

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	: May 18, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Notes
Issue number	: 02Y2005
Issue date	: May 21, 2018
Maturity date	: May 21, 2020
Coupon	1.79%
Competitive Tender Result	
Amount applied	: HK\$6,250 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$1,200 MN
Average price accepted (yield)	: 99.75 (1.93 PCT)
Lowest price accepted (yield)	: 99.74 (1.93 PCT)
Pro rata ratio	: About 90 PCT
Average tender price (yield)	: 99.50 (2.06 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

LegCo Public Accounts Committee will hold public hearing

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will hold a public hearing on "Integrated education" (Chapter 3) of the Director of Audit's Report No.70 at 2.30pm next Monday (May 21) in Conference Room 2 of the LegCo Complex.

Seven witnesses have been invited to appear before the above hearing to respond to points raised in the Report and answer questions asked by PAC members.

The programme for the public hearing is as follows:

May 21 (Monday)

Venue: Conference Room 2

2.30pm

Subject: Integrated education (Chapter 3 of the Director of Audit's Report No.70)

Witnesses:

Secretary for Education

Mr Kevin Yeung

Permanent Secretary for Education

Mrs Ingrid Yeung

Deputy Secretary for Education (3)

Mrs Michelle Wong

Principal Assistant Secretary (Special Education), Education Bureau

Mr Godwin Lai

Principal Education Officer (Special Education), Education Bureau

Dr Verena Lau

Senior Specialist (Speech Therapy), Education Bureau

Miss Louise Hui

Senior Specialist (Special Education Support 4), Education Bureau

Mr Martin Mui

PAC is chaired by Mr Abraham Shek, and its Deputy Chairman is Mr Kenneth Leung. Other members include Mr Paul Tse, Mr Steven Ho, Mr Lam Cheuk-ting, Mr Shiu Ka-fai and Ms Tanya Chan.

Illegal worker jailed

An Indonesian illegal worker holding a recognisance form was jailed at Shatin Magistrates' Courts yesterday (May 17).

Immigration Department (ImmD) investigators received a referral from the Hong Kong Police Force to further investigate an illegal employment case in April. Enforcement officers arrested a female Indonesian worker, aged 40, washing dishes at a restaurant in Tai Po. Upon identity checking, she produced for inspection a recognisance form issued by the ImmD, which prohibits her from taking employment. Further investigation revealed that she was a non-refoulement claimant. An employer suspected of employing the

illegal worker was arrested and the investigation is ongoing.

The illegal worker was charged at Shatin Magistrates' Courts yesterday with taking employment after landing in Hong Kong unlawfully and remaining in Hong Kong without the authority of the Director of Immigration or while being a person in respect of whom a removal order or deportation order was in force. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment.

The ImmD spokesman warned that, as stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, illegal immigrants or people who are the subject of a removal order or a deportation order are prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment. The Court of Appeal has issued a guideline ruling that a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment should be applied in such cases.

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$350,000. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence. According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. The maximum penalty for failing to inspect such a document is imprisonment for one year and a fine of \$150,000.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct initial screening of vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in the initial screening, the officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threat and coercion in the recruitment phase, and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent interference, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.

Tenders invited for government properties tenancy

The Government Property Agency is inviting tenders for a three-year tenancy of government properties at China Hong Kong City, China Ferry Terminal, 33 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, and the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal, Sheung Wan.

The properties should be used for general retail purposes only (including storage, sale and display of duty-free liquor, cigarettes, cigars and other tobacco products but excluding any goods or commodities that are prohibited under the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60), any regulations made thereunder and any amending legislations).

The tender notice was uploaded today (May 18) to the Agency's website: www.gpa.gov.hk. Tender documents are available for collection at the Government Property Agency, 31/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, during office hours (8.30am to 5.45pm from Mondays to Fridays). The documents can also be downloaded from the Agency's website.

Interested tenderers who wish to inspect the sites should make prior appointment with the Government Property Agency by calling 2594 7697 on or before May 25.

Tenderers must submit their tenders by placing them in the Government Logistics Department Tender Box at G/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, before noon on June 8, 2018. Late tenders will not be accepted.

New regulation in relation to ships' ballast water proposed

The Government proposes to make a new regulation under the Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Ordinance to incorporate the latest requirements of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) into local legislation.

â€‹ The new Merchant Shipping (Control of Ballast Water and Sediments) Regulation seeks to implement the latest requirements of the Convention to regulate the discharge of ballast water of ships by establishing standards and procedures for the management and control of ships' ballast water and

sediments.

â€‹ A spokesman for the Transport and Housing Bureau said today (May 18), "Major requirements of the Convention include requiring ships to conduct ballast water exchange before discharge, as well as to keep a ballast water management plan and a ballast water record book on board. The requirements will apply to all ocean-going vessels (OGVs) registered in Hong Kong and all OGVs within Hong Kong waters."

â€‹ The Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development and the relevant consultative committee of the Marine Department have been consulted. Members supported the legislative proposal.

â€‹ The legislative proposal was gazetted today and will be tabled at the Legislative Council on May 23 for negative vetting.