

Suspected red tide sighted at Silverstrand Beach

Attention TV and 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 (April 21) that due to the sighting of a suspected red tide, the red flag has been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach until further notice.

Speech by DCS at Opening Ceremony of Equal Opportunities Commission Racial Diversity and Inclusion Sports Day 2024 (with photos)

Following is the speech by the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Cheuk Wing-hing, at the Opening Ceremony of the Equal Opportunities Commission Racial Diversity and Inclusion Sports Day 2024 today (April 21):

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I would now like to repeat what I just said in English.

Good morning everyone. It is great pleasure to join you all at this Racial Diversity and Inclusion Sports Day organised by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC). This event is part of EOC's efforts to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and celebrate the 15th anniversary of the implementation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance. Today, we gather here to promote racial equality and inclusion through sports and competition under the Olympic motto of Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together. Today is also the opening day of the 9th Hong Kong Games, which makes this event doubly meaningful.

There are over 300 000 non-ethnic Chinese calling Hong Kong home. They are no doubt an integral part of the Hong Kong family. Working dutifully and diligently across various professions and areas, our non-ethnic Chinese brothers and sisters have made equal contributions for the growth of Hong Kong.

Since the implementation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance 15 years ago, EOC has been committed to promoting equal opportunities in various aspects of daily life, work and education, etc., for all Hong Kong residents regardless of their race, so that they are free from discrimination, harassment and vilification.

The Government has always strived to ensure that citizens irrespective of their race have equal access to public services. We are committed to promoting racial integration and building a caring and inclusive society. The Government has been providing additional resources for EOC to establish the Ethnic Minorities Unit since 2015 and to strengthen its relevant work from promotion and education to training and community engagement.

In last year's Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced a series of services and support for ethnic minorities on various fronts, such as integration into the community, education, employment, welfare, and healthcare.

In terms of employment, the Government encourages departments to design their own language tests to provide an additional pathway for ethnic-minority applicants to meet the appointment requirements on language proficiency. For instance, more than 300 ethnic-minority applicants have passed the Chinese/English written exam designed for police recruitment. This would allow ethnic minorities who may not have participated in public examinations in Hong Kong to gain the opportunity to join and work for the Government. In addition, the Internship Programme for non-ethnic Chinese students also provides participants with basic workplace Chinese training, to enhance their understanding on the application of Chinese and the required level of Chinese proficiency in daily work.

As regards measures for promoting community integration in last year's Policy Address, the Government has embarked on the preparatory work for setting up two additional support service centres for ethnic minorities in Kowloon Central and New Territories East. A service centre providing emotional support and counseling services for ethnic minorities has also commenced operation last year while the Ethnic Minority Care Teams are expected to commence service within this year.

Promoting racial integration and building a harmonious society requires the collaboration and support of the entire community. It is encouraging to see so many representatives from different sectors in today's event, as a pledge of their support for a more diverse and inclusive society. On this promising note, I wish today's event great success.

Thank you.



[Red flag hoisted at Silverstrand 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 (April 21) that due to inclement weather, the red flag has been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Liquor Licensing Board to meet on Tuesday

The following is issued on behalf of the Liquor Licensing Board:

The Liquor Licensing Board will meet on Tuesday (April 23) to consider two applications for transfer, amendment and renewal of liquor licences.

The applications are (not in order of discussion):

Hong Kong:

FLM in Sheung Wan

New Territories:

THAI STYLE in Kwai Chung

The meeting will be held at 9.45am in the conference room, Room 102, 1/F, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Red flags hoisted at some beaches

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 (April 21) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Hung Shing Yeh Beach and Pui O Beach in Islands District; and Hap Mun Bay Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.