

Red flags hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach and Lo So Shing 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 (June 9) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach and Lo So Shing Beach in Islands District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

Red flag hoisted at Turtle Cove 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 (June 9) that due to big waves, the red flag have been hoisted at Turtle Cove Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

CS visits Sha Tin Fire Station

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, visited Sha Tin Fire Station this afternoon (June 8) for an update on the work of the Fire Services Department (FSD) in firefighting and rescue as well as emergency ambulance services.

Accompanied by the Director of Fire Services, Mr Li Kin-yat, Mr Cheung was given a briefing on the initiatives undertaken by FSD to respond to the rapidly changing society to enhance firefighting, rescue and ambulance services, as well as projects to improve mobilising and communications equipment.

Following a demonstration by the Hazardous Material (HazMat) Team and the High Angle Rescue Team (HART), Mr Cheung toured various fire appliances to gain a better understanding of mass decontamination procedures and rescue operations.

The HazMat Team and HART are specialist teams. The HazMat Team attends incidents involving hazardous materials to provide frontline members with technical support and offer professional advice to the Incident Commanders. As regards the HART team, they are tasked to carry out rescue operations at high-angle locations with special features, such as cable cars, tower cranes, bridge towers, scaffolding at construction sites and suspended working platforms at high-rise buildings.

The Diving Unit then provided an introduction of a series of advanced underwater rescue equipment before Mr Cheung proceeded to inspect the operation of emergency ambulance services which is another core duty of the department. He was given a demonstration of different ambulance equipment and different types of ambulances, including Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV), Paramedic Equipment Tender (PET) and Mobile Casualty Treatment Centre (MCTC).

Each RRV is manned by an Ambulance Officer with Emergency Medical Assistant II qualification and equipped with advanced paramedic equipment. It is designed to perform quality assurance duties and discharge duties at tactical or task level in accordance with the Incident Command System, etc. RRVs also need to respond to emergency calls when no ambulance or Emergency Medical Assistant Motorcycle can arrive at the scene within 10 minutes.

Each PET is equipped with a range of essential life-saving equipment and paramedic and medical items, while the MCTC is equipped with an on-board surgical room and a great variety of life supporting equipment. In the event of a major incident, the PET and the MCTC are dispatched for provision of on-site operational support and medical treatment for casualties.

Before concluding the visit, Mr Cheung received a briefing on how the Mobilizing and Communications Group could support both fire and ambulance emergency operations. He also visited a Mobile Command Unit (MCU) which is a specialist fire appliance designed to serve as field command centre during major fire incidents. FSD officers also demonstrated the operation of the Command Support System on the MCU and the department's Post-dispatch Advice (PDA) service.

PDA is a value-added service that aims to provide to callers seeking emergency ambulance services timely and appropriate advice to help stabilise patients' conditions prior to the arrival of an ambulance crew. PDA covers more than 30 types of injuries and sicknesses.

Mr Cheung was impressed by FSD's relentless efforts in enhancing firefighting and rescue strategies and improving quality and efficiency of emergency ambulance services with the aid of advanced equipment.

Commending FSD colleagues on their exemplary devotion to duty and high degree of professionalism, Mr Cheung encouraged them to keep up their good work in serving the community and protecting the public from fire and other calamities.

Correctional officers intercept smuggling of suspected dangerous drugs into Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre

Correctional officers at Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre today (June 8) intercepted a male remand person in custody smuggling suspected dangerous drugs into the centre by concealing them inside his body.

The 52-year-old person in custody was remanded in the institution for the offence of trafficking in dangerous drugs on June 6. After undergoing X-ray body scanning, he was suspected to have swallowed suspected dangerous drugs before admission. He was therefore separated and put under close monitoring.

At about 11am on June 8, six packs of suspected dangerous drugs wrapped in plastic sheet were discharged from him and the case was reported to the Police for follow-up.

A spokesperson for the Correctional Services Department said, "The department takes every measure to stop the introduction of dangerous drugs or unauthorised articles into correctional institutions in order to maintain good order and discipline and a drug-free environment for all persons in its custody."

Suspected case tests negative for MERS-CoV

The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health today (June 8) reported that the suspected case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) pending results yesterday (June 7), upon preliminary testing, tested negative for MERS Coronavirus.