

[Phishing message and fraudulent website related to Alipay Financial Services \(HK\) Limited](#)

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a [press release](#) issued by Alipay Financial Services (HK) Limited relating to a phishing message and a fraudulent website. The relevant stored value facility (SVF) licensee has reported the case to the HKMA.

The fraudulent website reported by the SVF licensee known at the time is as follows:

[https://alikhkpay\[.\]com/YTGaB](https://alikhkpay[.]com/YTGaB)

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that anyone who has provided his or her personal information or account credentials, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the message and the website concerned, should contact the relevant SVF licensee, and report to the Police or contact the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre of the Police at 18222.

[Commissioner of Customs and Excise welcomes China National Intellectual Property Administration delegation's visit to Hong Kong Customs \(with photos\)](#)

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Mr Chan welcomed Dr Lu and his delegation to visit Hong Kong Customs and chaired a meeting. During the meeting, both parties discussed several topics, including collaboration with relevant government departments and agencies, and close co-operation with the intellectual property industry.

Mr Chan said that Hong Kong Customs has officially assumed the post of the Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific region of the World Customs

Organization since last year. Hong Kong Customs will host international conferences and plan large-scale regional enforcement operations and capacity-building activities during the tenure, putting the concept of integrating into national development into practice and hence help develop Hong Kong into a regional intellectual property trading hub.



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[Consumer Price Indices for January 2025](#)

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (February 20) the Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures for January 2025. According to the Composite CPI, overall consumer prices rose by 2.0% in January 2025 over the same month a year earlier, larger than the corresponding increase (1.4%) in December 2024. The larger increase was attributable to the waiver of the extra public housing rent payable that ended in December 2024, as well as the increases in inbound and outbound transport fares and basic food prices due to the Chinese New Year effect. 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 January 2025 was 1.6%, also larger than that in December 2024 (1.3%). The larger increase was also attributed to the increases in inbound and outbound transport fares and basic food prices due to the Chinese New Year effect.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the average monthly rate of increase in the Composite CPI for the 3-month period ending January 2025 was 0.1%, the same as that for the 3-month period ending December 2024. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the corresponding rates of increase were 0.1% and 0.2%.

Analysed by sub-index, the year-on-year rates of increase in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 2.5%, 1.7% and 1.7% respectively in January 2025, as compared to 1.7%, 1.4% and 1.2% respectively in December 2024. 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 1.9%, 1.5% and 1.5% respectively in January 2025, as compared to 1.6%, 1.2% and 1.1% respectively in December 2024.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, for the 3-month period ending January 2025, the average monthly rates of change in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 0.2%, 0.1% and 0.1% respectively. The corresponding rates of change for

the 3-month period ending December 2024 were all 0.1%. Netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures, the average monthly rates of change in the seasonally adjusted CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) for the 3-month period ending January 2025 were 0.0%, 0.1% and 0.1% respectively, and the corresponding rates of change for the 3-month period ending December 2024 were 0.3%, 0.1% and 0.1% respectively.

Amongst the various components of the Composite CPI, year-on-year increases in prices were recorded in January 2025 for alcoholic drinks and tobacco (20.7%), electricity, gas and water (13.2%), transport (4.0%), miscellaneous services (2.8%), meals out and takeaway food (1.7%), housing (1.5%), miscellaneous goods (0.8%), and basic food (0.3%).

On the other hand, year-on-year decreases in the components of the Composite CPI were recorded in January 2025 for clothing and footwear (-3.4%), and durable goods (-1.0%).

For the 3 months ending January 2025, the Composite CPI rose by 1.6% over a year earlier, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) rose by 1.9%, 1.5% and 1.3% respectively. The corresponding increases after netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures were 1.3%, 1.7%, 1.2% and 1.2% respectively.

For the 12 months ending January 2025, the Composite CPI was on average 1.8% higher than that in the preceding 12-month period. The respective increases in the CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) were 2.1%, 1.6% and 1.5% respectively. The corresponding increases after netting out the effects of all Government's one-off relief measures were 1.1%, 1.1%, 1.1% and 1.2% respectively.

Commentary

A Government spokesman said that underlying consumer price inflation was modest in January. Food prices as a whole continued to record mild year-on-year increases. Prices of energy-related items picked up further, but remained moderate. Price pressures on other major components stayed broadly in check. As the Chinese New Year this year falls on a different month compared to that in the preceding year, it would be more prudent to examine the figures for January and February combined, when available, to assess the underlying inflation situation.

Looking ahead, overall inflation should remain moderate in the near term. As the Hong Kong economy continues to grow, domestic costs may see some upward pressures. External price pressures should remain contained. However, uncertainties stemming from geopolitical tensions and trade conflicts warrant attention. The Government will continue to monitor the situation.

Further information

The CPIs and year-on-year rates of change at section level for January 2025 are shown in Table 1. The time series on the year-on-year rates of change in the CPIs before and after netting out 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 time series on the average monthly rates of change during the latest 3 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 statistics are given in the "Monthly Report on the Consumer Price Index". Users can browse and download this publication at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1060001&scode=270).

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).

Government appoints directors to HKEX Board

The Government announced today (February 20) that the Financial Secretary had reappointed Mr Carlson Tong Ka-shing and Mr Joseph Yam Chi-king as members of the Board of Directors of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX), and appointed Ms Ding Chen as a member of the Board of Directors of the HKEX. The reappointments and appointment will take effect from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the HKEX in 2025 until the conclusion of its AGM in 2027, a term of around two years.

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, said, "Ms Ding has extensive experience in the financial services industry, in particular the asset and wealth management sector. She has a deep understanding of the securities market and wide connections with market participants, which are conducive to the diverse development of the HKEX in meeting the needs of different issuers and investors, as well as enhancing Hong Kong's status and function as a global financing hub."

Mr Chan also expressed his sincere gratitude to the retiring director, Ms Nisa Leung, for her contributions to the development of the HKEX over the years.

The above appointments are made in accordance with Section 77 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance. The Board of Directors of the HKEX comprises a maximum of six directors appointed by the Financial Secretary, a maximum of six directors elected by shareholders, and the Chief Executive of the HKEX. Other incumbent directors appointed by the Financial Secretary are Mr Chan Kin-por, Mr Herbert Chia Pun-kok and Mrs Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong.