

## **Red flags hoisted at several beaches**

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 15) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Deep Water Bay Beach, Repulse Bay Beach, Middle Bay Beach, South Bay Beach, Chung Hom Kok Beach, St Stephen's Beach, Stanley Main Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Kwun Yam Beach, Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach, Upper Cheung Sha Beach, Lower Cheung Sha Beach and Tong Fuk Beach in Islands District; Trio Beach, Hap Mun Bay Beach, Silverstrand Beach, Clear Water Bay First Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

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## **Speech by CS at Installation Ceremony**

# of Rotary International District 3450 (English only)

Following is the speech by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, at the Installation Ceremony of Rotary International District 3450 today (July 14):

Dr Ho (District Governor 2018-19 of Rotary International District 3450, Dr Ho Yu-cheung), Mr Fung (District Governor 2017-18 of Rotary International District 3450, Mr Fung Hing-wang), Ms Hui (District Installation Organising Committee Chair of Rotary International District 3450, Ms Angela Hui), distinguished guests, Rotarians, ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening. It gives me great pleasure to join you all at the Installation Ceremony of Rotary International District 3450. First of all, I would like to extend my warmest congratulation to Dr Ho on his election as the next District Governor. My heartfelt appreciation also goes to Mr Fung for his sterling contribution and outstanding leadership throughout his tenure.

Since the establishment of their first club in 1905, "Service above Self" has been the primary motto of all Rotarians. After more than 110 years of development, the Rotary has grown from a four-member club to an international service organisation of over 35 000 member clubs and 1.2 million Rotarians across 200 countries and regions worldwide.

Rotary International District 3450 is one of the leading districts in the Rotary family. It represents more than 90 Rotary clubs in Hong Kong, Macao, Mongolia and Guangdong. For decades, Rotary clubs in District 3450 have devoted their passion, energy and intelligence to improving the livelihood of millions of people in these regions through a wide spectrum of projects covering areas such as poverty alleviation, education and youth service, health and medical care, and social inclusion.

The spirit of Rotary resonates well with the HKSAR Government's vision of building a caring and inclusive society in Hong Kong. Poverty alleviation and support for the disadvantaged are among the top priorities on our policy agenda. The recurrent government expenditure on social welfare is expected to reach \$79.8 billion in 2018-19, or 55 per cent higher than five years ago. The amount constitutes 19.6 per cent of Government's total recurrent expenditure, second only to education.

According to the latest figures, our recurrent cash policies lifted 360 000 persons out of poverty in 2016 or a reduction of poverty rate by 5.2 percentage points, from 19.9 per cent to 14.7 per cent. In addition, non-recurrent cash benefits such as provision of rates waiver and additional social security payments further reduced the poverty rate to 13.7 per cent, while means-tested in-kind benefits comprising mainly public rental housing lifted an additional 287 300 persons out of poverty and further reduced the

poverty rate by 3.3 per cent to 10.4 per cent.

Nurturing our next generation is another steadfast commitment of the current-term Government. We are committed to creating more opportunities and providing more support for them to unleash their potential. In doing so, young people will see hope and opportunities for upward mobility.

To improve education quality, the current-term Government has pledged to boost recurrent education expenditure by \$5 billion, of which \$3.6 billion has been approved by the Legislative Council. An additional recurrent expenditure of \$2 billion has further been allocated for enhancing the professional development of teachers, strengthening support to kindergartens and promoting integrated education and life-wide learning. We also provide an average of more than 70 000 annual places for our youth to participate in exchange and internship programmes on the Mainland including the Bay Area and overseas to broaden their horizon and exposure to work culture in different places.

We have also launched two collaboration projects, namely the "Future Stars" Programme and "Life Buddies" Mentoring Scheme to encourage businesses and members of the public to become mentors to give inspiration and advice to the younger generation. We have also launched the Youth Hostel Scheme and Space Sharing Scheme for Youth to support young people in pursuing their career and even starting their own businesses.

In addition, three new high-level commissions, namely the Commission on Children, Youth Development Commission and Human Resources Planning Commission, have been set up under my chairmanship to oversee holistically key development stages of our next generation, from childhood and youth development to career planning, with a view to helping our young people to chart their way forward and realise fully their potential. I have also set up a steering committee to enhance collaboration within the Government on strengthening support to encourage and facilitate the integration of ethnic minorities into society. We have set aside \$500 million for this good cause.

However, to enhance the livelihood of our people, Government's efforts alone are not enough. We need the support of all sectors of the community like Rotary International District 3450 to help create a better place for all. Indeed, I am most delighted to learn that, with Dr Ho at the helm, Rotary is formulating a youth hostel scheme to provide affordable rental units for young people.

On this encouraging note, I would like to express my warmest appreciation to Rotary International District 3450 for your enduring support for creating a caring, compassionate, cohesive and harmonious Hong Kong. I wish the District 3450 under the leadership of Dr Ho another fruitful year ahead and all of you an enjoyable evening. Thank you.

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# Speech by SCS at Junior Chamber International Tsuen Wan 5th Anniversary Dinner (English only)

Following is the speech by the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Joshua Law, at the Junior Chamber International (JCI) Tsuen Wan 5th Anniversary Dinner tonight (July 14):

President Kan (JCI Hong Kong 2018 National President, Mr Ronald Kan), Ms Lam (National Assigned Executive Officer, Ms Iris Lam), President Kung (President of JCI Tsuen Wan, Mr Brian Kung), Ms Wan (Banquet Chairlady, Ms Katie Wan), ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening. It gives me great pleasure to join you all at the 5th Anniversary Dinner of Junior Chamber International Tsuen Wan.

Over the past few years, JCI Tsuen Wan has undergone notable development in advancing its own leadership development and community projects. It also collaborates with JCI Hong Kong to work for the betterment of our society. As the pioneer JCI local chapter which attaches importance to the transformation of family businesses, JCI Tsuen Wan conducts the annual flagship project Outstanding Family Business Legacy Selection to provide young leaders with insights on the key factors in leadership and management strategies that drive innovation and transformation. On the social front, JCI Tsuen Wan is particularly devoted to promoting children's play rights. This is indeed a visionary initiative, for we could hardly expect a caring society if our next generation is not brought up in a mentally healthy state. Such remarkable achievements would not have been possible without the passion and devotion of JCI Tsuen Wan's office bearers from a wide range of trades and businesses.

Today we celebrate the 5th anniversary of JCI Tsuen Wan. In terms of age, the current-term Government under Mrs Carrie Lam, our Chief Executive, is much younger. So we are even more energetic. Since the inauguration a year ago, we have handled together a number of highly politically charged subjects, including the passage of the relevant legislation for the co-location arrangements in connection with the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link. Despite such controversies, I think most people would agree that our society is moving forward on the right track. I am sure that many of you have also noted the positive changes on various fronts with our new style of governance.

In the past year, Hong Kong enjoyed robust economic growth, with a 3.8 per cent increase in real Gross Domestic Product in 2017 being followed by an even higher 4.7 per cent in the first quarter of 2018. All economic indicators in the last couple of months showed that our economic performance remained impressive. While total employment continued to record sturdy growth, the unemployment rate dropped to a 20-year low of 2.8 per cent and people's earnings registered real improvements in general.

Yet, there is no room for complacency. While fortifying the pillar industries of Hong Kong, the current-term Government has been striving to diversify our economy. In this regard, innovation and technology is considered to be the key to the future economic drive. So we have been speeding up the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong in an unprecedented pace, through diverse means such as investment in infrastructure, collaboration on research and development, nurturing start-ups and promoting the development of industries. From a broader perspective, we are also working in full swing to grasp the vast opportunities presented by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area development.

On the back of our positive economic outlook, we will make our continued efforts to improve people's livelihood, covering a wide spectrum of initiatives from improving the teaching and learning environment, relieving the pressure on public hospitals to increasing the provision of elderly care and child care services. Right now, some 60 per cent of our recurrent budget is spent on education, social welfare and medical services. Needless to say, housing has been on the top of our agenda. Last month, the Chief Executive announced a package of housing policy initiatives, pending the conclusion of the public discussion on measures to increase land supply. Please rest assured that we are determined to address the community's housing need.

Turning now to my portfolio which relates to the overall management of the civil service, in order to better equip civil servants to meet rising public expectations, we are planning for a new civil service college. In line with the Government's population policy, we will soon launch the initiative of allowing serving civil servants who joined the Government between June 2000 and May 2015 to choose to extend their service until 65 (for civilian civil servants) or 60 (for disciplined services). In 2018-19, the civil service establishment is expected to increase by 6 700 posts, or about 3.7 per cent, the highest year-on-year increase since reunification. The strengthened manpower could hopefully enhance the delivery of public services while relieving the work pressure of our civil servants.

Young people are our future. In line with the "we care, we listen, we act" approach, the current-term Government has put much emphasis on intensifying our connection with young people. Our objective is very clear, that is to give specific attention to issues on youth education, career pursuit and home ownership as well as the participation of young people in politics and their engagement in public policy discussion and debate. In Chinese, we call it "ä, %ä, %ä" ïl¼šä, äYä€Öä° <äYäÖšç½®äYi¼> è- °ä" ïä€Öè«-ä" ïäÖšäÖfä" ï".

In this respect, we have established a high-level Youth Development Commission chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration to enhance policy co-ordination within the Government. This will enable holistic and more effective discussion on issues of concern to our young people. We have also introduced and subsequently formalised the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth for civic-minded young people to serve on advisory boards or committees so that their voices could be more directly heard. The Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office, which is re-organised

from the former Central Policy Unit, has also recruited about 20 young people aspiring to pursue a career in policy research so that they can gain experience in public administration.

In charting the future of Hong Kong, we need your staunch support. We also welcome very much your views, for example in the ongoing consultation for the 2018 Policy Address, so that we could shape our policies having due regard to the youth dimension. You may even consider playing your part in the government machinery as a way to serve the community. As I just mentioned, there will be thousands of civil service posts on offer. Let me call upon all of you to work together for the betterment of Hong Kong.

Finally, I wish JCI Tsuen Wan every success in the years ahead and wish you all an enjoyable evening. Thank you.

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## **Winning entries of contests to promote "Healthy Information, Healthy Mind" announced**

The Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) today (July 14) awarded prizes of the 2017 Healthy Mobile Phone/Tablet Apps Contest and the 2017 Meritorious Websites Contest, and announced the results of the 9th Healthy Internet Video Contest. These programmes seek to promote the message of "Healthy Information, Healthy Mind" and advise youngsters to stay away from objectionable information.

The Healthy Mobile Phone/Tablet Apps Nomination Programme has been held since 2011. Starting from last year, public voting has been added with a view to encouraging public participation and the use of apps with healthy, practical and educational contents in the community. A total of 283 app nominations were received and more than 5 600 participants cast their votes this year. After assessing the apps against the criteria including promotion of the development of a healthy mind, educational value, practicality and creativity, the judging panel has selected the following 10 winning apps (in alphabetical order):

1. Backpackers Map
2. Capheart
3. EC Dictionary
4. Food Bank for Persons with Hypertension
5. Hiking Guide
6. Hong Kong Astronomy
7. Kitchen Stories
8. Money Tracker – The Chin Family
9. Star Hoppers

## 10. Yahoo News Hong Kong

The Meritorious Websites Contest was first held in 2000 and has entered its 18th year. The programme, with the theme "Surf Smartly and Spend Time Wisely" this year, seeks to encourage website producers to develop healthy websites for young people. A total of 183 nominations were received and more than 11 000 participants cast their votes. The 10 winners of the 2017 Meritorious Websites Contest, covering a wide range of topics such as healthy diet, voluntary services, local history, family bonding, conservation, child education and powerful talks, are as follows (in alphabetical order):

1. BBC Bitesize Highlights
2. British Council LearnEnglish Kids
3. Department of Health EatSmart Website
4. Food Angel
5. Happy Family Info Hub
6. Hong Kong Memory
7. KiddieWorld
8. Médecins Sans Frontières (Hong Kong)
9. Planting HK
10. TED: Ideas worth spreading

Details of the winning apps and websites are available at [www.merit.gov.hk](http://www.merit.gov.hk).

The 9th Healthy Internet Video Contest was co-organised by OFNAA and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. The programme aimed to encourage healthy and responsible online behaviour among youngsters and to advise them to stay away from harmful online materials.

A total of 131 entries (comprising 104 school entries and 27 public entries) competed for the awards of Best Video, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Actor/Actress and Best Visual Effects. The winning entries for Best Video selected by an adjudication panel are as follows:

Champion: VR Game

First Runner-up: A woman behind Youtuber

Second Runner-up: Horizon

In addition, the new award School with Highest Number of Entries has been introduced this year with a view to encouraging participation. The award was won by Kwun Tong Kung Lok Government Secondary School.

Members of the public may visit [healthyvideo.m21.hk/2018/intro.php](http://healthyvideo.m21.hk/2018/intro.php) to view the winning entries.