

## Red tide sighted

A red tide was sighted over the past week, an inter-departmental red tide working group reported today (November 27).

The red tide was spotted by staff of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on November 23 at Ting Kau Beach, Tsuen Wan. The red tide has dissipated. No associated death of fish has been reported.

A spokesman for the working group said, "The red tide was formed by *Noctiluca scintillans*, which is commonly found in Hong Kong waters and non-toxic."

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) urged mariculturists at Ma Wan fish culture zone to monitor the situation closely and increase aeration where necessary.

Red tide is a natural phenomenon. The AFCD's proactive phytoplankton monitoring programme will continue to monitor red tide occurrences to minimise the impact on the mariculture industry and the public.