

Temporary traffic arrangements at East Kowloon Way this Sunday

The Transport Department (TD) today (January 4) reminded members of the public that to facilitate urgent road repair works, the fast lane of the section of East Kowloon Way westbound between Anhui Street and Wo Chung Street will be temporarily closed to all vehicular traffic from 8am to 5pm this Sunday (January 6).

Due to the lane closure, the TD anticipates that the traffic along Kai Tak Tunnel westbound and East Kowloon Way westbound will be relatively busy during the above period. Motorists passing through the road section concerned should exercise tolerance and patience and drive with utmost care. Appropriate traffic signs will be erected on-site to guide motorists.

Motorists are advised to consider using alternative routes to Kowloon Central and Kowloon West. They are also advised to plan their journeys in advance and allow more travelling time to avoid unexpected delay.

The TD and the Police will closely monitor the traffic situation and implement appropriate measures whenever necessary. Members of the public are advised to stay alert to the latest traffic news on radio and television.

Details of the temporary traffic arrangement are now available on the TD's website (www.td.gov.hk).

Tenders invited for tenancy of government premises

The Government Property Agency is inviting tenders for the government premises situated on a portion of the first floor, High Court Building, 38 Queensway.

The premises should only be used as canteens, restaurants or lounges for the supply of meals, light refreshments, beverages and other food commodities.

The tender notice was uploaded today (January 4) to the Agency's website: www.gpa.gov.hk. Tender documents are available for collection at the Government Property Agency, 31/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, during office hours (8.30am to 5.45pm from Mondays to Fridays). The documents can also be downloaded from the Agency's website.

Interested tenderers who wish to inspect the site should make prior appointment with the Government Property Agency by calling 2594 7697 on or before January 18 this year.

Tenderers must submit their tenders by placing them in the Government Logistics Department Tender Box situated on the Ground Floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, before noon on January 28 this year. Late tenders will not be accepted.

[Hong Kong Customs steps up enforcement action at boundary control points during Christmas and New Year holidays \(with photos\)](#)

The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) mounted an operation during the Christmas and New Year holidays at the airport, seaport, land boundary and railway control points to combat smuggling and other illegal activities through passenger and cargo channels.

Starting on December 15, 2018, and concluding on January 2, 2019, the operation ended up with the detection of 232 cases, resulting in the arrest of 147 persons and the seizure of items with an estimated value of about \$65 million.

On the anti-narcotics front, 62 dangerous drug cases were detected, resulting in the seizure of about 62 kilograms of suspected dangerous drugs with an estimated market value of over \$34 million. Twenty-three persons suspected of trafficking in dangerous drugs were arrested. Most of the seizures were cocaine, cannabis and gamma-butyrolactone, seized mainly from inbound air parcels and air passengers.

Customs officers also detected 26 cases of suspected smuggling of endangered species items including agarwood, pangolin scales, controlled cactuses and controlled American ginseng. Fifteen persons were arrested and the estimated seizure value is about \$2.02 million.

Infringing products with an estimated value of about \$3.6 million were also seized, including counterfeit watches, electronic products, clothing, shoes and socks.

In the operation, Customs officers also seized more than 1.08 million suspected illicit cigarettes. The estimated market value of the seizures is about \$2.94 million and with duty potential of about \$2.07 million. Seven

persons were arrested.

Meanwhile, 814 inbound passengers were found to have failed to make a declaration to Customs officers for carrying tobacco and liquor exceeding exempted quantities, breaching the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. Thirty persons were prosecuted and 784 others were fined.

With the imminent arrival of the Lunar New Year, the C&ED will continue to step up enforcement action against smuggling activities.

Online customers are reminded not to make purchases of prohibited or controlled items. Any import or export of controlled items must be accompanied by a valid licence or permit issued by the relevant authorities. For details on import and export controls, they can visit the C&ED's website at www.customs.gov.hk.

"Smuggling is a serious offence and the maximum penalty upon conviction of trafficking in a dangerous drug is life imprisonment," a spokesman for the C&ED stressed.

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



Consent given to resume pile foundation works near Tai Wai Station

A Government spokesman said today (January 4) that consent has been given to resume the pile foundation works of the topside development project of the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL)'s Tai Wai Station.

The spokesman said that since the readings recorded in the settlement monitoring checkpoints installed at the rear end of the southbound platform and an overhead line mast at the Tai Wai Station of the MTRCL's East Rail Line had exceeded the pre-set trigger level, the pile foundation works of the Tai Wai Station topside development project were suspended on July 12, 2018. The Government announced the situation the next day, and the Buildings Department (BD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) have respectively confirmed the structural safety of the relevant railway facilities and safe operation of the railway.

The registered building professional appointed for the said building works subsequently submitted to the BD an incident report and a proposal of mitigation measures to alleviate the effects of the said building works on the structural safety of the nearby railway facilities. The registered building professional has also requested resumption of the suspended works.

The BD has ascertained the structural safety of the railway facilities concerned. The MTRCL has been consulted and confirmed that the resumption of works will not affect the structure of the railway facilities and railway operation. The EMSD has also confirmed that the MTRCL has put in place stringent monitoring measures to ensure the safety of railway operation.

Having considered the above advice, the request for resumption of works was accepted on January 2. The suspended pile foundation works will be resumed on January 5, and the proposed mitigation measures will be completed prior to the commencement of the remaining works. Having considered the engineering assessment and the revised building plans submitted by the registered building professionals responsible for the project, the BD accepted the revision of the pre-set trigger level for suspension of works to 40 millimetres.

The BD, the EMSD and the MTRCL will continue to closely monitor the situation to ensure structural safety of the railway facilities and the safety of railway operation, the spokesman said.

Construction of seawater outfalls for additional District Cooling System at southern part of former Kai Tak Airport runway proposed

The Government proposes to construct seawater outfalls for an additional District Cooling System (DCS) at the southern part of the former Kai Tak Airport runway for heat rejection by the centralised chiller plant of the DCS. The extent of the area of foreshore and seabed affected is described in a notice published in the [Government Gazette](#) today (January 4).

To support the additional DCS at the Kai Tak Development, the Government intends to construct permanent seawater outfalls along a section of an existing seawall, and reconstruct the above section of the existing seawall (about 80 metres long) within an area of approximately 3 200 square metres of foreshore and seabed at the southern part of the former Kai Tak Airport runway.

The proposed works are tentatively scheduled for commencement in late 2019 and completion in 2022.

The notice and its related plan are posted near the site. The plan is also available for inspection at:

- * Survey and Mapping Office of the Lands Department (23/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong) (where copies can be purchased on order);
- * Kowloon City Home Affairs Enquiry Centre of the Kowloon City District Office (LG/F, Kowloon City Government Offices, 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon);
- * Kwun Tong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre of the Kwun Tong District Office (G/F, The Grande Building, 398 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon);
- * Wong Tai Sin Home Affairs Enquiry Centre of the Wong Tai Sin District Office (Unit 201, 2/F, Lung Cheung Office Block, 138 Lung Cheung Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon); and
- * Lands Department's website (www.landsd.gov.hk) under Government Notices.

Any person who considers that he or she has an interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and seabed involved may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands, 20/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong, within two months from the above-mentioned date, i.e. on or before March 4. The notice of such objection shall describe the interest, right or easement of the objector and the manner in which he or

she will be allegedly affected.