Protestors blocked roads in Lung Cheung Road, Wong Tai Sin

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

At around 8pm tonight (August 24), protestors set up barricades on Lung Cheung Road, Wong Tai Sin, paralysing traffic and obstructing emergency services. Some violent protestors dug up bricks from pavements.

The report room services of Wong Tai Sin Division Police Station are now temporarily suspended. Police appeal to members of the public not to obstruct emergency vehicles access so as to avoid affecting the emergency services provided to the public. In case of emergency, please call 999.

Police warn the protestors concerned to stop all illegal acts and leave immediately. Police strongly condemn all violent acts of the protestors.

<u>Early closure of some LCSD facilities</u> in Tsuen Wan District tomorrow

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (August 24) that in light of possible mass gathering activities in Tsuen Wan District tomorrow (August 25), the tennis courts of Tsuen Wan Park, Tsuen Wan Riviera Park and Sha Tsui Road Playground, Tsuen Wan Sports Centre, Yeung Uk Road Sports Centre, Wai Tsuen Sports Centre, Tsuen King Circuit Sports Centre, Tsuen Wan Town Hall and Tsuen Wan Public Library will be closed at 2pm tomorrow. Subject to the situation in the vicinity, more cultural and leisure facilities in the same district and any other districts which may be affected will also be closed early and at short notice to ensure the safety of venue users. Members of the public who plan to go to those venues are advised to contact the venues concerned in advance.

Victoria Park Swimming Pool temporarily closed

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 announced today (August 24) that Victoria Park Swimming Pool in Wan Chai District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of faeces in the pool.

It will be reopened at 6.30am tomorrow.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

Police conducting dispersal operation

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

Some violent protestors have occupied Wai Yip Street and Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong today (August 24), obstructing traffic. Police warn them to stop all illegal acts immediately.

Police officers are now conducting a dispersal operation and appeal to the protestors concerned and members of the public to leave as soon as possible.

Suspected MERS cases reported

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today

(August 24) reported two suspected cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and again urged the public to pay special attention to safety during travel, taking due consideration of the health risks in the places they visit. The cases are detailed below:

Sex	Female	Female
Age	38	45
Affected area involved	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia
High-risk exposure	Nil	Nil
Hospital	Tuen Mun Hospital	Princess Margaret Hospital
Condition	Stable	Stable
MERS-Coronavirus preliminary test result	Negative	Pending

Separately, the CHP reported that the suspected MERS case pending results yesterday (August 23), upon preliminary testing, tested negative for MERS Coronavirus (MERS-CoV).

"Travellers to the Middle East should avoid going to farms, barns or markets with camels; avoid contact with sick persons and animals, especially camels, birds or poultry; and avoid unnecessary visits to healthcare facilities. We strongly advise travel agents organising tours to the Middle East to abstain from arranging camel rides and activities involving direct contact with camels, which are known risk factors for acquiring MERS Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Locally, the CHP's surveillance with public and private hospitals, with practising doctors and at boundary control points is firmly in place. Inbound travellers and members of the public who recently visited the Middle East and developed fever or lower respiratory symptoms within 14 days will be classified as suspected MERS cases. They will be taken to public hospitals for isolation and management until their specimens test negative for MERS-CoV.

Travellers to affected areas should maintain vigilance, adopt appropriate health precautions and take heed of personal, food and environmental hygiene. The public may visit the MERS pages of the CHP and its Travel Health Service, MERS statistics in affected areas, the CHP's Facebook Page and YouTube Channel, and the World Health Organization's latest news for more information and health advice. Tour leaders and tour guides operating overseas tours are advised to refer to the CHP's health advice on MERS.