

Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 17) that Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool in Yuen Long District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of vomit in the pool.

It will be reopened at 6.30am tomorrow.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

USCED continues visit to Dubai with business and professional mission (with photo)

The Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Dr Bernard Chan, continued his visit to Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), today (June 17, Dubai time) with a business and professional mission comprising Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises. The day's visit programme saw the delegation learn more about the latest developments of the local economy, with a view to exploring more business collaboration and seizing new opportunities brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative.

In the morning, Dr Chan met with the Assistant Undersecretary for Trade Remedies of the Ministry of Economy of the UAE, Mr Abdalla Sultan Alfan Alshamsi. While introducing Hong Kong's advantages in professional services, Dr Chan also spoke on the development opportunities for Hong Kong brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. He expressed the hope that Hong Kong and the UAE can further strengthen co-operation by making full use of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement just signed between the two places and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office which will soon be set up in Dubai.

"Having one of the most liberal trade regimes in the Gulf region, the UAE is also the second largest economy in the Arab world and presents ample opportunities for our professional services sector. The country's rapidly developing logistics and financial services industries will offer a lot of common room for collaboration and long-term synergy with Hong Kong. To strengthen the bilateral ties between Hong Kong and the UAE on all fronts, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government is actively carrying out preparatory work for setting up an Economic and Trade Office in Dubai," Dr Chan said.

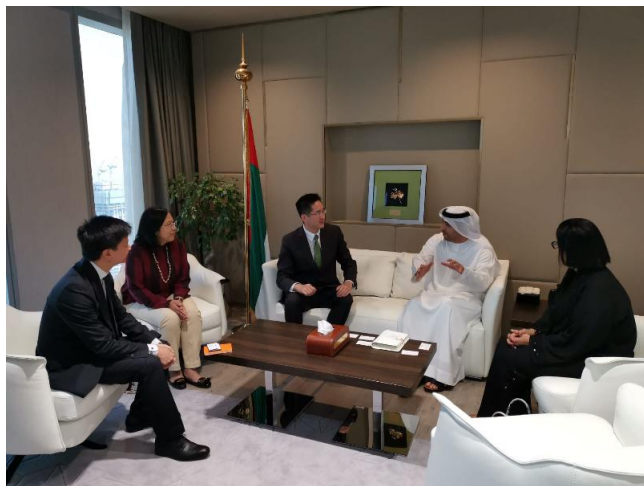
He added that the mission signifies Hong Kong's role as the ideal partner for Mainland enterprises to go global together and said he hoped that Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises could make direct and close connections with their counterparts in the UAE.

Dr Chan and the delegation visited the Jebel Ali Free Zone afterwards to learn about its investment environment and tax initiatives as well as enterprises' operation in the zone. The Jebel Ali Free Zone is situated next to Jebel Ali Port, which is the largest port in Dubai. With its strategic location, Jebel Ali Port serves as a maritime trade link between the East and the West, as well as a trading hub between Africa and the rest of the world. Established in 1985, the Jebel Ali Free Zone has attracted more than 8 600 companies, among which nearly 100 of them are Fortune Global 500 companies.

The delegation also visited the China-UAE Industrial Capacity Co-operation Demonstration Zone to learn about the production environment, management services and financial support provided to the companies there. Located in the Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi, the demonstration zone has been developed and managed by a Chinese-owned overseas investment company, and is the first of its kind under the Belt and Road Initiative. The demonstration zone currently houses companies mainly from the construction materials, chemical engineering and new energy sectors.

In addition, the delegation toured the COSCO Shipping Ports Limited Abu Dhabi Terminal adjacent to the Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi to get a better understanding of the local logistics facilities. Jointly developed by COSCO Shipping Ports and Abu Dhabi Ports, the terminal commenced operation in December last year and is part of a large-scale expansion plan to increase the capacity of Khalifa Port, which is the UAE's main container port.

Dr Chan will return to Hong Kong tomorrow (June 18).



LegCo to debate motion on no confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) will hold a meeting on Wednesday (June 19) at 11am in the Chamber of the LegCo Complex. During the meeting, Mr Dennis Kwok will move a motion, states: "That this Council has no confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

Ms Claudia Mo will move an amendment to Mr Dennis Kwok's motion.

Meanwhile, Mr Dennis Kwok will also move a motion under Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. The motion states: "That, pursuant to Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, this Council summons the Secretary for Justice, Ms Teresa CHENG, S.C. and Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Mr Eric CHAN Kwok-ki to attend before the Council at its earliest meeting after the passage of this motion to produce all relevant papers, books, records or documents and to testify or give evidence on handling of the matter of and in relation to the engagement of Ms Teresa CHENG, after taking the office of the Secretary for Justice, in or her being concerned with (either directly or indirectly as principal, agent, director or shadow director, employee, or otherwise) any other trade, business, occupation, firm, company (private or public), chamber of commerce or similar bodies, public body or private professional practice (in particular relating to arbitration), and relevant matters."

On other Members' motions, Mr Ho Kai-ming will move a motion on ensuring children's right to play for them to grow up happily. The motion states: "That, children in Hong Kong have long schooling time and heavy homework load, and lack time for leisure, play and even rest; coupled with the fact that the living environment (especially in sub-divided units) in Hong Kong is so cramped that children often do not have sufficient space for activities, not to mention space for playing; at present, public playgrounds for children are unevenly distributed among districts, channels for community participation in the design process are inadequate, play equipment is insufficient and designs are identical with no elements to stimulate the healthy growth of children; moreover, inclusive play equipment has failed to meet the needs of children with disabilities, and play equipment and services for in-patient children are also in acute shortage; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to formulate measures to ensure that local children can enjoy the rights stated in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the right to rest and leisure, and to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child, and at the same time improve the software and hardware of children's play equipment, so that children can obtain more diversified recreational experience, enjoy leisure and grow up happily; specific measures include:

(1) urging the Commission on Children to conduct studies on ensuring children's entitlement to the right to play and draw up criteria for the construction of children's play equipment, such as play equipment should embody the elements of variety, flexibility, inclusiveness and holistic and healthy development of children, and to make amendment proposals on the relevant laws and regulatory measures based on the findings of the studies;

(2) revising the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines to raise the standard for provision of children's playgrounds;

(3) requiring private housing courts to provide suitable children's play equipment through various means, including imposing land sale conditions, and providing financial assistance and technical support for owners or owners' corporations of private housing courts and Tenants Purchase Scheme to provide additional and upgrade children's play equipment in housing courts or estates;

(4) identifying suitable sites in public housing and private developments for constructing children's playgrounds, and providing at least one inclusive playground in each district for children with or without disabilities to play together;

(5) setting up additional children playrooms under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in various districts and improving the equipment of existing playrooms, including setting up specifically designed playrooms for infants and pre-school children to provide more public play area for parents and children;

(6) setting up additional toys libraries in various districts to enable children of all ages and from different strata to have equal rights and

opportunities to access to toys;

(7) increasing the number of child care centres and subsidized child care service places, so that young children can receive care and enjoy free playtime in a safe and healthy environment;

(8) urging the Hospital Authority to provide sufficient play equipment and services for sick children;

(9) reviewing the frequency of internal tests and examinations and homework load of primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, so that children will not have less time for rest and play due to excessive homework and tests and examinations, thereby promoting their balanced development;

(10) stepping up the development of game-based education and collaboration with non-governmental organizations to provide games and organize outdoor activities within and outside schools, as well as organize more outdoor activities during holidays; at the same time, providing appropriate subsidies for grass-roots children to ensure that they enjoy equal rights to participate in games and activities;

(11) providing training on game-based education for teachers and parents, and promoting to them the benefits and importance of play to children, with a view to reversing the social atmosphere of pursuing examination success and catching up with the curricula, so that teachers and parents can attach more importance to children's right to play; and

(12) expeditiously reviewing the outdated holiday policy to align statutory holidays with general holidays to 17 days, so that all employees in Hong Kong can enjoy the same number of holidays, thereby increasing their family time and playtime with children."

Mr Ip Kin-yuen, Dr Kwok Ka-ki, Dr Fernando Cheung, Dr Chiang Lai-wan and Mr Hui Chi-fung will move separate amendments to Mr Ho Kai-ming's motion.

Dr Elizabeth Quat will move a proposed resolution under section 34(4) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance to extend the period for amending the Telecommunications (Method for Determining Spectrum Utilization Fee) (Spectrum for Auction) Regulation and the Telecommunications (Designation of Frequency Bands subject to Payment of Spectrum Utilization Fee)(Amendment) Order 2019 laid on the table of the Council on May 22, 2019 to the meeting of July 10, 2019.

Mr Wong Ting-kwong will also move a proposed resolution under section 34(4) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance to extend the period for amending the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2019 (Commencement) Notice laid on the table of the Council on May 22, 2019 to the meeting of July 10, 2019.

During the meeting, Members will also ask the Government 21 questions on various policy areas, six of which require oral replies.

The agenda of the above meeting can be obtained via the LegCo Website

(www.legco.gov.hk/index.html). Please note that the agenda is subject to change, and the latest information about the agenda could be found on the LegCo Website.

Members of the public are welcome to observe the proceedings of the meeting from the public galleries of the Chamber of the LegCo Complex. They may reserve seats by calling 3919 3399 during office hours. Members of the public can also watch or listen to the meeting via the "Webcast" system on the LegCo Website.

Man sentenced for assaulting Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspectors

A 64-year-old man was sentenced to two imprisonment terms of 14 days each at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (June 17) for assaulting two Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspectors (TACIs) in the exercise of their duties. The two sentences are to be served concurrently. He was also fined \$500 for a smoking offence.

The incident took place at Tai Shing Street Market Cooked Food Centre, Wong Tai Sin, on February 25, 2019. The man assaulted two TACIs when he was being issued a Fixed Penalty Notice by the TACIs for a smoking offence. He was subsequently arrested and charged by the Police.

A spokesman for the Department of Health urged the public to observe the smoking ban requirements and to co-operate with law enforcement officers.

"Threatening or use of violence on enforcement officers is a serious offence and carries serious legal consequences," the spokesman said.

As of today, there have been three cases of assaulting TACIs in 2019. Since 2007, 89 cases have been recorded and 22 out of 76 offenders convicted for assaulting TACIs were sentenced to immediate imprisonment. The maximum penalty meted out by the court was immediate imprisonment for four months.

CHP investigates outbreak of acute gastroenteritis at kindergarten in

Kwun Tong

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (June 17) investigating an outbreak of acute gastroenteritis (AGE) at a kindergarten in Kwun Tong, and hence reminded the public and management of institutions to maintain personal and environmental hygiene against AGE.

The outbreak involves 22 boys and 17 girls aged 4 to 6, who have developed vomiting and diarrhoea since June 14. Thirty-one of them sought medical attention. Among them, two required hospitalisation and one of them has been discharged after treatment. They have been in a stable condition, and 23 of them have recovered.

Officers of the CHP have conducted a site visit and provided health advice to the staff of the school concerning proper and thorough disinfection, proper disposal of vomitus, and personal and environmental hygiene. The school has been put under medical surveillance.

The CHP's investigations are ongoing.

A spokesman for the CHP advised members of the public to take heed of the following preventive measures against gastroenteritis:

- Ensure proper personal hygiene;
- Wash hands thoroughly before handling food and eating, after using the toilet or after changing diapers;
- Wear gloves when disposing of vomitus or faecal matter, and wash hands afterwards;
- Clean and disinfect contaminated areas or items promptly and thoroughly with diluted household bleach (by adding one part of bleach containing 5.25 per cent sodium hypochlorite to 49 parts of water). Wash hands thoroughly afterwards;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- Pay attention to food hygiene;
- Use separate utensils to handle raw and cooked food;
- Avoid food that is not thoroughly cooked;
- Drink boiled water; and
- Do not patronise unlicensed food premises or food stalls.

The public may visit the CHP's website (www.chp.gov.hk) or call the Health Education Hotline (2833 0111) for more information.