

# Consultation Report on Review of Electoral Arrangements published

The Government published today (May 15) the Consultation Report on Review of Electoral Arrangements, setting out the views received during the public consultation conducted in late 2017 and the Government's recommendations on the way forward for three issues related to electoral arrangements.

"During the almost seven-week public consultation period, we have received more than 15,400 submissions. We also consulted Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) at the meeting of the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs, met with the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the 18 District Councils and deputations/individuals to solicit their views during the consultation period," a Government spokesman said.

"On regulation of election advertisements (EAs) published through the Internet (including social media), overwhelming support has been received for providing an exemption in the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance (Cap. 554), such that a third party (i.e. individuals or groups that are neither the relevant candidates whose elections are promoted or prejudiced nor their election expense agents) incurring merely electricity and/or Internet access charges can be exempted from the criminal liability arising from incurring election expenses as a result of expression of views on the Internet that constitutes an EA."

The spokesman added, "The Government plans to implement the proposed exemption through an amendment Bill to be introduced into the LegCo within 2018."

On regulation of election surveys, the Government observes that there is yet to be a consensus in the community on the three issues raised in the Consultation Paper, including whether election surveys conducted outside the No Canvassing Zones on the polling day should be regulated, whether election surveys conducted prior to the polling day should be regulated, and whether any change should be made to the existing regulation on exit polls on the polling day. Some respondents have also raised questions on the feasibility and effectiveness of implementing any regulation. In this regard, it is proposed not to make any change to the existing regulation for the time being.

On the polling hours, among the views received during the public consultation period, views from political parties were rather diverse, while the overwhelming majority of other written submissions were not in favour of shortening the polling hours of LegCo and District Council elections. It is proposed that the present polling hours of elections should be maintained for the time being before the Government reviews other issues related to polling hours (e.g., whether alternative arrangements could be provided for electors who are unable to go to the polling stations in person on the polling day to

cast their votes), and before a consensus is reached by the community.

The Consultation Report is available on the website of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau at [www.cmab.gov.hk](http://www.cmab.gov.hk).

---

## **Cluster of Rhinovirus cases at Castle Peak Hospital**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Castle Peak Hospital made the following announcement today (May 15):

Twelve patients (aged 27 to 69) in a female adult psychiatric ward presented with respiratory symptoms since May 11. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Rhinovirus. The patients concerned are being treated under isolation with stable condition.

Admission to the ward has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.

---

## **Effective Exchange Rate Index**

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 is 99 (up 0.1 against yesterday's index).

---

## **May 2018 issue of "Hong Kong Monthly"**

# [Digest of Statistics" now available](#)

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) published today (May 15) the May 2018 issue of the "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" (HKMDS).

Apart from providing up-to-date statistics, this issue also contains two feature articles entitled "Container Statistics, 2012 to 2017" and "The Four Key Industries and Other Selected Industries in the Hong Kong Economy".

"Container Statistics, 2012 to 2017"

Although the container throughput decreased from 23.12 million TEUs in 2012 to 20.77 million TEUs in 2017, the port of Hong Kong was still one of the busiest ports in the world. Laden container movements between Hong Kong and the mainland of China (the Mainland) accounted for 38.1% of the laden container throughput of the port of Hong Kong in 2017. About 73.0% of the laden container movements between Hong Kong and the Mainland were in the Pearl River Delta region.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Outward Processing and Shipping Statistics Section, C&SD (Tel: 2582 4889; email: [shipping@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:shipping@censtatd.gov.hk)).

"The Four Key Industries and Other Selected Industries in the Hong Kong Economy"

The Government has been actively pursuing economic development in order to keep up the competitive advantage of Hong Kong. The traditional Four Key Industries in Hong Kong, namely financial services, tourism, trading and logistics, and professional and producer services, have been the driving force of Hong Kong's economic growth, providing impetus to growth of other sectors and creating employment. In addition, selected emerging industries, including cultural and creative industries, medical services, education services, innovation and technology, testing and certification services, and environmental industries, have also been identified as enjoying advantages for further development.

This feature article analyses the economic contribution and employment situation in respect of the Four Key Industries and selected emerging industries in 2016.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the National Income Branch, C&SD (Tel: 3903 7002; email: [gdp-p@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:gdp-p@censtatd.gov.hk)).

Published in bilingual form, the HKMDS is a compact volume of official statistics containing about 140 tables. It collects up-to-date statistical series on various aspects of the social and economic situation of Hong Kong. Topics include population; labour; external trade; National Income and Balance of Payments; prices; business performance; energy; housing and property; government accounts, finance and insurance; and transport, communications and tourism. For selected key statistical items, over 20

charts depicting the annual trend in the past decade and quarterly or monthly trend in the recent two years are also available. Users can download the Digest free of charge at the website of the C&SD ([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp460.jsp?productCode=B1010002](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp460.jsp?productCode=B1010002)).

Enquiries about the contents of the Digest can be directed to the Statistical Information Services Section of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4738; email: [gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk)).

---

## **ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Cybersecurity Symposium 2018 opens (with photos)**

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Asia and Pacific Regional Cybersecurity Symposium 2018, jointly organised by the ICAO, the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) and the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA), opened at the CAD Headquarters today (May 15). Hong Kong is the first city to host such symposium for the Asia/Pacific Region after a resolution relating to cybersecurity was adopted in 2016 by the ICAO Assembly.

Some 180 participants, comprising cybersecurity experts and aviation industry representatives from the ICAO and its members, as well as overseas and local organisations, are meeting to evaluate the cyber threats faced by the aviation industry, and to exchange the latest information, technologies and implementation experiences in cybersecurity.

The Director-General of Civil Aviation, Mr Simon Li; the Chief Executive Officer of the AA, Mr Fred Lam, and the ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Office's senior officer responsible for air traffic management and communications, navigation and surveillance, Mr Li Peng, officiated at the opening ceremony.

Mr Simon Li, in his welcoming speech said, "The accelerated adoption of information and communication technology systems in the aviation sector, coupled with the increased digital connectivity between various systems, could create potential vulnerabilities if the connectivity platform is not duly secured. Robust cybersecurity is increasingly important in order to sustain aviation growth and avoid any disruption to our air transport system."

He added that, pursuant to the ICAO Assembly Resolution of 2016, which called for co-ordinated actions by aviation regulatory authorities and industry stakeholders to mitigate the risks of cyber threats, the Symposium today is well-timed for cybersecurity stakeholders to share knowledge and experience in this subject.

Guest speakers shared with participants their insights on various important cybersecurity topics, including cyber threats and risks to air traffic management, challenges to smart airports, and innovative technologies and solutions adopted by the aviation industry to tackle cyber threats.

