

Shek O Beach temporarily closed

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 (July 17) that Shek O Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island has been temporarily closed until further notice for maintenance work on the shark prevention net. The red flag has been hoisted at the beach. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach. The red flag was hoisted earlier due to big waves.

Central recruitment day under e-Learning Support Scheme to be held by Labour Department on July 20

The Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) of the Labour Department (LD) will hold a central recruitment day under the e-Learning Support Scheme (eLSS) on July 20.

The eLSS provides pre-employment and on-the-job training opportunities for young people who wish to pursue their career in information technology, education and multimedia sectors, and equips them with necessary skills and experience. The LD held two central recruitment days in June to allow participating schools to arrange on-the-spot interviews for young people attending the central recruitment days. Young people who are employed as e-Learning Support Officer will receive 100 hours of pre-employment training for free in July and August and then commence on-the-job training in the coming academic year.

As graduates will search for jobs after the release of the results of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, the YETP is going to hold one more central recruitment day under the eLSS with details as follows:

Date: July 20 (Friday)

Time: 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm

(Different schools in two sessions)

Venue: Exhibition Centre, Block H, 3/F, Pui Ching Middle School,
20 Pui Ching Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong

(around a 10 to 15-minute walk from Mong Kok East MTR Station or

Yau Ma Tei MTR Exit A2)

Interested young people are welcome to browse the dedicated website at www.yes.labour.gov.hk/Employers/EmpJOBelss/Index or call the hotline at 2382 1310 for more information on the central recruitment day.

Civic Education Exhibition to be held at Hong Kong Book Fair

The following is issued on behalf of the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education:

Members of the public are invited to visit the Civic Education Exhibition 2018 to be held at the Hong Kong Book Fair 2018 (Booth 3B-C36, Children's Paradise). The exhibition will be open from tomorrow (July 18) to July 24 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The exhibition is jointly organised by the Home Affairs Bureau and the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), with a focus on promoting the civic values of respect, inclusiveness, responsibility and love. It will also feature information and publications on civic education. Visitors are welcome to take part in a workshop and an interactive game as well as receive souvenirs at the booth.

The organisers will hold a ceremony for the exhibition at noon on Friday (July 20) at the stage in Children's Paradise. Apart from a dance performance by ethnic minorities and a Youth Square Cheongsam Angels' performance, the ceremony will feature a performance by singer Mag Lam. In addition, the performers will share with participants their views on civic values such as respect and inclusiveness.

For details, please call 3509 7027 or visit the CPCE's website (www.cpce.gov.hk/main/en/promo_bookfair18.html).

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

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

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results:

Tender date : July 17, 2018
 Paper on offer : EF Bills
 Issue number : Q1829
 Issue date : July 18, 2018
 Maturity date : October 18, 2018
 Amount applied : HK\$135,465 MN
 Amount allotted : HK\$58,373 MN
 Average yield accepted : 1.54 PCT
 Highest yield accepted : 1.58 PCT
 Pro rata ratio : About 41 PCT
 Average tender yield : 1.60 PCT

Tender date : July 17, 2018
 Paper on offer : EF Bills
 Issue number : H1858
 Issue date : July 18, 2018
 Maturity date : January 16, 2019
 Amount applied : HK\$52,300 MN
 Amount allotted : HK\$18,000 MN
 Average yield accepted : 1.69 PCT
 Highest yield accepted : 1.72 PCT
 Pro rata ratio : About 96 PCT
 Average tender yield : 1.81 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Tenders to be held in the week beginning July 23:

Tender date : July 24, 2018
 Paper on offer : EF Bills
 Issue number : Q1830
 Issue date : July 25, 2018
 Maturity date : October 24, 2018
 Tenor : 91 Days
 Amount on offer : HK\$57,743 MN

Tender date : July 24, 2018
 Paper on offer : EF Bills
 Issue number : H1859
 Issue date : July 25, 2018
 Maturity date : January 23, 2019
 Tenor : 182 Days

Employers and employees should take precautions against heat stroke

As the Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning, the Labour Department (LD) reminds employers and employees to take appropriate precautions to prevent heat stroke when working in a hot or humid environment.

Heat stroke could occur if an employee works in a hot or humid environment for prolonged periods of time, as the body may fail to regulate its temperature by effective heat dissipation through sweating.

The early symptoms of heat stroke include feeling thirsty, fatigue, nausea and headache. Later, the victim may experience shortness of breath, rapid and weak pulse, dizziness, confusion or even loss of consciousness and convulsion.

For example, construction workers, cleaning workers, kitchen workers and porters are more prone to heat stroke when working for long hours in such an environment, especially if appropriate preventive measures have not been taken.

The LD reminds employers to arrange for a suitable assessment of the risk of heat stress in the work environment and take appropriate preventive measures. The LD has produced two leaflets entitled "Checklist for Heat Stress Assessment at Construction Sites" and "Checklist for Heat Stress Assessment at Outdoor Cleansing Workplaces" respectively. Employers engaged in construction or outdoor cleaning work are advised to refer to these checklists in assessing the risk of heat stress at their workplaces. As for heat stress assessment at a workplace in general, employers can refer to a booklet entitled "Risk Assessment for the Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work" produced by the LD.

The LD also reminds employers and employees to take the following precautions to prevent heat stroke:

Employers

- (1) Take heed of the weather report and adopt shift work arrangements for employees to reduce their exposure to the hot environment, or arrange appropriate rest breaks for them during very hot periods;
- (2) Avoid working under direct sunlight and set up temporary sunshade wherever possible;
- (3) Provide cool potable water for employees at all times during work. If

necessary, provide drinks containing minerals for employees to replenish loss of electrolytes during profuse sweating;

(4) Minimise physical demands by using tools or mechanical aids at work;

(5) Increase air flow by enhancing ventilation or air-conditioning as appropriate;

(6) Isolate heat-generating facilities at the workplace and use insulating materials to minimise heat dissipation to the other work areas; and

(7) Provide relevant information and training for employees on heat stroke such as preventive measures and first aid treatment.

Employees

(1) Wear clothing made of suitable materials (for example, cotton) that is loose-fitting and light-coloured to help heat dissipation, minimise heat absorption and allow sweat evaporation;

(2) Wear a wide-brimmed hat when working outdoors;

(3) Drink plenty of water or other appropriate beverages to replenish the fluids and electrolytes lost through sweating; and

(4) Whenever there are any symptoms of heat stroke, inform supervisors and take appropriate actions immediately.

Some employees may have difficulty in adapting to a hot working environment owing to their own health conditions. Employers should take this into account and consider the recommendations of their doctors when assigning work to these employees.

In addition to the publications on risk assessment, the LD has produced a leaflet entitled "Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work in a Hot Environment" for the public. The publications can be obtained free of charge from the offices of the Occupational Health Service of the LD, or downloaded from the department's webpage at www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/content2_9.htm.

The LD organises occupational health talks in public places and at its own training venues regularly to raise employers' and employees' awareness of occupational health. Details of health talks on the prevention of heat stroke at work in a hot environment in July to September are as follows:

(A)

Dates: July 24; August 2, 13 and 30; and September 13 and 24 (am)

July 20 and 30; August 8 and 22; and September 5, 20 and 27 (pm)

Time: Half-day

Venue: Occupational Safety and Health Training Centre of the Labour Department, 13/F, Kowloon Tsuen Wan I, 68 Chung On Street, Tsuen Wan, New Territories

(B)

Dates: July 27 and August 10 and 20

Time: Half-day, morning

Venue: Occupational Safety and Health Centre of the Labour Department, G/F, Kwun Tong Community Health Centre Building, 60 Hip Wo Street, Kwun Tong (MTR Kwun Tong Station Exit A1)

(C)

Date: August 13

Time: 3pm to 4.30pm

Venue: Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road,
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station Exit E)

(D)

Date: September 14

Time: 3pm to 4.30pm

Venue: Activity Room I, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
(Opposite Victoria Park, MTR Tin Hau Station Exit B)

For enrolment or enquiries about these occupational health talks, please call 2852 4040 or 2361 8240 (for talks organised at the Occupational Safety and Health Centre). Moreover, the LD also provides an outreach health education service and occupational health nurses will, on invitation, disseminate occupational health information at workplaces at a convenient time. Please contact the nursing officer at 2852 4062 for details. All these health talks are free of charge.