

# Public consultation on legislative proposal to upgrade fire safety of old industrial buildings starts today

The Security Bureau today (August 9) launched a two-month public consultation to seek views on the legislative proposal for improving the fire safety of old industrial buildings.

To upgrade the fire safety standards of old industrial buildings, the Government proposes to introduce a new piece of legislation to mandate owners and occupiers of pre-1987 industrial buildings to upgrade the requirements of fire service installations and equipment as well as fire safety construction of their buildings.

The new legislation targets buildings which were wholly or partly constructed to be used as a factory, workshop, industrial undertaking, godown, warehouse, place of bulk storage or similar industrial establishment on or before March 1, 1987, or those constructed for the aforesaid uses with their building plans first submitted to the Building Authority for approval on or before the same date. Under the new legislation, the Director of Fire Services and Director of Buildings, being the enforcement authorities, will inspect the target buildings and serve fire safety directions to require the owners and/or occupiers to upgrade the fire safety of such buildings to the required standard. The owners and/or occupiers must comply with the requirements within the period as stipulated in the directions.

The consultation paper on the legislative proposal is now available on the website [www.sb.gov.hk/eng/special/consultation/ib-bill.htm](http://www.sb.gov.hk/eng/special/consultation/ib-bill.htm).

Members of the public are invited to submit their views to the Security Bureau by mail to 9th Floor, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong; by fax to 2868 9159; or by email to [fsibb\\_consultation@sb.gov.hk](mailto:fsibb_consultation@sb.gov.hk). The consultation will end on October 8, 2018.

---

## HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 18 temporary night heat shelters tonight (August 9) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiries hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 18 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

---

Central and Western –  
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall  
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex,  
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern/Wan Chai –  
Causeway Bay Community Centre  
Waiting Lobby, 3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –  
Lei Tung Community Hall  
Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Kowloon Districts:

---

Kowloon City –  
Hung Hom Community Hall  
Multi-purpose Room, 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices,  
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –  
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre  
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –  
Shek Kip Mei Community Hall  
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate,  
Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –  
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre  
Hall, G/F, 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –  
Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre  
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

---

Islands –  
Tung Chung Community Hall

G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,  
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –  
Kwai Shing Community Hall  
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –  
Cheung Wah Community Hall  
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –  
Hang Hau Community Hall  
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,  
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –  
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre  
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –  
Tai Po Community Centre  
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –  
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall  
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –  
Butterfly Bay Community Centre  
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –  
Long Ping Community Hall  
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –  
Tin Yiu Community Centre  
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 21 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:

[www.had.gov.hk/file\\_manager/en/documents/public\\_services/emergency\\_services/List\\_CH\\_CC\\_Day\\_E.pdf](http://www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf).

---

## Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade in June 2018

Further to the external merchandise trade statistics in value terms for June 2018 released earlier on, the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (August 9) the volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for that month.

In June 2018, the volume of Hong Kong's total exports of goods increased by 0.7% over June 2017. Concurrently, the volume of imports of goods increased by 1.7%.

Comparing the first half of 2018 with the same period in 2017, the volume of Hong Kong's total exports of goods increased by 6.7%. Concurrently, the volume of imports of goods increased by 7.9%.

Comparing the second quarter of 2018 with the preceding quarter on a seasonally adjusted basis, the volume of total exports of goods increased by 0.8%. Concurrently, the volume of imports of goods increased by 0.7%.

Changes in volume of external merchandise trade are derived from changes in external merchandise trade value with the effect of price changes discounted.

Comparing June 2018 with June 2017, the prices of total exports of goods increased by 2.7%. Concurrently, the prices of imports of goods increased by 2.9%.

As regards price changes in the first half of 2018 over the same period in 2017, the prices of total exports of goods increased by 2.5%. Concurrently, the prices of imports of goods increased by 2.6%.

Price changes in external merchandise trade are reflected by changes in unit value indices of external merchandise trade, which are compiled based on average unit values or, for certain commodities, specific price data.

The terms of trade index is derived from the ratio of price index of total exports of goods to that of imports of goods. Compared with the same periods in 2017, the index decreased by 0.2% and 0.1% in June 2018 and in the first half of 2018 respectively.

Changes in the unit value and volume of total exports of goods by main destination are shown in Table 1.

Comparing June 2018 with June 2017, the total export volume to Vietnam

increased significantly, by 20.6%. Concurrently, the total export volume to the USA and Japan increased by 6.6% and 2.5% respectively. On the other hand, the total export volume to the mainland of China (the Mainland) and India decreased by 0.7% and 21.8% respectively.

Over the same period of comparison, the total export prices to the Mainland, the USA and Japan increased by 3.6%, 3.4% and 2.8% respectively. On the other hand, the total export prices to Vietnam and India decreased by 0.2% and 4.3% respectively.

Changes in the unit value and volume of imports of goods by main supplier are shown in Table 2.

Comparing June 2018 with June 2017, the import volume from Korea and Singapore increased by 10.1% and 9.1% respectively. On the other hand, the import volume from Taiwan, Japan and the Mainland decreased by 0.6%, 1.3% and 1.7% respectively.

Over the same period of comparison, the import prices from all main suppliers increased: Korea (+6.9%), the Mainland (+3.0%), Japan (+2.9%), Singapore (+2.6%) and Taiwan (+1.1%).

Details of the above statistics are published in the June 2018 issue of "Hong Kong Merchandise Trade Index Numbers". Users can download the publication free of charge at the website of the C&SD ([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp230.jsp?productCode=B1020006](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp230.jsp?productCode=B1020006)).

Enquiries on merchandise trade indices may be directed to the Trade Analysis Section (1) of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4918).

---

## **[HK SAR celebrates 40th anniversary of reform and opening up of the country \(with photo\)](#)**

The year 2018 marks the 40th anniversary of the implementation of the reform and opening up policies of the country, a momentous occasion.

Under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for Administration, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HK SAR) Government has formed a steering committee to co-ordinate and oversee the major celebration events organised by the Government.

"To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the reform and opening up of the country, the Government will adopt 'Joint Development·Shared Prosperity' as the theme of the celebration and will roll out the theme music shortly. The

Government also will organise a series of celebration events, including a large-scale seminar and a thematic exhibition, and launch a dedicated website for sharing information with the public on various events related to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the reform and opening up of the country," a government spokesman said today (August 9).

The spokesman added that the Chief Secretary for Administration had outlined to community and business leaders as well as foreign consuls-general in Hong Kong the various celebration events and promotion activities planned. In addition, the Government launched in August this year the "Accreditation Scheme for Community Events in the HKSAR for the Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Reform and Opening Up of the Country" to encourage community and district organisations to organise different kinds of celebration events. Organisers of accredited events can use the official logo and slogan designed by the Government in their celebration events and publicity materials (see photo).

The Government looks forward to the active participation of the community in celebrating the 40th anniversary of the reform and opening up of the country.



---

## Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Thursday, August 9, 2018 is 104 (up 0.1 against yesterday's index).