

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (June 18) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –
Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –
Lei Tung Community Hall
Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai –
Wan Chai Activities Centre
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –
Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –
Shek Kip Mei Community Hall

G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –
Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –
Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –
North District Community Centre
4/F, 2 Lung Wan Street, Sheung Shui

Sai Kung –
Hang Hau Community Hall
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –
Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 21 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:
www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf.

Proprietor fined for violation of safety legislation

River Trade Terminal Co Ltd was fined \$80,000 at Tuen Mun Magistrates' Courts today (June 18) for violation of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance. The prosecution was launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on April 3, 2019, at a container terminal in Tuen Mun. While a worker was walking past a vehicle access in the container terminal, she was struck by a reversing reach stacker and died.

Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade in April 2020

Further to the external merchandise trade statistics in value terms for April 2020 released earlier on, the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (June 18) the volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for that month.

In April 2020, the volume of Hong Kong's total exports of goods and imports of goods decreased by 2.7% and 5.3% respectively over April 2019.

Comparing the first four months of 2020 with the same period in 2019, the volume of Hong Kong's total exports of goods and imports of goods decreased by 7.4% and 8.5% respectively.

Comparing the three-month period ending April 2020 with the preceding three months on a seasonally adjusted basis, the volume of total exports of goods and imports of goods decreased by 0.3% and 3.8% respectively.

Changes in volume of external merchandise trade are derived from changes in external merchandise trade value with the effect of price changes discounted.

Comparing April 2020 with April 2019, the prices of total exports of goods and imports of goods decreased by 1.3% and 1.4% respectively.

As regards price changes in the first four months of 2020 over the same period in 2019, the prices of total exports of goods and imports of goods decreased by 0.8% and 0.6% respectively.

Price changes in external merchandise trade are reflected by changes in unit value indices of external merchandise trade, which are compiled based on average unit values or, for certain commodities, specific price data.

The terms of trade index is derived from the ratio of price index of total exports of goods to that of imports of goods. Compared with the same periods in 2019, the index increased by 0.1% in April 2020, whereas it decreased by 0.2% in the first four months of 2020.

Changes in the unit value and volume of total exports of goods by main destination are shown in Table 1.

Comparing April 2020 with April 2019, a double-digit decline of 22.7% was recorded for the total export volume to the USA. On the other hand, the total export volume to the mainland of China (the Mainland) (9.6%), the Netherlands (11.9%), Japan (15.1%) and Taiwan (22.1%) increased.

Over the same period of comparison, the total export prices to all main destinations decreased: Japan (-3.6%), the USA (-1.4%), the Netherlands (-1.2%), Taiwan (-0.7%) and the Mainland (-0.2%).

Changes in the unit value and volume of imports of goods by main supplier are shown in Table 2.

Comparing April 2020 with April 2019, double-digit declines were recorded for the import volume from Japan (-11.7%) and the Mainland (-10.4%). On the other hand, the import volume from Singapore (19.7%), Korea (20.2%) and Taiwan (35.3%) increased.

Over the same period of comparison, the import prices from Singapore (-7.5%), Korea (-6.4%), Taiwan (-4.9%) and the Mainland (-1.0%) decreased. On

the other hand, the import prices from Japan increased by 1.2%.

Further information

Details of the above statistics are published in the April 2020 issue of "Hong Kong Merchandise Trade Index Numbers". Users can download the publication free of charge at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp230.jsp?productCode=B1020006).

Enquiries on merchandise trade indices may be directed to the Trade Analysis Section (1) of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4918).

[Chain volume measures of Gross Domestic Product by economic activity for first quarter of 2020](#)

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (June 18) the preliminary figures of chain volume measures of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by economic activity for the first quarter of 2020.

GDP figures by economic activity show the value of production in respect of individual economic activities. The value of production is measured by net output or value added, which is calculated by deducting intermediate input consumed in the process of production from the gross value of output. Volume measures of GDP by economic activity, expressed in terms of chain volume measures net of the effect of price changes, enable analysis of the output growth profiles of individual economic sectors in real terms.

According to the preliminary figures, overall GDP decreased by 8.9% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, compared with the 3.0% decrease in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Analysed by constituent services sector and on a year-on-year comparison, net output in respect of all the services activities taken together decreased by 8.8% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, compared with the decrease of 2.4% in the fourth quarter of 2019. In the first quarter of 2020, the net output of a number of services sectors dropped visibly from a year earlier. The threat of COVID-19 seriously disrupted the regional supply chains and related trading activities. Industries related to consumption and tourism were also hard hit. Furthermore, the decline in the transportation industry was enlarged amid sharply reduced passenger and cargo flows.

Net output in the import and export, wholesale and retail trades sector plunged by 20.8% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year

earlier, after the decrease of 8.4% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

The fall in the net output in the accommodation services (covering hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation) and food services sector enlarged further to 46.3% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, after the fall of 23.2% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the transportation, storage, postal and courier services sector plunged by 32.6% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, following the decline of 8.1% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the real estate, professional and business services sector decreased by 4.8% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, as against the marginal increase of 0.2% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the public administration, social and personal services sector dropped by 2.8% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, as against the growth of 2.5% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the information and communications sector increased by 1.3% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 over a year earlier, compared with the growth of 2.8% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the financing and insurance sector increased by 2.7% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 over a year earlier, compared with the 2.4% rise in the fourth quarter of 2019.

As for sectors other than the services sectors, net output in the local manufacturing sector dropped by 4.6% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, compared with the decrease of 0.5% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the electricity, gas and water supply, and waste management sector decreased by 14.4% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, compared with the decrease of 1.1% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Net output in the construction sector decreased by 9.0% in real terms in the first quarter of 2020 from a year earlier, after the decrease of 6.6% in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Further information

The year-on-year percentage changes of GDP by economic activity in real terms from the first quarter of 2019 to the first quarter of 2020 are shown in Table 1. For enquiries about statistics on GDP by economic activity, please call the National Income Branch (2) of the C&SD at telephone number 3903 7005.

Figures of chain volume measures of GDP by economic activity for the first quarter of 2020 are only preliminary at this stage. When more data

become available, the preliminary figures will be revised accordingly. More detailed figures can also be found at the Hong Kong Statistics section of the C&SD website (www.censtatd.gov.hk).

Government to double cash incentives under Green Lifestyle Local Tour Incentive Scheme

To foster local economic revival and relaunch the tourism industry, the Government will double the cash incentives for travel agents organising green lifestyle local tours, so as to boost local tourism and encourage the public to get close to nature and practise green lifestyles, thereby supporting tourism and related sectors including catering and transport.

The Government will enhance the Green Lifestyle Local Tour Incentive Scheme, which was announced late last year. The cash incentive amount per tour participant served by a travel agent will be increased from the original \$100 to \$200. The quota of tour participants for each travel agent to apply for cash incentives will also be increased from the original 500 to 1 000. These enhancement measures will be effective tomorrow (June 19).

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, said, "We believe the revival of tourism will begin with the local market, and therefore we encourage Hong Kong people to be tourists in our own city to energise the local community. With the epidemic subsiding locally, the Government will relax the social distancing measures under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance starting from tomorrow. This includes relaxing the number of persons allowed in group gatherings in public places from eight to 50 under the group gatherings regulation (Cap. 599G), offering a great opportunity to relaunch local tourism activities.

"Under the further enhancement measures, the maximum amount of cash incentives available to each travel agent will be increased from \$50,000 to \$200,000 to encourage them to organise more local tours. At the same time, as the scheme requires local tours to incorporate catering and transportation elements as well as engage accredited tourist guides or tour escorts, the measures can also benefit the relevant sectors."

Mr Yau said that the Holiday at Home campaign launched by the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) earlier this week encourages Hong Kong people to be tourists in their own city and rediscover the beauty of Hong Kong from a new perspective. With the staunch support of the local tourism, retail and catering industries, the campaign provides different offers to boost local consumption. Once it is possible for visitors from a certain market to travel

to Hong Kong, the HKTB will appeal to those visitors by extending to them the travel and local spending information and offers featured in this campaign, together with attractive flight-and-hotel packages.

With the support of the Environment Bureau, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau earlier rolled out two enhancement measures for the Green Lifestyle Local Tour Incentive Scheme, namely extending the deadline from the end of July 2020 to the end of December 2020, and increasing the commitment for the scheme from the original \$50 million to \$100 million.

Application details of the Green Lifestyle Local Tour Incentive Scheme are available on the website of the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong (www.tichk.org/).