

10-point manifesto outlines beliefs

FOLLOWING is the 10-point manifesto released yesterday by the Democratic Party.

■ Hong Kong is an indivisible part of China. We support the return of the territory's sovereignty to China.

■ The practice of "one country, two systems", high degree of autonomy and the establishment of democratic government in Hong Kong are the wishes of the people in Hong Kong.

■ We care for China and, as part of China's citizenry, have the rights and obligations to participate in and comment on the affairs of China.

■ We will seek to represent and articulate the views of the people of Hong Kong about Chinese government policies related to or having an impact on Hong Kong.

■ Democracy is the prerequisite for Hong Kong to establish a high degree of autonomy and is a natural consequence of the termination of the British colonial rule.

■ Democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law are the foundations for progress and prosperity in a modern society. In Hong Kong, it is necessary to speed up the development of a democratic system of government, to strengthen the protection of freedom, human rights, and the rule of law.

■ To maintain free and fair competition in our market economy, it is necessary for Hong Kong to develop and maintain appropriate monitoring systems, a reasonable and stable tax system, a sound legal system, and a corruption free and accountable government.

■ Economic prosperity depends on the concerted efforts of investors, labour, professionals, government and all members of society. The creation of wealth is the prerequisite for social development, and the ultimate objective of the creation of wealth is that all members of society may share the fruit of their economic success.

■ To foster the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong, to promote social justice, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination, Hong Kong needs to develop strong and healthy education, medical, housing, labour, social welfare and social security systems, and the assurance of equal opportunities of participation and development of personal talents.

■ To ensure continuous supply of natural resources, long-term social development and the protection of the livelihood of our future generations, we should protect and develop our living environment.