

# [IFFO hosts infrastructure finance workshop with Professor Akash Deep of Harvard Kennedy School \(with photos\)](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office (IFFO) hosted a workshop on infrastructure finance on November 19 and 20, led by Professor Akash Deep of the Harvard Kennedy School and attended by close to 40 senior executives of IFFO partners and firms active in infrastructure financing.

The workshop used real-life cases in both emerging and developed markets to demonstrate how various financing structures, risk mitigation techniques and corporate governance measures could enhance the bankability of infrastructure projects. It also discussed ways to manage the complex relationships between various stakeholders in public-private partnerships.

Attendees to the workshop included project developers and operators, commercial and policy banks, investors and asset managers, professional service firms, and public organisations.

The Deputy Chief Executive of the HKMA and Director of the IFFO, Mr Eddie Yue, said, "IFFO is pleased to collaborate with Professor Akash Deep again on capacity building. Through workshops such as this, IFFO can play a useful role to narrow the expectation gaps between public and private sector stakeholders in, and improve the bankability of, emerging market infrastructure projects."





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## **Update on cluster of Rhinovirus cases in Siu Lam Hospital**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients infected with Rhinovirus in a male ward for severe intellectual disability, the spokesperson for Siu Lam Hospital gave the following update today (November 20):

One more 65-year-old patient in the ward presented with respiratory symptoms. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patient and the test results were positive for Rhinovirus. The patient concerned is being treated under isolation with stable condition.

Admission to the ward has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The case has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.

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## **Consumer Price Indices for October 2018**

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (November 20)

the Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures for October 2018. According to the Composite CPI, overall consumer prices rose by 2.7% in October 2018 over the same month a year earlier, remaining virtually unchanged as compared to September 2018. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the year-on-year rate of increase in the Composite CPI (i.e. the underlying inflation rate) in October 2018 was 3.0%, slightly smaller than that in September 2018 (3.1%), mainly due to the smaller increases in the prices of fresh vegetables and the charges for package tours.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the average monthly rate of increase in the Composite CPI for the three-month period from August to October 2018 was 0.2%, the same as that for the three-month period from July to September 2018. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the average monthly rate of increase in the Composite CPI for the three-month period from August to October 2018 was 0.2%, the same as that for the three-month period from July to September 2018.

Analysed by sub-index, the year-on-year rates of increase in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 3.2%, 2.5% and 2.3% respectively in October 2018, as compared to 3.3%, 2.5% and 2.4% respectively in September 2018. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the year-on-year rates of increase in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 3.5%, 2.9% and 2.6% respectively in October 2018, as compared to 3.6%, 2.9% and 2.7% respectively in September 2018.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, for the three-month period from August to October 2018, the average monthly rates of increase in the seasonally adjusted CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 0.3%, 0.2% and 0.2% respectively. The corresponding rates of increase for the three-month period from July to September 2018 were 0.3%, 0.2% and 0.1% respectively. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the corresponding average monthly rates of increase in the seasonally adjusted CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) for the three-month period from August to October 2018 were 0.3%, 0.2% and 0.2% respectively, same as those for the three-month period from July to September 2018.

Amongst the various CPI components, year-on-year increases in prices were recorded in October 2018 for electricity, gas and water (4.1% in the Composite CPI and 4.6% in the CPI(A)); food (excluding meals bought away from home) (3.9% in the Composite CPI and 3.8% in the CPI(A)); alcoholic drinks and tobacco (3.5% in the Composite CPI and 3.3% in the CPI(A)); housing (3.0% in the Composite CPI and 4.4% in the CPI(A)); meals bought away from home (2.7% in both the Composite CPI and CPI(A)); miscellaneous services (2.7% in the Composite CPI and 1.8% in the CPI(A)); clothing and footwear (2.0% in the Composite CPI and 2.8% in the CPI(A)); transport (1.6% in the Composite CPI and 1.9% in the CPI(A)) and miscellaneous goods (1.5% in the Composite CPI and 1.9% in the CPI(A)).

On the other hand, year-on-year decrease in prices was recorded in October 2018 for durable goods (-1.8% in both the Composite CPI and CPI(A)).

Taking the first 10 months of 2018 together, the Composite CPI rose by 2.4% over a year earlier. The corresponding increases in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 2.7%, 2.3% and 2.2% respectively. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the Composite CPI, CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) rose by 2.6%, 2.9%, 2.6% and 2.4% respectively in the first 10 months of 2018 over a year earlier.

For the three months ended October 2018, the Composite CPI rose by 2.5% over a year earlier, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) rose by 3.0%, 2.4% and 2.2% respectively. The corresponding increases after netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures were 2.9%, 3.3%, 2.9% and 2.5% respectively.

For the 12 months ended October 2018, the Composite CPI was on average 2.3% higher than that in the preceding 12-month period. The respective increases in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 2.5%, 2.2% and 2.1% respectively. The corresponding increases after netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures were 2.4%, 2.6%, 2.4% and 2.3% respectively.

#### Commentary

A Government spokesman said that the underlying inflation rate went down marginally to 3.0% in October, as fresh vegetable prices and charges for package tours recorded less rapid increases. The inflation rate may still be subject to some mild upward pressure in the coming months, due to rising local costs and continued feed-through of the earlier rises in fresh-letting residential rentals. The Government will monitor the situation closely, particularly the impact on the lower-income people.

#### Further information

The CPIs and year-on-year rates of change at section level for October 2018 are shown in Table 1. The time series on the year-on-year rates of change in the CPIs before and after removing the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures are shown in Table 2. For discerning the latest trend in consumer prices, it is also useful to look at the changes in the seasonally adjusted CPIs. The corresponding time series on the average monthly rates of change during the latest three months for the seasonally adjusted CPIs are shown in Table 3. The rates of change in the original and the seasonally adjusted Composite CPI and the underlying inflation rate are presented graphically in Chart 1.

More detailed CPI data (including year-on-year comparison, month-to-month comparison, seasonally adjusted data series and the CPIs by the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP)) are available in the monthly reports. Users can download the October 2018 issue of the "Monthly Report on the Consumer Price Index"

([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=B1060001](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=B1060001)), the time series of CPIs at detailed level

([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600001](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600001)), the time series of CPIs at COICOP division level

([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600002](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600002)) and the time series of CPIs after netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures

([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600003](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp270.jsp?productCode=D5600003)) free of charge at the website of the C&SD.

For enquiries about the CPIs, please contact the Consumer Price Index Section of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7374 or email: [cpi@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:cpi@censtatd.gov.hk)).

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## [Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Notes tender results](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Notes tender results:

Tender date	:	November 20, 2018
Paper on offer	:	EF Notes
Issue number	:	02Y2011
Issue date	:	November 21, 2018
Maturity date	:	November 23, 2020
Coupon	:	2.08% p.a.
Competitive tender result		
Amount applied	:	HK\$6,330 MN
Amount allotted	:	HK\$1,200 MN
Average price accepted (yield)	:	100.26 (1.96 PCT)
Lowest price accepted (yield)	:	100.23 (1.97 PCT)
Pro rata ratio	:	About 91 PCT
Average tender price (yield)	:	100.08 (2.05 PCT)
Non-competitive tender results (for applications submitted through Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited)		
Amount applied	:	0
Amount allotted	:	0
Allotment Price (yield)	:	NIL

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## [Effective Exchange Rate Index](#)

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday,

November 20, 2018 is 105.6 (same as yesterday's index).