<u>Tenders invited for government</u> <u>properties tenancy</u>

The Government Property Agency is inviting tenders for a three-year tenancy of government properties at China Hong Kong City, China Ferry Terminal, 33 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui and the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal, Sheung Wan.

The properties should be used for general retail purposes only (including storage, sale and display of duty-free liquor, cigarettes, cigars and other tobacco products but excluding any goods or commodities that are prohibited under the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60), any regulations made thereunder and any amending legislations).

The tender notice was uploaded today (June 15) to the Agency's website: www.gpa.gov.hk. Tender documents are available for collection at the Government Property Agency, 31/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, during office hours (8.30am to 5.45pm from Mondays to Fridays). The documents can also be downloaded from the Agency's website.

Interested tenderers who wish to inspect the sites should make prior appointment with the Government Property Agency by calling 2594 7697 on or before June 26.

Tenderers must submit their tenders by placing them in the Government Logistics Department Tender Box at the ground floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, before noon on July 6, 2018. Late tenders will not be accepted.

Remand person in custody attacks correctional officer at Tai Lam Centre for Women

A female remand person in custody attacked a correctional officer at Tai Lam Centre for Women yesterday (June 14).

At 7.24pm, a 37-year-old remand person in custody suddenly turned emotional while being escorted to the Dormitory and attacked a correctional officer with her hand. The staff immediately stopped her and called for reinforcement.

The correctional officer felt discomfort at her neck. After examination

and treatment provided by the Medical Officer at the institution hospital, the officer was referred to a public hospital for further treatment. The assailant did not sustain any injury.

The Correctional Services Department has referred the incident to the Police for investigation.

The assailant was remanded for the offence of trafficking in a dangerous drug.

Employment (Amendment) Bill 2018 gazetted today

The Government published the Employment (Amendment) Bill 2018 in the Gazette today (June 15).

"The Bill seeks to increase statutory paternity leave from the existing three days to five days under the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57), while other features of the PL regime would remain unchanged," said a spokesperson for the Labour Department (LD).

"The proposed Bill is based on the outcome of a review of the implementation of statutory paternity leave and has been supported by the Labour Advisory Board and the Legislative Council Panel on Manpower. It would help male employees better discharge their family responsibilities around the time of their children's birth."

The spokesperson added that the Government had, in formulating the legislative proposal, taken into account the views of employees, the affordability of employers including small and medium enterprises, and the operation of paternity leave since 2015. If the Bill can be passed quickly by the Legislative Council, parents-to-be will be able to enjoy the improvement at an earlier time.

The Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council on June 20.

<u>In-situ land exchange for</u> <u>redevelopment of Mariners' Club</u>

The Government announced today (June 15) an in-situ land exchange with

the Sailors Home and Mission to Seafarers (the Mission) for the redevelopment of the Mariners' Club at Tsim Sha Tsui to enable the continued provision of welfare services to seafarers.

The current site of the Mariners' Club at 11 Middle Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, was acquired by the Mission through land exchange on full market value in 1965. Over the years, the Mariners' Club has been providing, at its own cost, affordable accommodation and a range of other welfare services to transiting seafarers and their family members. With time, the facilities at the Mariners' Club have deteriorated and become outdated, making it difficult for the Mission to sustain its services to seafarers.

With the approved in-situ land exchange, the Mission, upon settlement of the premium, can identify a development partner to redevelop the site into a composite building with a new Mariners' Club on the lower levels and a commercial hotel on the upper levels. The redevelopment will allow the Mission to modernise the facilities of the Mariners' Club for the continued provision of affordable welfare services to seafarers.

A spokesman for the Transport and Housing Bureau said, "The redevelopment will support Hong Kong's maritime industry and tourism development by providing the much needed welfare facilities for seafarers as well as bolstering the supply of hotel rooms in a key tourism district. The redevelopment can maximise the potential of the site and uphold Hong Kong's status as a major international port and tourist destination."

It is an international common practice for major ports to provide seafarers, who are away from home for prolonged periods at sea, with social and welfare services and onshore facilities that typically include affordable accommodation of reasonable standard and other leisure facilities. In Hong Kong, such support services are provided by the Mission, which is a non-profit organisation incorporated in 1930 under the Sailors Home and Mission to Seafarers Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1042).

<u>Government announces appointments to</u> <u>Mental Health Review Tribunal</u>

The Government today (June 15) announced the Chief Executive's appointment of Mr Maurice Lee Wai-man as the Chairman of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for a term of two years from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2020.

Mr Lee is an experienced solicitor who has been practicing law in Hong Kong for over 30 years. He is currently the Vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council. Moreover, he has been actively involved in community, cultural and social services for many years.

The Government expressed gratitude to the outgoing Chairman, Mr Lambert Lee Ka-chai, for his valuable contribution to the Tribunal in the past.

The Tribunal comprises a Chairman, 15 medical members, 15 social work members and 15 other members with experience and knowledge of administration or clinical psychology or other suitable qualifications or experience. The membership list of the Tribunal is available at the webpage of the Food and Health Bureau (www.fhb.gov.hk/en/committees/mhrt.htm).

The Tribunal was set up in 1989 pursuant to the enactment of the Mental Health (Amendment) Ordinance. The function of the Tribunal is to consider applications or cases of patients who are liable to be compulsorily detained in mental hospitals or to compulsory guardianship, as well as to determine whether these patients should be discharged in accordance with the Mental Health Ordinance (Cap.136).