Inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue exercise 2019 held (with photos)

An inter-departmental exercise simulating a hill fire and mountain rescue operation was held at the hillside of Violet Hill, Tai Tam, Hong Kong, this morning (September 25).

The participating departments and organisations were the Fire Services Department (FSD); the Hong Kong Police Force; the Government Flying Service; the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department; the Auxiliary Medical Service; the Civil Aid Service; the Home Affairs Department; the Social Welfare Department; and the Hospital Authority. About 170 personnel took part in the exercise.

The exercise aimed to enhance co-ordination, communication, command and control as well as logistical support capabilities among different departments and organisations during hill fire and mountain rescue operations. It also helped check the effectiveness and co-operation of different emergency formations during fire-fighting and rescue operations.

A spokesman for the FSD called for public attention to possible hill fires as the Chung Yeung Festival is approaching and many people will be engaged in grave sweeping or hiking activities. Coupling with recent dry weather, a vegetation fire would burn and spread out more severely and rapidly. The spokesman also urged the public not to leave any naked flames while taking part in the above activities, and reminded them to take shelter in a safe place if they encounter a vegetation fire.

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Fire Services personnel walk uphill with fire beaters to combat a simulated vegetation fire during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).



The Fire Services Department's High Angle Rescue Team and Mountain Search and Rescue Team simulate a search and rescue operation with the assistance of a rescue dog during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).



The Fire Services Department's High Angle Rescue Team simulates the rescue of an injured person during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).



Ambulance personnel simulate the handling of an injured person during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).



Civil Aid Service personnel simulate the rescue of injured persons during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).



An inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise was held today (September 25). Photo shows Fire Services personnel simulating a search for injured persons with the assistance of a drone.



An inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise was held today (September 25). Photo shows the Divisional Commander (Hong Kong West) of the Fire Services Department, Mr Leung Kwok-chu, speaking at the conclusion of the operation.



A Government Flying Service helicopter was deployed to the scene for water bombing during an inter-departmental vegetation fire and mountain rescue operation exercise today (September 25).