Missing man in Lantau South located

A man who went missing in Lantau South has been located.

Chung Kwok-fai, aged 45, went missing after he was last seen on South Lantau Road near Fu Kong Shan Road on January 26 morning. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The man was located on Fu Tung Street, Lantau North this afternoon (February 1). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

<u>Contractors fined for violation of safety legislation</u>

Dragages Hong Kong Limited, China Harbour Engineering Company Limited and VSL Hong Kong Limited were fined \$264,000, \$214,000 and \$136,000 respectively at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts today (February 1) for violation of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance, the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance, the Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations, the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear) Regulations and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Safety Management) Regulation. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on March 29, 2017, in a construction site of the Hong Kong Link Road of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge projects. While three workers were dismantling a temporary working platform suspended by a lifting system erected on the bridge deck of a bridge under construction, a lifting beam of the lifting system suddenly collapsed and two slings suspending the platform snapped. The platform plunged into sea together with the three workers. At the same time, the collapsed lifting beam hit two other workers working on the bridge deck. As a result, two workers died and the other three sustained injuries.

Relevant provisions of Third Party Funding of Arbitration come into operation

A spokesman for the Department of Justice (DoJ) has announced that the relevant provisions of Section 3 of the Arbitration and Mediation Legislation (Third Party Funding) (Amendment) Ordinance 2017 (Amendment Ordinance) on third party funding of arbitration came into operation today (February 1).

There is now greater certainty that third party funding of arbitration in Hong Kong is not prohibited by the common law doctrines of maintenance and champerty. This can add to the attractiveness of Hong Kong as an international arbitration centre.

A Code of Practice for Third Party Funding of Arbitration was issued on December 7 last year setting out the practices and standards with which third party funders are ordinarily expected to comply in carrying on activities in connection with third party funding of arbitration. The Code serves a useful role in setting minimum standards of good practice by third party funders of arbitration and laying down safeguards for funded parties.

The Amendment Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council to implement the recommendations made in the Report on Third Party Funding for Arbitration published by the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong and the views of the Steering Committee on Mediation.

CHP investigates case of severe paediatric influenza A infection and outbreak of influenza A at residential child care centre in Causeway Bay

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) is today (February 1) investigating a case of severe paediatric influenza A infection and an outbreak of influenza A at a residential child care centre in Causeway Bay.

The severe paediatric case involves a 15-month-old boy with good past health, who has presented with fever and cough since January 30 and developed

convulsion yesterday (January 31). He was taken to Union Hospital for medical attention yesterday and was referred and admitted to Prince of Wales Hospital for management on the same day.

His nasopharyngeal aspirate tested positive for influenza A virus upon laboratory testing. The clinical diagnosis was influenza A infection complicated with encephalopathy. He is now in a stable condition.

Initial enquiries revealed that the patient had not received seasonal influenza vaccination for the current season and had no travel history during the incubation period. His mother developed upper respiratory tract infection symptoms recently and has sought medical attention. She is in a stable condition and no hospitalisation is required. His other home contacts have remained asymptomatic so far.

The outbreak of influenza A at the residential child care centre in Causeway Bay affected 13 boys and nine girls, aged 5 months to 4, who have developed fever, cough and runny nose since January 11. All of them sought medical attention. Among them, 10 required hospitalisation and five of them were discharged following treatment. All patients have been in a stable condition. The respiratory specimens of three children tested positive for influenza A upon laboratory testing.

Officers of the CHP have conducted a site visit and advised the centre to adopt necessary infection control measures against respiratory tract infections. The centre has been placed under medical surveillance.

"While the percentage that tested positive for seasonal influenza viruses among the respiratory specimens received by the CHP's Public Health Laboratory Services Branch has slightly decreased in the past week, we expect that the local influenza activity may remain at an elevated level for some time. We urge the community to continue heightening its vigilance against seasonal influenza. As young children are particularly affected in this influenza season, we appeal to parents who have not yet arranged vaccination for their children in this season to do so as soon as possible to strengthen their personal protection," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Apart from children, people aged 50 to 64 years, the elderly and those with underlying illnesses who have not yet received influenza vaccination this season are also urged to get vaccinated as early as possible to prevent seasonal influenza as it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in the body after vaccination. Medical advice should be sought promptly if influenza-like symptoms develop so that appropriate treatment can be initiated as early as possible to prevent potential complications. Parents and carers are reminded to render assistance in prevention, care and control for vulnerable people.

Besides receiving seasonal influenza vaccination as early as possible for personal protection, the public should maintain good personal and environmental hygiene for protection against influenza and other respiratory illnesses. For more information, please visit the CHP's <u>influenza page</u> and weekly <u>Flu Express</u>.

Temporary traffic and transport arrangements for tram track renewal works in Wan Chai District from next Friday

The Transport Department (TD) today (February 1) reminded the public that to facilitate tram track renewal work at Hennessy Road, parts of the traffic lane of Hennessy Road westbound near Percival Street will be temporarily closed in stages from about 10am next Friday (February 8) to 6am on February 13 (Wednesday).

To facilitate the above work, New World First Bus (NWFB) route Nos. 2A, 2X, 8 and 8P (to Wan Chai North) will be diverted via Leighton Road, Morrison Hill Road and Tin Lok Lane starting from about 10am on February 8 to 6am on February 13, before resuming their original routings. In connection with the above bus diversion, the bus stop of NWFB route Nos. 2A, 2X and 8P outside Hysan Place and the bus stop of NWFB route No. 8 opposite Hong Kong Mansion will be temporarily relocated to Leighton Road outside the Post Office Recreation Club.

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected on-site to guide motorists.

The TD anticipates that the traffic in the vicinity of the above road sections will be relatively busy. Motorists should exercise tolerance and patience in case of traffic congestion. Members of the public are advised to be alert to the latest traffic news or the department's website (www.td.gov.hk).