

## **Key statistics on service demand of A&E Departments and occupancy rates in public hospitals**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of Hospital Authority (HA) today (May 30) published the last issue of "Surge in Brief" (as appended) for service surge period in the current season. Meanwhile, the HA will also cease to release the daily service statistics of Accident and Emergency Departments and the occupancy rate in public hospitals from June 2 (Sunday). HA will continue to monitor the service situation of public hospitals and to implement necessary operation arrangement and resources deployment.

The key service statistics of yesterday (May 29) are in the appended table while the "Surge in Brief" is also available on the HA Winter Surge designated webpage ([www.ha.org.hk/goto/wintersurge/en](http://www.ha.org.hk/goto/wintersurge/en)).

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## **Red flags hoisted at several beaches**

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (May 30) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach in Islands District; and Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

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## **Hongkong Post holiday arrangements for**

# Tuen Ng Festival

Hongkong Post today (May 30) announced the postal service arrangements for the Tuen Ng Festival on June 7. No mail delivery and no mail collection will be provided. All post offices will be closed except for the General Post Office and the Airport Post Office. The business hours of the two offices will be from noon to 5pm and 8am to 5pm respectively. General postal services will be provided. Details of the services available will be advertised at the respective post offices.

For more information, customers may visit the Hongkong Post website at [www.hongkongpost.hk](http://www.hongkongpost.hk) or call the Hongkong Post enquiry hotline at 2921 2222.

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## Appeal for information on missing man in Yau Ma Tei (with photo)

Police today (May 29) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Yau Ma Tei.

Yim Chun-pan, aged 38, went missing after he was last seen on Portland Street last night (May 28). His family made a report to Police today (May 29).

He is about 1.78 metres tall, 68 kilograms in weight and of medium build. He has a long face with yellow complexion, short black hair and tattoos on his back and thigh. He was last seen wearing a black and white short-sleeved shirt.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon West on 3661 8038 or 9020 6542 or email to [rmpu-kw@police.gov.hk](mailto:rmpu-kw@police.gov.hk), or contact any police station.



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## [Transcript of remarks by CS at media session \(with video\)](#)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, at a media session after the LegCo meeting today (May 29).

Reporter: The protest organised by the legal sector, does it highlight that the bill is still controversial and that there's not ...?

Chief Secretary for Administration: Sorry, the protest is by the ...?

Reporter: Legal sector. The legal sector is holding a protest on June 6th.

Chief Secretary for Administration: Well, I'm not going to comment on individual procession. Hong Kong is a free society. We respect freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, so I'm not in a position to comment individual organisations on what they propose to do.

But the point I want to make is that we are doing it for a very good reason. We are doing it (amendment bill) in the interest of Hong Kong. We've noted the concerns of the community and we've taken all these into account. As the Chief Executive said, we are in the course of listening to the views and feelings from all sectors. We will respond to the views and concerns expressed over the last few days on a holistic basis rather than on a piecemeal basis. Government will respond to all the points raised, suggestions put forward. If they're viable, if they're constructive, if they're conducive to easing public concern, the business community's concern, and providing that are practicable and also fulfil the two objectives of the

bill, that is, handling the Taiwan murder case on the one hand and filling the void in the current legal regime on extradition on the other, then we are prepared to consider them carefully.

Reporter: Mr Cheung, according to a Reuters report today, the report suggested that some judges are very worried about the extradition bill because they worry that it would put them on a collision course with the Mainland government when they hand down judgments on the extraditions. When they themselves are worried about the extradition bill, how can the Government say that, you know, they could be the guardians when the bill is passed?

Chief Secretary for Administration: First of all, I'm not going to comment on the Reuters report, and, in fact, judges should not comment on political issues. If you remember what the Chief Justice said at the opening of this legal year, it's inappropriate for any judges to comment on political affairs, particularly on cases which may appear before them in future. This is point number one.

Point number two is that Article 85 of the Basic Law clearly stipulates that judges of Hong Kong courts exercise judicial power independently and free from any interference. That's a very important point to bear in mind. Absolutely apolitical – not political at all, it's entirely an apolitical judiciary. "Fiercely independent" is the right adjective to describe our court system here in Hong Kong.

Another thing is, in fact, over the last 22 years, our courts already have experience in handling a number of extradition cases, so we've got experience in the courts. The judges know how to deal with the cases before them. So we've got expertise, professionalism. I'm sure that our judges can handle all these cases coming up in future with professionalism and with their skills as well. And in fact, there are cases where requests for extradition were rejected by the courts because of a lack of evidence, so don't take it as read that the courts would automatically say yes. They will scrutinise it carefully, look at the law, the precedents and facts and so on. OK?

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)