

Missing woman in Ngau Tau Kok located

A woman who went missing in Ngau Tau Kok has been located.

Au Yin-kei, aged 66, went missing after she left her residence in Choi Ying Estate last night (July 17). Her family made a report to Police on the same day.

The woman was located in Kai Ching Estate this afternoon (July 18). She sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

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 July 17 to noon today (July 18), the CFS conducted tests on the radiological levels of 251 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).

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).

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).

From August 24 to noon today, the CFS and the AFCD have conducted tests on the radiological levels of 68 843 samples of food imported from Japan (including 44 265 samples of aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt) and 16 344 samples of local catch respectively. All the samples passed the tests.

Judicial appointment

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Judiciary today (July 18) announced the appointment of Mr Jenkin Suen, SC, as a Recorder of the Court of First Instance of the High Court. The appointment will take effect on August 1, 2024, for a term of three years.

The appointment is made by the Chief Executive on the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission.

The biographical note of Mr Suen, SC, is as follows:

Mr Jenkin Suen, SC

Mr Suen, SC, was born in 1977 in Hong Kong. He obtained his LL.B. and P.C.LL. from the University of Hong Kong in 1999 and 2000 respectively. He further acquired a Bachelor of Civil Law degree from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom in 2001 and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Hong Kong in 2013. He was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 2004, and has been in private practice in Hong Kong since 2004. He was appointed as Senior Counsel in 2019. He was appointed as Deputy Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court for periods from 2022 to 2023.

CFS follows up on excessive cadmium found in imported crab sample

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department today (July 18) announced that an imported crab sample from the Philippines was detected with cadmium, a metallic contaminant, at a level exceeding the legal limit. The CFS is following up on the incident.

"The CFS had announced earlier that crab samples collected at the import level under its routine Food Surveillance Programme were detected with cadmium exceeding the legal limit. When following up on the incidents, the CFS further collected the above-mentioned crab sample at the import level for testing. The test result showed that the sample contained cadmium at a level of 3.9 parts per million (ppm), exceeding the legal limit of 2 ppm," the CFS spokesman said.

"Long-term excessive intake of cadmium may affect the kidney functions. The CFS has informed the importer concerned of the irregularity and is also tracing the source of the product concerned. The affected product has not entered the market. Should there be sufficient evidence, prosecution will be instituted," the spokesman added.

According to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations (Cap. 132V), any person who sells food with metallic contamination above the legal limit is liable upon conviction to a fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for six months.

The CFS will alert the Philippines authorities and the trade, continue to follow up on the incident and take appropriate action. The investigation is ongoing.

Red flag hoisted at Hap Mun Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 18) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Hap Mun Bay Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.