

Retiring CSD Commissioner encourages passing-out members

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) held a passing-out parade at the Staff Training Institute in Stanley today (November 23), with 28 Officers and 40 Assistant Officers II graduating and 31 correctional officers completing the Professional Certificate in Safe and Effective Control Tactics Training Course. The Commissioner of Correctional Services, Mr Lam Kwok-leung, reviewed the parade.

Addressing the parade, Mr Lam said that the Staff Training Institute (STI) of the CSD, which was established 60 years ago, has always sought to develop work in knowledge management and made achievements in different areas. He also noted that it is particularly encouraging that the STI received the Hong Kong and Asia Most Admired Knowledge Enterprise Award last year. For years, the STI has kept abreast of the times by continuously reviewing its training content and improving its pedagogy. Recent years have seen the introduction of virtual reality technology to deliver scenario-based training, with a view to enhancing training efficiency and equipping trainees to tackle the challenges ahead, he added.

The CSD is preparing for the launch of Institutional Response Teams to complement the operation of existing Regional Response Teams and Correctional Emergency Response Teams, in order to integrate and strengthen institutions' abilities in handling all eventualities. Among the teams reviewed today was the first Institutional Response Team, whose members have already participated in Qualifications Framework-accredited training courses reviewed by the Department itself.

Mr Lam said that the correctional team has all along attached great importance to professionalism. To put into practice the CSD's dual emphasis on safe custody and rehabilitation, the Rehabilitation Division was established in 1998 to provide appropriate and effective rehabilitation programmes to reduce recidivism and protect public safety. He added that to date, the custodial environment continues to be safe and secure, and the rehabilitation work continues to thrive and yield results. "We not only provide persons in custody with market-oriented vocational training courses and education courses at various levels, their family members are also encouraged to join them on the road to rehabilitation, as we believe that family encouragement and family ties are crucial for persons in custody to turn over a new leaf," he said.

Mr Lam added that the CSD also attaches great significance to the promotion of community education, and one of the programmes involves the training of youth leaders. In 2008, the Rehabilitation Pioneer Project was launched to disseminate to secondary school students and youngsters the messages of leading a law-abiding and drug-free life, as well as to support offender rehabilitation. The first uniformed group, the Rehabilitation Pioneer Leaders, was established this year to bring together youngsters with

leadership potential. They are encouraged to lead other young people to promote law-abiding values and support offender rehabilitation in future.

The CSD has formulated seven visionary strategic focuses with a view to improving the quality of its service. Among them, the CSD will proactively develop the concept of "Smart Prison", including the pilot operation of Video Analytic Monitoring System for Behaviour of PICs and Health Signs Monitoring System for PICs, in order to enhance operational efficiency through the application of technologies. The Department also plans to introduce "smart" elements in prison redevelopment or development projects, and to build a sustainable correctional system with an integrated operational protocol by using technology to protect the public, so as to achieve the objective of maintaining a safe and secure custodial environment.

Three graduates spoke to the media after the parade. Officer Ko Chun-man, who was awarded a Principal Shield, is also a member of the Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Representative Team. He said he would use his persevering spirit as an athlete to encourage persons in custody to face frustration and help place them on the right path. Officer Khalid Mahmood thanked the department for giving him opportunities to further his studies and be promoted, and said he will continue to work hard to contribute to society. Assistant Officer II Onna Hui has received nursing training overseas. She said she would use her professional nursing knowledge to look after the health of persons in custody and help them turn over a new leaf in a safe custodial environment and reintegrate into society.

[Update on number of dengue fever cases](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (November 23) reported the latest number of cases of dengue fever (DF), and again urged the public to maintain strict environmental hygiene, mosquito control and personal protective measures both locally and during travel.

From November 16 to 22, the CHP recorded eight imported DF cases. The patients had been to Guangdong in Mainland China (four cases), Malaysia (one case), the Philippines (one case), Thailand (one case) and Vietnam (one case) during the incubation period.

As of yesterday (November 22), 153 cases had been confirmed this year, of which 29 were local cases and 124 were imported cases. The imported cases were mainly from Thailand (34), Mainland China (29) and the Philippines (19).

DF remains endemic in some areas in Asia and beyond. In Guangdong, there were 2 752 cases in the first 10 months of this year. A spokesman for the CHP advised members of the public that according to the health authority of Guangdong, the number of local DF cases recorded in Guangdong increased from

204 in August to 948 in September, and further to 1 313 in October. Members of the public are reminded to adopt personal protective measures against mosquitoes to prevent mosquito-borne diseases such as DF when visiting Guangdong.

The latest figures for 2018 revealed that 75 349 cases had been recorded in Thailand, 2 634 in Singapore (since December 31, 2017) and 175 in Japan. In Taiwan, 178 local cases have been recorded to date in 2018. In the Americas, the latest figures indicated that 66 644 cases have been filed in Mexico in 2018.

The public should take heed of the following advice on mosquito control:

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season;
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas; and
- Take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

To reduce the risk of infections spread by mosquitoes, apart from [general measures](#), travellers returning from affected areas should apply insect repellent for 14 days (DF) or at least 21 days (Zika Virus Infection) upon arrival in Hong Kong. If feeling unwell, seek medical advice promptly and provide travel details to the doctor. DEET-containing insect repellents are effective and the public should take heed of the tips below:

- Read the label instructions carefully first;
- Apply right before entering an area with risk of mosquito bites;
- Apply on exposed skin and clothing;
- Use DEET of up to 30 per cent for pregnant women and up to 10 per cent for children*;
- Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent; and
- Re-apply only when needed and follow the instructions.

* For children who travel to countries or areas where mosquito-borne diseases are endemic or epidemic and where exposure is likely, those aged 2 months or above can use DEET-containing insect repellents with a DEET concentration of up to 30 per cent.

The public may refer to the CHP's [tips for using insect repellents](#) for details.

EMSD releases latest lift maintenance cost information of private residential and commercial premises

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) released today (November 23) the latest maintenance cost information on lifts in private residential and commercial premises, as a reference for responsible persons of lifts when selecting registered lift contractors.

According to a sampling survey involving some 65 000 lifts at about 19 500 locations conducted by an independent consultant engaged by the EMSD, the latest average monthly maintenance cost of lifts in private residential and commercial buildings in Hong Kong are as follows:

Private residential buildings			
Lift travel level	Rated speed of lift	Average monthly lift maintenance cost	Change as compared with last survey (Note 1)
1 to 15	≤ 1.0m/s	\$3,827	+0.1%
	> 1.0m/s	\$4,580	+2.5%
16 to 25	≤ 1.5m/s	\$4,187	+3.0%
	> 1.5m/s	\$5,428	+2.9%
26 to 35	≤ 1.75m/s	\$5,346	+2.8%
	> 1.75m/s	\$6,740	+0.3%
More than 35	≤ 2.5m/s	\$7,702	+0.2%
	> 2.5m/s	\$8,788	+0.8%

Private commercial buildings			
Lift travel level	Rated speed of lift	Average monthly lift maintenance cost	Change as compared with last survey (Notes 1 and 2)
1 to 15	≤ 1.5m/s	\$4,777	+0.2%
	> 1.5m/s	\$7,151	+4.6%

16 to 25	≤ 2.0m/s	\$6,018	+2.4%
	> 2.0m/s	\$9,261	+1.8%
26 to 35	≤ 3.0m/s	\$7,993	+0.1%
	> 3.0m/s	\$12,366	+3.4%
More than 35	≤ 3.5m/s	\$12,745	+9.6%
	> 3.5m/s	\$19,111	+13.3%

The cost information is available in the Responsible Persons' Corner on the EMSD's website (www.emsd.gov.hk/en/lifts_and_escalators_safety/responsible_persons_corner/index.html). The EMSD updates it on a half-yearly basis.

In choosing registered lift contractors, the responsible persons of lifts are advised to make reference to the materials published in the Responsible Persons' Corner in addition to the price factor, including:

- * performance ratings of registered contractors;
- * sample contracts for procurement of lift maintenance services;
- * a guidebook for persons responsible for lifts;
- * guidelines for selection of registered contractors for provision of maintenance services;
- * guidelines for modernisation of existing lifts;
- * guidelines for management of lift maintenance works;
- * a checklist for building management staff to conduct daily safety inspection of lifts; and
- * common questions and answers on lift management.

Note 1: The above price figures were updated on September 30, 2018, whereas the previous price figures were updated on March 31, 2018.

Note 2: As there are relatively few lifts with travel of more than 35 levels, the surveyed price obtained through sampling of lifts in this group is prone to higher fluctuation.

[Missing man in Mong Kok located](#)

A man who went missing in Mong Kok has been located.

Tse Kin-sun, aged 82, went missing after he was last seen on Sai Yee Street on November 20 night. Police subsequently received the report.

The man turned up to Police to cancel the missing person report yesterday (November 22) night. He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

Import of poultry meat and products from Jiangdu District, Yangzhou City in Jiangsu Province suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (November 23) that in view of a notification from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N6 sub-type avian influenza in Jiangdu District, Yangzhou City in Jiangsu Province, it has followed the existing approach for control of highly pathogenic avian influenza and taken recommendations from the World Organisation for Animal Health into account to suspend the import of poultry and poultry products, including poultry eggs, from an area within a radius of 3 kilometres from the said place for a period of 90 days, and from an area within a radius of 13km for 21 days, with immediate effect for the protection of public health in Hong Kong.

A spokesman for the CFS said that according to information from the General Administration of Customs, the outbreak does not affect any registered Mainland poultry farms that export to Hong Kong. No registered poultry meat or poultry egg processing plants are currently situated within the import restriction zone concerned.

The CFS will closely monitor the latest developments of the avian influenza case in the province and take appropriate follow-up action as necessary.