

## Around 1 000 applications of Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade approved

A spokesman for the Environment Bureau (ENB) said today (July 18) that the Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade under the Anti-epidemic Fund (AEF) launched by the Government continues to disburse subsidies.

The ENB spokesman noted that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has received over 1 400 applications for the Scheme, of which around 1 000 applications have been approved, involving subsidies of around \$60 million. The EPD has gradually posted cheques to the approved applicants and will continue to process the remaining applications with a view to providing assistance to the laundry trade as soon as possible.

A sum of about \$90 million has been earmarked under the AEF for the Scheme to provide a one-off subsidy to help the laundry and dry cleaning services industry meet its operational costs. Depending on the size of operation, each eligible laundry shop and workshop will receive a subsidy ranging from \$10,000 to \$150,000. To take care of the livelihood of elderly employees, the applicants are required to undertake not to reduce the total number of employees aged 65 or above for three months upon receipt of the subsidies.

The application period for the Scheme ended on June 12. Laundry trade members can call 3107 8403 or send an email to [laundry\\_subsidy@epd.gov.hk](mailto:laundry_subsidy@epd.gov.hk) to check the status of applications.