

Programmes Kick-off Ceremony for Chinese Culture Promotion Office (with photos)

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) held the Programmes Kick-off Ceremony for Chinese Culture Promotion Office (CCPO) today (March 14), announcing the establishment of the CCPO to promote Chinese culture through planning programmes, exchanges and collaborations, with a view to enhancing citizens' cultural confidence and national identity.

The kick-off ceremony was held at the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence (HKMCD) today. Addressing the ceremony, the Acting Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Raistlin Lau, said that the newly established CCPO would take up the important role of promoting Chinese culture and patriotic education through planning multifaceted activities with the LCSD's rich resources in relation to Chinese history and culture. Teachers play a pivotal role in promoting and preserving Chinese culture. The Chinese History and Culture – Train-the-Trainer Workshops co-organised by the CCPO and the Education Bureau (EDB) are tailor-made for teachers. The workshops will cover Chinese history and culture, arts, technology, and intangible cultural heritage with a view to providing support for teachers to teach students of different ages and levels Chinese culture, thus enabling the inheritance of Chinese heritage. The CCPO and the EDB especially invited principals of primary and secondary schools to join the kick-off ceremony to commence the first event of the CCPO – Briefing Session for Principals on Teaching and Learning Series, and visit the HKMCD. The CCPO will continue to collaborate with the EDB to systematically provide more tailor-made activities through the Chinese History and Culture – Train-the-Trainer Workshops for teachers and students.

Other officiating guests at the ceremony included the Under Secretary for Education, Mr Sze Chun-fai; the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Mr Vincent Liu; and the Museum Director of Hong Kong Museum of History, Mr Ng Chi-wo.

To enhance the public's understanding of the development and context of Chinese history and culture, the CCPO will collaborate with the Hong Kong Museum of History (HKMH) to launch the General History of China Exhibition Series. The first exhibition, namely "The Hong Kong Jockey Club Series: The Ancient Civilisation of the Xia, Shang and Zhou Dynasties in Henan Province" exhibition, will be held from April 3 to July 8, leading visitors to explore the origins of Chinese civilization through displaying important archaeological discoveries and artefacts from Henan Province that reflect the political, social, ritual and cultural lives during the three dynasties. Subsequently, the HKMH will stage exhibitions on historical relics of significant periods in chronological order. The series will conclude in 2029 with an exhibition celebrating the 80th anniversary of the establishment of

the People's Republic of China.

The CCPO will annually organise the Chinese Culture Festival starting from this year. Furthermore, the CCPO will also organise a diverse array of community engagement activities which allow members of the public to learn about Chinese culture through daily objects. For example, in one of the programmes, participants will learn about the history, culture and architectural features of different dynasties by visiting parks with rich Chinese cultural characteristics in Hong Kong.

The CCPO will also select Chinese culture-related talks and activities for live-streaming through its designated website and social media platform. Contents of some talks and educational resources of some exhibitions will be uploaded to its website, which will become an important platform and archive for learning Chinese culture.

For more information of the CCPO and details of its programmes, please visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ccpo/index.html.



[Labour Department investigates fatal work accident in Sheung Shui](#)

The Labour Department (LD) is investigating a fatal work accident that

happened in Sheung Shui this afternoon (March 14) in which a man died.

The LD immediately deployed staff to the scene upon receiving a report of the accident, and is now conducting an investigation to look into its cause.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Thursday, March 14, 2024 is 104.7 (up 0.1 against yesterday's index).

Appointment to Board of Financial Services Development Council announced

The Government announced today (March 14) that the Chief Executive has appointed Ms Luanne Lim Hui-hung as a member of the Board of Directors of the Financial Services Development Council (FSDC), for a term from March 18, 2024, to January 16, 2026.

Announcing the appointment, a spokesman for the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau said, "Ms Lim is a seasoned professional with various leadership roles in the banking industry. We believe that she will provide valuable advice to the FSDC and help enhance Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre."

The FSDC was established in 2013 by the Government as a high-level, cross-sectoral advisory body to engage the industry in formulating proposals to promote the further development of Hong Kong's financial services industry and to map out the strategic directions for development. The FSDC was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in September 2018 to allow it to better discharge its functions with more flexibility.

The membership list of the FSDC Board of Directors with effect from March 18, 2024, is as follows:

Chairman

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Mr Laurence Li Lu-jen, SC

Vice-Chairmen

Ms Ding Chen
Mr Daniel R Fung, SC
Mr Andrew Walter Bougourd Ross Weir

Members

Ms Diana Cesar
Ms Lena Chan
Mr Ronald Chan Wai-yan
Mr Ben Chan Wei-beng
Dr Adrian Cheng Chi-kong
Mr Damien Allen Green
Mr Jeremy Dinshaw Lam
Mr Brian Li Man-bun
Ms Luanne Lim Hui-hung
Dr Lin Yong
Ms Amy Lo Choi-wan
Ms Jennifer Tan Yuen-chun

Dr Au King-lun (in the capacity as Executive Director of the FSDC)

Ex-officio member

Mr Christopher Hui (in the capacity as Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury)

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 March 13 to noon today (March 14), the CFS conducted tests on the radiological levels of 130 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 36 161 samples of food imported from Japan (including 24 190 samples of aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt) and 10 028 samples of local catch respectively. All the samples passed the tests.