Public reminded to pay attention to marine safety when participating in major events at sea

Attention radio/TV announcers:

Please broadcast the following at suitable intervals:

In regard to the 2019 Lunar New Year Fireworks Display to be held tonight (February 6), the Marine Department reminds members of the public to pay attention to marine safety when viewing the display at sea. Parents or adults should look after their accompanied children and ensure that the children wear a lifejacket at all times. Coxswains should keep a passenger and crew list in case it is needed. In addition, passengers should note the locations of emergency exits and lifejackets, and the instructions on how to wear a lifejacket, before the vessel departs. Coxswains should refrain from speeding or overloading their vessels.

Marine Department Notice No. 18 of 2019 has been issued with regard to special marine traffic control and safety measures for tonight. Members of the public can visit the department's website for more details (www.mardep.gov.hk).

<u>Public reminded to keep venues clean</u> <u>during fireworks display</u>

Attention radio/TV announcers:

Please broadcast the following at suitable intervals:

With the holding of the 2019 Lunar New Year Fireworks Display this evening (February 6), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department reminds people to keep places clean while enjoying the fireworks display. Rubbish should be placed in rubbish bins. Anyone not disposing of rubbish properly is liable to a fixed penalty of \$1,500.

Please remember that the Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade and the piazza area of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre will be crowded. People who intend to go there should also mind their safety.

<u>Special traffic arrangements for race</u> <u>meeting in Sha Tin tomorrow</u>

Police advise motorists that special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Sha Tin to facilitate the race meeting tomorrow (February 7).

The arrangements will come into effect two hours before the start of the first race and will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

Appropriate traffic signs will be put up and police will be on hand to guide motorists.

The Police also appeal to people going to Sha Tin Racecourse for the race meeting and to Happy Valley Racecourse for cross betting to make maximum use of public transport.

Parking spaces at the two racecourses are available only to holders of appropriate permits issued by Hong Kong Jockey Club and any vehicles illegally parked will be towed away.

MD announcement

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

The Marine Department today (February 6) reminded masters, coxswains and persons-in-charge of vessels navigating in Hong Kong waters to proceed at a safe speed and exercise extreme caution because restricted visibility of less than 2 nautical miles has been reported.

Appropriate sound signals shall be made when underway or at anchor. All vessels must comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collision at Sea.

Also, when radar is used without the benefit of adequate plotting facilities, the information obtained from the equipment is rather limited and should be construed accordingly.

Visibility reports are broadcast by the Vessel Traffic Centre (VTC) on VHF channels 02, 12, 14, 63 and 67.

In the event of an accident, a report shall be made immediately to the VTC at Tel: 2233 7801.

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:

During the winter surge, the Hospital Authority is closely monitoring the service demand of Accident and Emergency Departments and the occupancy rate in public hospitals. Key service statistics are being issued daily for public information. Details are in the appended table.