

CFS announces food safety report for July

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department today (August 30) released the findings of its food safety report for last month. The results of about 14 800 food samples tested were satisfactory except for 11 samples, which were announced earlier. The overall satisfactory rate was 99.9 per cent.

A CFS spokesman said about 1 500 food samples were collected for microbiological tests, some 4 000 samples were taken for chemical tests and the remaining 9 300 (including about 8 800 taken from food imported from Japan) were collected to test radiation levels.

The microbiological tests covered pathogens and hygienic indicators, while the chemical tests included pesticides, preservatives, metallic contaminants, colouring matters, veterinary drug residues and others.

The samples comprised about 3 900 samples of vegetables and fruit and their products; 800 samples of cereals, grains and their products; 700 samples of meat and poultry and their products; 1 200 samples of milk, milk products and frozen confections; 1 800 samples of aquatic and related products; and 6 400 samples of other food commodities including beverages, bakery products and snacks.

The 11 unsatisfactory samples comprised three vegetable and fruit samples detected with pesticide residues exceeding the legal limits, three samples of Shanghai noodles detected with excessive preservative, two swordfish samples found to contain mercury exceeding the legal limit, a mud carp sample and a freshwater grouper sample found to contain traces of malachite green and a fresh beef sample found to contain sulphur dioxide.

The CFS has taken follow-up action on the unsatisfactory samples, including informing the vendors concerned of the test results, instructing them to stop selling the affected food items and tracing the sources of the food items in question.

Since the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap 132CM) came into effect on August 1, 2014, as of July 31 this year the CFS has taken over 181 600 food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for pesticide residue testing. The overall unsatisfactory rate is less than 0.2 per cent.

The spokesman added that excessive pesticide residues in food may arise from the trade not observing Good Agricultural Practice, e.g. using excessive pesticides and/or not allowing sufficient time for pesticides to decompose before harvesting. The maximum residue limits (MRLs) of pesticide residues in food set in the Regulation are not safety indicators. They are the maximum concentrations of pesticide residues to be permitted in a food commodity

under Good Agricultural Practice when applying pesticides. In this connection, consumption of food with pesticide residues higher than the MRLs will not necessarily lead to any adverse health effects.

The spokesman reminded the food trade to ensure that food for sale is fit for human consumption and meets legal requirements. Consumers should patronise reliable shops when buying food and maintain a balanced diet to minimise food risks.

Lifesaving services at Golden Beach and Cafeteria New Beach resume

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has announced that the lifesaving services at Golden Beach and Café Cafeteria New Beach in Tuen Mun District resumed today (August 30). The lifesaving services at the beaches were suspended earlier due to an insufficient number of lifeguards on duty.

Appointments to Committee on Home-School Co-operation

The Education Bureau today (August 30) announced the appointment of five new members and re-appointment of 11 incumbent members to the Committee on Home-School Co-operation (CHSC) for two years with effect from September 1, 2019.

The five newly appointed members are Mr Brian Cheung Ngai-hoi, Mr Ho Ting-hong, Miss Lam Ka-man, Ms Diana Lee Wei-kit and Ms Jane Leung Chui-chun.

The 11 incumbent members re-appointed are Dr Chui Yat-hung, Mr Eugene Fong Yick-jin, Ms Elizabeth Ho Yee-ha, Dr Hui Lung-kit, Dr Lam Hiu-fung, Dr Leung Wing-hung, Ms Li Hei-lam, Mr Benjamin Ng Yau-keung, Mr Raymond Poon Tak-cheong, Mr Raphael Tong Tai-wai and Ms Charis Yuen Fung-yi.

The CHSC comprises members from different walks of life including parents as well as professionals in the education, medical, engineering, accountancy and commercial sectors. Two young people, Mr Ho Ting-hong and Miss Lam Ka-man, are appointed through the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth.

Established in 1993 as an advisory body, the CHSC's main roles include promoting home-school co-operation and advising the Education Bureau, other government departments and non-government organisations on ways to promote parent involvement in education.

The CHSC is also tasked to encourage the setting up of parent-teacher associations (PTAs) and Federations of PTAs (FPTAs). To date, all government and aided schools have set up their PTAs and various districts have set up their FPTAs.

The full membership list of the CHSC of the new term is as follows:

Name	Capacity
Chairman	
Mr Henry Tong Sau-chai	Parent
Members	
Mr Benjamin Ng Yau-keung	Educator – Secondary
School	
Ms Anny Wong Shui-kuk	Educator – Secondary
School	
Ms Elizabeth Ho Yee-ha	Educator –
Primary School	
Ms Jane Leung Chui-chun*	Educator – Primary School
Dr Leung Wing-hung	Educator –
Special School	
Ms Charis Yuen Fung-yi	Educator – Kindergarten
Dr Chui Yat-hung	Parent – Secondary
School	
Ms Diana Lee Wei-kit*	Parent – Secondary
School	
Dr Lam Hiu-fung	Parent –
Primary School	
Mr Raymond Poon Tak-cheong	Parent – Primary School
Ms Li Hei-lam	Parent – Special
School	
Mr Brian Cheung Ngai-hoi*	Parent – Kindergarten
Mr Eugene Fong Yick-jin	Other
Sectors/Professional	
Mr Ho Ting-hong*	Other
Sectors/Professional	
Dr Hui Lung-kit	Other
Sectors/Professional	
Ms Lam Ka-man*	Other

Sectors/Professional
Ms Emily Mok Fung-yee
Sectors/Professional
Mr Raphael Tong Tai-wai
Sectors/Professional

Other

Other

* Newly appointed member

“Quarterly Report on General Household Survey” for April to June 2019 published

The "Quarterly Report on General Household Survey" for April to June 2019 is now available for download.

The report contains statistics on labour force, employment, unemployment and underemployment for the second quarter of 2019. It also contains detailed analyses of the characteristics of different categories of members of the labour force, including their age, sex, educational attainment, employment status, occupation, industry, hours worked per week and monthly employment earnings. Information on reasons for leaving last job and duration of unemployment for the unemployed is also presented.

Users can download the report free of charge from the website of the Census and Statistics Department (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp200.jsp?productCode=B1050001).

The summary of broad survey findings published in the report is shown in Table 1 attached. Enquiries about the contents of the report can be directed to the Household Statistics Analysis Section, Census and Statistics Department (Tel: 2887 5508 or email: ghs@censtatd.gov.hk).

Missing girl in Chai Wan located

A girl who went missing in Chai Wan has been located.

Tsoi Ching-tung, aged 15, went missing after she was last seen on Holy Cross Path on July 6 morning. Her social worker made a report to Police on July 8.

The girl was located in Wo Che Estate, Sha Tin last night (August 29). She

sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.