth East Asian Games. Mr Tsang believed that uniformed groups would, as always, render full support to various activities to ensure their smooth implementation.

The presentation ceremony of the commendation scheme this year was held in the theatre of the newly commissioned Youth Square in Chai Wan. The Youth Square serves as a focal point for territory-wide youth development activities in Hong Kong, providing flexible facilities and venues for various youth activities and training. Mr Tsang hoped uniformed groups would better utilise the Youth Square in promoting youth development and training.

All the volunteer leaders commended in the ceremony have been providing services for a long period in their respective uniformed groups. Nineteen of them have served in their groups for 20 years, three for 30 years and one for more than 40 years.

Ends/Saturday, August 29, 2009

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