

CFS follows up on vegetables and aquatic products imported from Japan suspected of breaching Food Safety Order

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 11) that vegetables and aquatic products from regulated Japanese prefectures were suspected to be in breach of the relevant Food Safety Order when the CFS inspected food imported from Japan. The products concerned have been marked and sealed by the CFS and have not entered the market. The CFS is following up on the cases.

A spokesman for the CFS said, "During inspections of the concerned consignments of food imported from Japan, the CFS found a pack of fresh hosta from Fukushima Prefecture, four boxes of chilled mantis shrimp manufactured in Miyagi Prefecture, and 52 cartons of sweet potatoes from Ibaraki Prefecture which were not accompanied with radiation certificates and exporter certificates after the Order was issued. The importers concerned are thus suspected of breaching the relevant Order."

According to the Order, all vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk originating from Fukushima are banned from being imported into Hong Kong, while such foods originating from Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma prefectures are allowed to be imported on the condition that they are accompanied with a radiation certificate and an exporter certificate issued by the Japanese authority certifying that the radiation levels do not exceed the guideline levels and are fit for human consumption. In addition, all aquatic products originating from the 10 metropolis/prefectures, namely Tokyo, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Miyagi, Chiba, Gunma, Tochigi, Niigata, Nagano and Saitama, are prohibited from being imported into and supplied in Hong Kong if they are harvested, manufactured, processed or packed on or after August 24, 2023, including all live, chilled, frozen, dried or otherwise preserved aquatic products, sea salt, and unprocessed or processed seaweed.

The CFS will continue to follow up on the incidents and take appropriate action, including informing the Japanese authorities concerned of the incidents. Prosecution will be instituted against the importers concerned should there be sufficient evidence. The investigation is ongoing.

Events of 15th National Games, 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities and 9th National Special Olympic Games to be held in Hong Kong

The inaugural meeting of the Organising Committee of the 15th National Games (NG) and the inaugural meeting of the Organising Committee of the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities (NGD) and the 9th National Special Olympic Games (NSOG) were held this afternoon (April 11) at Zhu Dao Guest House, Guangzhou. The Chief Executive (CE), Mr John Lee, led a Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) delegation to attend.

Mr Lee is an Executive Chairman of the two Organising Committees. Other members of the HKSAR delegation who also attended the meetings include the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism (SCST), Mr Kevin Yeung, who serves as the Executive Deputy Secretary-General of the Committees; the Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Ms Carol Yip; the Permanent Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Joe Wong, and the Head of the National Games Coordination Office, Mr Yeung Tak-keung, who are both members of the Committees.

At the inaugural meetings, Mr Lee reported on the latest preparatory work by the HKSAR. Mr Lee said that the NG next year will be the first time for the Games to be cohosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and that is of great significance. He said that the HKSAR Government will spare no effort in dovetailing with the requirements of the General Administration of Sport of China and maintaining close liaison with the Guangdong Provincial Government and the Macao Special Administrative Region Government to successfully cohost the Games.

Mr Lee said that the HKSAR Government has established the HKSAR Organising Committee of the 15th National Games last May. With the CE as the Patron, the Chief Secretary for Administration as the Chairman, and the SCST as the Secretary-General, the HKSAR Organising Committee will provide high-level supervision and guidance on the preparatory work of the HKSAR for the NG. Last October, the HKSAR Government established the National Games Coordination Office (Hong Kong), which takes charge of the co-ordination and implementation of the HKSAR's preparatory work for the Games and liaison with relevant organisations and departments.

Mr Lee said the HKSAR Government will adhere to the principle of "simple, safe and wonderful" in organising the Games, making full use of existing venues and the soon-to-be-completed Kai Tak Sports Park. He added that the Triathlon event will take place at the landmark Victoria Harbour and Central Harbourfront, showcasing to the whole country Hong Kong's picturesque landscape and unique characteristics.

After the inaugural meetings, the Director of the General Administration of Sport of China, Mr Gao Zhidan; the Deputy Secretary of the CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee and Governor of Guangdong Province, Mr Wang Weizhong; Mr Lee; and the Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region, Mr Ho Iat-seng, jointly unveiled a plaque for the Organising Committee of the 15th NG. Subsequently, Mr Gao; the Director of the Executive Council of the China Disabled Persons' Federation, Mr Zhou Changkui; Mr Wang; Mr Lee and Mr Ho jointly unveiled a plaque for the Organising Committee of the 12th NGD and 9th NSOG.

The two Organising Committees later held separate press conferences announcing the Games' arrangements including the Games' schedules and the distribution of work among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

The 15th NG will be held from November 9 (Sunday) to 21 (Friday), 2025, lasting for a total of 13 days. Hong Kong will organise eight competition events, namely, Basketball (men U22), Cycling Track, Fencing, Golf, Handball (men), Rugby Sevens, Triathlon and Beach Volleyball; as well as one mass participation event, Bowling.

The 12th NGD and 9th NSOG will be held from December 8 (Monday) to 15 (Monday), 2025, lasting for a total of eight days. Hong Kong will organise five events including NGD events Boccia, Wheelchair Fencing and Para Table Tennis (TT11), mass participation event Para Dance Sport and NSOG event Table Tennis.

The NG, held once every four years, is the nation's highest-level and the largest national multi-sport event. The State Council announced in August 2021 that the 15th NG will be cohosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in 2025. This is the first time for Hong Kong to be a cohost of the NG. The NGD is a national multi-sport games featuring sports events under the International Paralympic Committee, while the NSOG encourages people with intellectual disabilities to participate in sports competitions. Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao will also cohost the NGD and NSOG in 2025.

Proprietors fined for violation of safety legislation

Essential Win Limited and The Hong Kong Shipyard Limited were each fined \$50,000 at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts today (April 11) for violation of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Regulations. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on May 17, 2023, at a shipyard in Tsing Yi. A worker fell to the ground from a metal access tower while carrying out preparation for its subsequent relocation. The worker sustained serious injuries and passed away on the same day.

Import of poultry eggs from Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh State in India suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 11) that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh State in India, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry eggs from the area with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that Hong Kong has currently established a protocol with India for the import of poultry eggs but not for poultry meat. According to the Census and Statistics Department, no eggs were imported into Hong Kong from India last year.

"The CFS has contacted the Indian authority over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the WOAH and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreak. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

Global Talent Summit Â· Hong Kong to be held May 7 and 8

Hong Kong Talent Engage (HKTE) today (April 11) announced that the Global Talent Summit · Hong Kong will be held May 7 and 8 in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Chief Executive set out in the 2023 Policy Address that a summit would be organised to promote regional exchanges and co-operation in talent attraction. The Director of HKTE, Mr Anthony Lau, said, "The Summit will bring together international and Mainland leaders from political, academic,

business and other sectors to exchange trends and experiences in talent development, with a view to promoting Hong Kong's dual role and advantages as an international talent hub and our country's gateway for talent."

The Summit will comprise three parts, namely the International Talent Forum on May 7, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) High-quality Talent Development Conference on May 8 and the CareerConnect Expo to be held on both days concurrently. The Summit will bring together Mainland and overseas government representatives, scholars, business leaders and representatives of various trades and human resources agencies, aiming to showcase Hong Kong's distinctive advantages of enjoying the strong support of the motherland and being closely connected to the world under the "one country, two systems" principle, as well as the charm of an international talent hub to the world. The Summit will also promote talent exchanges and co-operation in the international arena and the GBA to forge ahead with the high-quality development of Hong Kong and the GBA, and build a superb talent hub in the region together.

In addition, the Expo will enable international, local and regional strategic enterprises and partners to present to participants and global talent the opportunities of Hong Kong and the Mainland as well as development prospects of various sectors. The Expo is now open for preregistration for talent who have arrived in the city and members of the public through the Summit's website (www.hkengage.gov.hk/GlobalTalentSummit). They can access the venue with a QR Code on a selected date. The Forum and the Conference will be webcast live to domestic and foreign talent, and to the public.

HKTE has also expanded its digital and social media platforms from [WeChat](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Exhibitors, arriving talent and the public may refer to the Summit's website or the above platforms for the latest updates of the Summit and the Expo. Enquiries may be sent via email to gts@hkengage.gov.hk.