November 26, 2019

The Editor The Australian

Dear Editor,

We refer to your editorial (18 November) titled "Xi ups stakes in Hong Kong".

We wish to emphasize that the Hong Kong Government has spared no efforts in restoring peace and order. We resolutely uphold the rule of law in dealing with any protests to minimise disruption to businesses and daily life. We want to make it very clear that we will strive to find ways and means that could end the violence in Hong Kong as soon as possible.

Allegations of Police brutality will be dealt with thoroughly by the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC), a statutory body established under the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance. The IPCC has, pursuant to the powers conferred by the law, proactively initiated a study on the major public order events in Hong Kong since 9 June and the corresponding actions taken by the Police, and established a Special Task Force and an International Expert Panel to this end. The IPCC will announce the progress of the study by phases. The Government will closely monitor and carefully study the IPCC's reports and its recommendations.

You may also wish to take note that the Hong Kong District Council election on 24 November was held in a peaceful, safe and orderly manner. This showed that the vast majority of the public share the wish for the peaceful, safe and orderly situation to continue.

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