

## **Import of poultry meat and products from Miyazaki Prefecture in Japan suspended**

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (December 4) that in view of a notification from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5 avian influenza in Miyazaki Prefecture in Japan, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the area with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 2 000 tonnes of frozen poultry meat and about 227.42 million poultry eggs from Japan in the first nine months of this year.

"The CFS has contacted the Japanese authority over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreak. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

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## **Tender results of 15-year HKD HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds**

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announced that a tender for 15-year HKD institutional Government Bonds (issue number 15GB3912001) under the Infrastructure Bond Programme was held today (December 4).

A total of HK\$0.5 billion 15-year Government Bonds were offered today. A total of HK\$2.264 billion tender applications were received. The bid-to-cover ratio, i.e. the ratio of bonds applied for to bonds issued, is 4.53. The average price accepted is 101.79, implying an annualised yield of 3.627 per cent.

HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds Tender Results

## Tender results of 15-year HKD HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds:

Tender Date	: December 4, 2024
Issue Number	: 15GB3912001
Stock Code	: 4287 (HKGB 3.75 3912)
Issue and Settlement Date	: December 5, 2024
Tenor	: 15 years
Maturity Date	: December 5, 2039
Coupon Rate	: 3.75 per cent
Amount Applied	: HK\$2.264 billion
Amount Allotted	: HK\$0.5 billion
Bid-to-Cover Ratio*	: 4.53
Average Price Accepted (Yield)	: 101.79 (3.627 per cent)
Lowest Price Accepted (Yield)	: 101.30 (3.670 per cent)
Pro-rata Ratio	: About 10 per cent
Average Tender Price (Yield)	: 98.94 (3.881 per cent)

\* Calculated as the amount of bonds applied for over the amount of bonds issued.

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## [Inspection of aquatic products imported from Japan](#)

In response to the Japanese Government's plan to discharge nuclear-contaminated water at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station, the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene issued a Food Safety Order which prohibits all aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds originating from the 10 metropolis/prefectures, namely Tokyo, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Miyagi, Chiba, Gunma, Tochigi, Niigata, Nagano and Saitama, from being imported into and supplied in Hong Kong.

For other Japanese aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds that are not prohibited from being imported into Hong Kong, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will conduct comprehensive radiological tests to verify that the radiation levels of these products do not exceed the guideline levels before they are allowed to be supplied in the market.

As the discharge of nuclear-contaminated water is unprecedented and will

continue for 30 years or more, the Government will closely monitor and step up the testing arrangements. Should anomalies be detected, the Government does not preclude further tightening the scope of the import ban.

From noon on December 3 to noon today (December 4), the CFS conducted tests on the radiological levels of 133 food samples imported from Japan, which were of the "aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt" category. No sample was found to have exceeded the safety limit. Details can be found on the CFS's thematic website titled "Control Measures on Foods Imported from Japan" ([www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme\\_rafs/programme\\_rafs\\_fc\\_01\\_30\\_Nuclear\\_Event\\_and\\_Food\\_Safety.html](http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_rafs/programme_rafs_fc_01_30_Nuclear_Event_and_Food_Safety.html)).

In parallel, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has also tested 50 samples of local catch for radiological levels. All the samples passed the tests. Details can be found on the AFCD's website ([www.afcd.gov.hk/english/fisheries/Radiological\\_testing/Radiological\\_Test.html](http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/fisheries/Radiological_testing/Radiological_Test.html)).

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) has also enhanced the environmental monitoring of the local waters. No anomaly has been detected so far. For details, please refer to the HKO's website ([www.hko.gov.hk/en/radiation/monitoring/seawater.html](http://www.hko.gov.hk/en/radiation/monitoring/seawater.html)).

From August 24, 2023, to noon today, the CFS and the AFCD have conducted tests on the radiological levels of 103 514 samples of food imported from Japan (including 66 732 samples of aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt) and 23 314 samples of local catch respectively. All the samples passed the tests.

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## **Tender results of 5-year HKD HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds**

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announced that a tender for 5-year HKD institutional Government Bonds (issue number 05GB2912001) under the Infrastructure Bond Programme was held today (December 4).

A total of HK\$3.0 billion 5-year Government Bonds were offered today. A total of HK\$9.734 billion tender applications were received. The bid-to-cover ratio, i.e. the ratio of bonds applied for to bonds issued, is 3.24. The average price accepted is 100.35, implying an annualised yield of 3.179 per

cent.

## HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds Tender Results

Tender results of 5-year HKD HKSAR Institutional Government Bonds:

Tender Date	: December 4, 2024
Issue Number	: 05GB2912001
Stock Code	: 4284 (HKGB 3.23 2912)
Issue and Settlement Date	: December 5, 2024
Tenor	: 5 years
Maturity Date	: December 5, 2029
Coupon Rate	: 3.23 per cent
Amount Applied	: HK\$9.734 billion
Amount Allotted	: HK\$3.0 billion
Bid-to-Cover Ratio*	: 3.24
Average Price Accepted (Yield)	: 100.35 (3.179 per cent)
Lowest Price Accepted (Yield)	: 100.03 (3.249 per cent)
Pro-rata Ratio	: About 32 per cent
Average Tender Price (Yield)	: 99.15 (3.445 per cent)

\* Calculated as the amount of bonds applied for over the amount of bonds issued.

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## [LCQ4: Planning of Cross Harbour Tunnel Toll Plaza](#)

Following is a question by Dr the Hon Hoey Simon Lee and a reply by the Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Lam Sai-hung, in the Legislative Council today (December 4):

Question:

There are views that the Cross Harbour Tunnel (CHT) Toll Plaza is strategically located. With the huge pedestrian and vehicular flows brought about by urban development, the planning and design of the CHT Toll Plaza should also keep abreast of the times to improve the environment of the Hung Hom district and optimise the use of land resources. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) as the Government has indicated that the released spaces from the CHT Toll Plaza will be used to tie in with the development of the neighbouring areas in the long run, whether the Government has formulated long-term development strategies and carried out greening and transformation in respect of the CHT Toll Plaza; if so, of the details and the implementation timetable; if not, the reasons for that;

(2) as it is learnt that a research team from an educational institution has suggested constructing a landscape podium at the CHT Toll Plaza, whether the Government has assessed the feasibility of the suggestion; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and

(3) whether the Government has plans to reshape the Hung Hom district in accordance with the principle of "single site, multiple use", so as to optimise the redevelopment space of the CHT Toll Plaza and the waterfront resources of the Victoria Harbour, such as developing the district into a tourist hotspot or leisure area?

Reply:

President,

The HKeToll, a free-flow tolling service, has been smoothly implemented at all government-tolled tunnels and the Tsing Sha Control Area. Thanks to the cooperation and support of the members of the public, the overall operation of the HKeToll at all tunnels has been smooth. The HKeToll brings convenience to motorists, and provides the necessary infrastructure for the implementation of time-varying tolls at the three road-harbour crossings, allowing members of the public to experience the convenience of smart mobility.

Having consulted the Development Bureau and the Transport Department (TD), my reply to the question raised by Dr the Hon Hoey Simon Lee is as follows:

(1) With the implementation of the HKeToll at the Cross-Harbour Tunnel (CHT) since July last year, coupled with the implementation of time-varying tolls at the three road-harbour crossings since December last year, the traffic at tunnel entrances and exits on the Kowloon side of the CHT has been smoother than before. The Highways Department has completed the demolition works of all toll booths, toll islands and toll plaza shelters in the CHT. The TD will make use of the released spaces to accommodate traffic management and road safety needs through straightening the road alignment, with a view to further rationalising the traffic at tunnel entrances and exits on the Kowloon side of the CHT. The relevant works are expected to be completed in early 2025. The TD will continue to review the future traffic condition of the road section and the spaces available, and proactively consider how to complement the development of the neighbouring areas, such as the study mentioned below, and improve the traffic and cross-harbour bus service.

(2) and (3) As proposed in the 2023 Policy Address (PA), in order to

revitalise the Hung Hom Station and nearby sites, the Government invited the MTRCL (MTR Corporation Limited) at the end of last year to conduct a study to re-plan and develop around 10 hectares of land covering the Hung Hom Station and the railway facility sites in the vicinity, as well as the waterfront and the former pier facility sites to the south of the Hong Kong Coliseum. The study aims at modernising the supporting facilities for the Hung Hom Station, releasing commercial and residential floor space, and creating a vibrant harbourfront. Having regard to the re-planning of the nearby areas as mentioned above, the study will also explore ways to enhance the pedestrian connectivity between Hung Hom and Tsim Sha Tsui East, as well as improve the waiting environment of the bus stops at the CHT. In addition, the 2024 PA further proposed making use of the waterfront site in the vicinity of the Hung Hom Station as covered under the aforementioned study for promoting yacht tourism. To this end, the Government will invite the private sector to explore their interest in constructing and operating yacht berthing facilities. In order to provide diversified travelling experiences, the proposed yacht berthing facilities will not be standalone yacht club facilities. Instead, it will be developed together with land-based facilities for food and beverages, entertainment and retail. The aforementioned study currently being conducted by the MTRCL is heading in this direction. The MTRCL will submit its proposal to the Government by the end of this year.

We note that the research team of the PolyU (Hong Kong Polytechnic University) once suggested constructing a green deck of about 30 000 square metres over the former toll plaza of the CHT. According to PolyU's design scheme, the deck proposed is sizable, covering the entire former toll plaza of the CHT. The deck has three main levels, offering a total floor area of approximately 45 000 square meters. In addition to green spaces, the project also includes commercial elements, including retail, dining, and exhibition areas. The project also contains proposals relating to multi-purpose community arts spaces and improvement to the bus waiting environment.

Out of technical considerations, costs of works and other reasons, we have not included in any substantial way PolyU's original idea regarding the green deck in our invitation to the MTRCL for conducting the abovementioned re-planning study. That being said, we have in fact incorporated some of the visions as proposed by PolyU's research team into the re-planning study. These include, for example, the provision of more green spaces, activity venues and better cross-harbour bus waiting environment for the public; as well as the enhancement of the connectivity and pedestrian accessibility between the hinterland in Hung Hom and the harbourfront area as well as Tsim Sha Tsui East respectively. We have asked the MTRCL to propose measures with such objectives in mind, which would be technically feasibility and cost-effective, in a bid to re-brand Hung Hom into a new and well-connected landmark for leisure and tourism.

Thank you, President.