

Red flags hoisted at Silverstrand Beach

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 (February 23) that due to big waves, red flag has been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Red flag hoisted at Clear Water Bay Second Beach

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 (February 23) that due to big waves, red flag has been hoisted at Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Regional flag day today

Three charities have been issued Public Subscription Permits to hold flag sales from 7am to 12.30pm today (February 23). They are, on Hong Kong Island, Hong Kong Federation of the Blind; in Kowloon, the Hong Kong Chinese Church of Christ and in the New Territories, Fung Kai Public School, a spokesman for the Social Welfare Department (SWD) said.

Arrangements have been made with the charities to help people distinguish between the three flag-selling activities.

Information on the three flag-selling organisations on February 23 is as follows:

Region	Name of Organisation	Colour of Collection Bag	Colour of Flag
Hong Kong Island	Hong Kong Federation of the Blind	Yellow	Light Blue
Kowloon	The Hong Kong Chinese Church of Christ	Green	Green
New Territories	Fung Kai Public School	Yellow	White

For enquiries, please call the SWD's hotline at 2343 2255, or the designated hotline of the 1823 Call Centre at 3142 2678. Information on flag days is available at the SWD's website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_whatsnew) and the GovHK portal (www.gov.hk/en/theme/fundraising/search). Permits for flag days containing contact information of the flag-selling organisations and information on the approved flag-selling activities have also been uploaded to the SWD's website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_controlofc/sub_recentlyap). For enquiries about the detailed flag-selling arrangements, please contact the individual flag-selling organisations.

Details of the charitable fund-raising activities covered by the Public Subscription Permit issued by the SWD have also been uploaded to the GovHK website (www.gov.hk/fundraising).

In the case of suspected fraudulent flag day activities, people should not make any donation and should immediately report the matter to the Police, the spokesman added.

[Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected heroin \(with photo\)](#)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (February 21) seized about 1.5 kilograms of suspected heroin at Hong Kong International Airport with an estimated market value of about \$1.4 million.

A male passenger arrived in Hong Kong from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, yesterday. During Customs clearance, he was found to have the batch of suspected heroin strapped around his body. The man was then arrested.

The arrested man, aged 32, has been charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug and will appear at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (February 23).

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



[CE visits Cyberport and Smart-Space 8 \(with photos\)](#)

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, accompanied by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Nicholas W Yang, visited Cyberport in Southern District and Smart-Space 8, a co-working space operated by Cyberport in Tsuen Wan District this afternoon (February 22).

Mrs Lam and Mr Yang started the visit at Cyberport where they received a briefing by the Chairman of Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, Dr George Lam, on Cyberport's latest developments, including its thriving innovation and technology (I&T) ecosystem, assistance provided for start-ups, measures to advance the development of the I&T industry and promotion work overseas. They visited the Smart Space Fintech which was opened in 2016 featuring facilities including an information lab, FinTech Service corners and training rooms. It serves as operational bases for start-ups and provides them with training and exchange opportunities. They also visited an area on smart living and received a briefing by the start-ups in Cyberport on their products.

Mrs Lam and Mr Yang then went to Smart-Space 8, a co-working space

operated by Cyberport in Tsuen Wan District. Smart-Space 8 was jointly set up by HKR International and Cyperport under the Space Sharing Scheme for Youth in July last year. It is Cyperport's first co-working space located outside its Pok Fu Lam campus to provide support services to young entrepreneurs. During the visit, Mrs Lam, Mr Yang and the Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of HKR International, Mr Victor Cha, chatted with a number of young start-up entrepreneurs to learn more about their business visions, stories and user experience in the co-working space.

"I&T is a priority policy area of the current-term Government which has devoted significant resources to strengthening Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem and stimulating research and development activities. I am pleased that Cyberport, with the additional resources from the Government, has provided more comprehensive support for start-ups to assist young entrepreneurs to realise their dreams. In the exchange session with the young entrepreneurs just now, I was impressed by their limitless creativity, determination to set up their own businesses and aspirations for career development, boosting my confidence in the future of Hong Kong," Mrs Lam said.

Hong Kong's start-up ecosystem has been gaining momentum in recent years. There were 2 625 start-ups operating in major public and private co-working spaces and incubators in 2018, up 18 per cent from 2 229 in 2017. Together these start-ups employed 9 548 people, a 51 per cent rise over 6 320 in 2017.

"The Central Government promulgated the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area a few days ago. This key development strategy of the country will bring immense opportunities to Hong Kong. One of the focuses of the Outline Development Plan is the establishment of an international I&T hub in the Greater Bay Area. Hong Kong will proactively strengthen its own I&T capabilities and leverage the support policies in the Outline Development Plan to set up an international I&T hub in the Greater Bay Area, identifying new areas of growth for Hong Kong and opening up more development opportunities for young people," Mrs Lam said.



