

# Hong Kong Customs detects seaborne transnational drug trafficking case (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs seized about 26 kilograms of suspected cocaine and about 1 kilogram of suspected crack cocaine with an estimated market value of \$30 million on August 27 at Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound and Mong Kok.

Customs officers inspected a 20-foot container declared to contain "wooden baffles" arriving from Colombia at Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound on August 27.

After examination, about 26 kilograms of suspected cocaine were found inside the false compartments at the container door.

After follow-up investigations Customs officers arrested three men in Yuen Long, aged from 32 to 52, suspected to be connected with the case. A suspected drug manufacturing centre in Mong Kok was also raided, where about 1 kilogram of suspected crack cocaine was further seized.

The arrested persons were charged with trafficking in a dangerous drug and manufacturing of dangerous drug, and will appear at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (August 30).

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in and manufacturing of dangerous drugs are serious offences. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account ([crimereport@customs.gov.hk](mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk)).



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## [SED visits Zhuhai and Zhongshan \(with photos\)](#)

The Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, paid a duty visit to Zhuhai and Zhongshan in Guangdong Province today (August 29).

Mr Yeung met with the Director of the Office for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of the Education Department of Guangdong Province, Mr Li Jinjun; the Vice Mayor of the Zhuhai Municipal Government, Mr Yan Wu; the Director of the Zhuhai Education Bureau, Mr Lin Rituan; the Vice Mayor of the Zhongshan Municipal Government, Ms Xu Xiaoli; and the Director of Zhongshan Education and Sports Bureau, Ms Li Jiaying, on co-operation opportunities in education along with the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. He also visited Zhuhai International School to learn more about its provision of an international curriculum.

Mr Yeung said that the development of the Greater Bay Area will provide Hong Kong with more co-operation opportunities in education and research as well as finance and commerce. In the meantime, as more expatriates and Hong Kong people will choose to move into the cities of the Greater Bay Area for living and work, the demand by their children for schools which offer an international or Hong Kong curriculum is expected to increase.

He said, "In view of the potential demand for education services, the Education Bureau will support school operators to adopt the model of international schools to offer an international or Hong Kong basic education curriculum in the Greater Bay Area.

"In this connection, it is the appropriate time for us to advance initial deliberations on the plan with education officials of the cities in the Greater Bay Area so as to understand better the latest developments in different places and explore together the feasibility of operating such schools."

Mr Yeung will continue to visit other cities in the Greater Bay Area in the future to strengthen communications with related education officials with a view to promoting exchanges and collaborations across the Government, university and school levels.



## [Update on cluster of Human Metapneumovirus cases in Siu Lam Hospital](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding the announcement yesterday (August 28) on a cluster of patients infected with Human Metapneumovirus in a male ward for severe intellectual disability, the spokesperson for Siu Lam Hospital gave the following update today (August 29):

One more 50-year-old patient in the ward presented with respiratory symptoms. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for him and the test results were positive for Human Metapneumovirus. The patient is 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 case has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.

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## [Appeal for information on missing man in Tsueng Kwan O \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (August 29) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Tsueng Kwan O.

Wong Kin-shing, aged 22, went missing after he left his residence at Choi Ming Court, Tsueng Kwan O on August 27 afternoon. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.85 metres tall, 65 kilograms in weight and of thin build. He has a round face with yellow complexion and short black hair. He was last seen wearing a blue short-sleeved T-shirt, light-coloured shorts and grey sports shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0316 or 9020 2746 or email to [rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk](mailto:rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk), or contact any police station.



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## [FEHD releases Rodent Infestation Rate for first half of 2018](#)

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) announced today (August 29) that the overall Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) for the first half of 2018 was 2.8 per cent, slightly lower than the figures recorded for the second half of 2017 and the overall RIR for 2017 (both were 3.5 per cent), indicating that rodent infestation in public areas in the territory is generally under control.

An FEHD spokesman said, "According to a territory-wide survey conducted by the department, the RIRs of all districts were below 10 per cent for the first half of 2018, indicating that rodent infestation is not extensive in the area surveyed. Among them, Tsuen Wan recorded the highest RIR at 8.2 per cent.

"The relatively higher RIRs in some districts were mainly caused by poor hygiene conditions at specific spots such as rear lanes, including the accumulation of disused articles, indiscriminate disposal of refuse and improper handling of food remnants, which provide shelter and food for rodents."

There is no internationally adopted RIR. When devising the RIR, the FEHD made reference to overseas practices and the actual situation of Hong Kong. The overall RIR is the average infestation rate of the districts during the period. The district RIR assesses the rodent problem in public places surveyed during the surveillance period. The district RIR is divided into three levels. Level 1 (less than 10 per cent) indicates that rodent infestation is not extensive in the area surveyed. Level 2 (between 10 per

cent and 19 per cent) indicates that rodent infestation is slightly extensive in the area surveyed, and the FEHD will strengthen rodent disinfection operations there. Level 3 (20 per cent or above) indicates that rodent infestation is extensive. The relevant government departments will form a joint task force and launch special rodent prevention and control operations to strengthen rodent disinfection, environmental improvement and cleaning services comprehensively, and promote rodent prevention and control in the community.

"The district RIRs may not fully reflect the actual situation of rodent infestation in the individual districts concerned. When conducting rodent prevention and control operations, the FEHD makes appropriate adjustments to the work in individual districts from time to time, taking into account reports from front-line staff and the views of the relevant District Councils and the local community, as well as the district RIR," the spokesman said.

The FEHD has continued to roll out the territory-wide anti-rodent campaign in two phases this year. The first phase was completed in March while the second phase was launched early last month and will run until September 7. During the campaign period, the FEHD enhances its inspections and rodent control measures in target areas including markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots and their peripheries.

"In addition, in view of the fruitful results of the two rounds of anti-rodent operations in designated target areas last year, the FEHD continues to conduct two rounds of the special operations this year, during which multi-pronged strategies, including improving environmental hygiene, and stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions, have been adopted to strengthen rodent prevention and control at the district level."

The first round of anti-rodent special operation in designated target areas was conducted in various districts from April to June. During the period, the FEHD enhanced street cleaning services and cleaning of public markets and hawker bazaars in the target areas, strengthened rodent disinfection work at problematic spots such as rear lanes, refuse collection points, markets, hawker bazaars, cooked food markets and construction sites, and stepped up inspections of food premises, markets, hawker bazaars and cooked food markets. Enforcement actions against food premises causing poor environmental hygiene conditions, food preparation and scullery at rear lanes, and improper handling and disposal of rubbish were also strengthened. The FEHD also arranged health talks for building management offices of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, and market and hawker stall operators to provide information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control. The operation effectively enhanced district rodent prevention and control work. The FEHD will start the second round of anti-rodent special operation in designated target areas in October, which will also last for two months.

The spokesman stressed that effective rodent prevention and control hinges on sustained co-operation between the community and the Government. Apart from continuing to enhance the rodent prevention and control work in

all districts, the FEHD will also step up public education and publicity targeting different sectors of the community, including co-organising promotional activities with District Councils to encourage the public to actively participate in the anti-rodent campaigns, and to prevent rodent infestation by eliminating the three survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, meaning the elimination of the food sources and hiding places of rodents, as well as blocking their dispersal routes.

For more information on rodent prevention and control measures and the RIR, please visit the FEHD website at [www.fehd.gov.hk](http://www.fehd.gov.hk).