Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

Tender date : February 4, 2019

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : Q1906

Issue date : February 8, 2019

Maturity date : May 8, 2019 Amount applied : HK\$85,155 MN Amount allotted : HK\$40,593 MN

Average yield accepted : 1.17 PCT Highest yield accepted : 1.23 PCT

Pro rata ratio : About 51 PCT Average tender yield : 1.23 PCT

Tender date : February 4, 2019

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : H1935

Issue date : February 8, 2019
Maturity date : August 7, 2019
Amount applied : HK\$50,550 MN
Amount allotted : HK\$11,000 MN

Average yield accepted : 1.29 PCT Highest yield accepted : 1.31 PCT

Pro rata ratio : About 68 PCT Average tender yield : 1.39 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning February 11:

Tender date : February 12, 2019

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : Q1907

Issue date : February 13, 2019

Maturity date : May 15, 2019

Tenor : 91 Days

Amount on offer : HK\$44,311 MN

Tender date : February 12, 2019

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : H1936

Issue date : February 13, 2019 Maturity date : August 14, 2019

Tenor : 182 Days

Amount on offer : HK\$10,000 MN

Housing Authority sets rents for four new estates

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Housing Authority:

Rents for 7 626 flats, tentatively scheduled for completion between March and June 2019, in 11 non-standard blocks at four Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) public rental housing (PRH) estates will be set at the best rent levels in their respective districts.

The best rent at \$85.50 per square metre per month for the flats in Urban District will apply to 322 flats in one block in Sau Mau Ping Estate in Kwun Tong (Sau Ming Road) and 1 314 flats in two blocks in Lai Tsui Court in Cheung Sha Wan (Lai Chi Kok Road-Tonkin Street, Phase 2).

The best rent at \$82.70 per square metre per month for the flats in Sha Tin District will apply to 4 846 flats in five blocks in Chun Yeung Estate (Fo Tan).

The best rent at \$60.60 per square metre per month for the flats in Sheung Shui District will apply to 1 144 flats in three blocks in Po Shek Wu Estate (Choi Yuen Road).

"Under this rent-fixing exercise, over 56 per cent of the flats are set at a rent level below \$2,500 per month," a spokesman for the HA said today (February 4), adding that PRH rents, which are inclusive of rates, management fees and maintenance costs, are heavily subsidised.

"PRH applicants who are allocated new flats but cannot afford the rents may request refurbished flats at lower rents, and they may also apply for assistance under the Rent Assistance Scheme for flats in older block types where applicable," the spokesman added.

Phishing email related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited on phishing email, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the HKMA website for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the email concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the email should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

<u>Appeal for information on missing manin Mong Kok (with photo)</u>

Police today (February 4) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Mong Kok.

Tse Kin-sun, Richard, aged 82, went missing after he was last seen at a restaurant on Nathan Road on February 1 afternoon. His friend made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.6 metres tall, 45 kilograms in weight and of thin build. He has a pointed face with yellow complexion and short white hair. He was last seen wearing a black vest, a green long-sleeved T-shirt, yellow shorts and green sports shoes.

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 East on 3661 0316 or 9020 2746 or email to rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



Update on cases of Legionnaires' disease

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (February 4) reported the latest number of cases of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems, and that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions.

From January 27 to February 2, one community-acquired LD case was reported. The male patient, aged 55 with underlying illnesses, lives in Parker's Court, 62-64 Fort Street, North Point, and has passed away.

"Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any," a spokesman for the CHP said.

As of February 2, two LD cases had been reported in 2019. In 2018 and 2017, there were 105 and 72 cases respectively.

"Men, people aged over 50, smokers, alcoholics and persons with weakened immunity are more susceptible to LD. Some situations may also increase the risk of infection, including poor maintenance of water systems leading to stagnant water; living in areas with old water systems, cooling towers or fountains; using electric water heaters, whirlpools and spas or hot water spring spas; and recent stays in hotels or vessels," the spokesman said.

Legionellae are found in various environmental settings and grow well in warm water (20 to 45 degrees Celsius). They can be found in aqueous environments such as water tanks, hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, whirlpools and spas, water fountains and home apparatus which support

breathing. People may get infected when they breathe in contaminated droplets (aerosols) and mist generated by artificial water systems, or when handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes.

Immunocompromised persons should:

- Use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing;
- Avoid using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices. A shower may also generate small aerosols; and
- If using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices, fill the water tank with only sterile or cooled freshly boiled water, and not water directly from the tap. Also, clean and maintain humidifiers/devices regularly according to manufacturers' instructions. Never leave stagnant water in a humidifier/device. Empty the water tank, wipe all surfaces dry, and change the water daily.

The public should observe the health advice below:

- Observe personal hygiene;
- Do not smoke and avoid alcohol consumption;
- Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be inspected, cleaned, descaled and disinfected regularly or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- If a fresh water plumbing system is properly maintained, it is not necessary to install domestic water filters. Use of water filters is not encouraged as clogging occurs easily, which can promote growth of microorganisms. In case water filters are used, the pore size should be 0.2 micrometres (μm) and the filter needs to be changed periodically according to the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Drain and clean water tanks of buildings at least quarterly;
- Drain or purge for at least one minute the infrequently used water outlets (e.g. water taps, shower heads and hot water outlets) and stagnant points of the pipework weekly or before use;
- Seek and follow doctors' professional advice regarding the use and maintenance of home respiratory devices and use only sterile water (not distilled or tap water) to clean and fill the reservoir. Clean and maintain the device regularly according to the manufacturer's instructions. After cleaning/disinfection, rinse the device with sterile water, cooled freshly boiled water or water filtered with 0.2 μm filters. Never leave stagnant water in the device. Empty the water tank, keep all surfaces dry, and change the water daily; and
- When handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes:
 - 1. Wear gloves and a face mask;
 - 2. Water gardens and compost gently using low pressure;
- 3. Open composted potting mixes slowly and make sure the opening is directed away from the face;
 - 4. Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants; and

5. Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses.

The public may visit the CHP's <u>LD page</u>, the <u>Code of Practice for Prevention of LD</u> and the <u>Housekeeping Guidelines for Cold and Hot Water Systems for Building Management</u> of the Prevention of LD Committee, and the CHP's <u>risk-based strategy</u> for prevention and control of LD.