

Appointments to Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony

The Secretary for Home Affairs has reappointed nine incumbent members to the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony (CPRH), a Government spokesman announced today (May 29). Their term of office will run from June 1, 2020, to May 31, 2022.

The following is a list of the non-official members of the CPRH:

Reappointed members:

Ms Mimi Cheung Yee-may
Mr Syed Ekram Elahi
Ms Rita Gurung
Mr Vijay Harilela
Mr Avinash Chandiram Hotchandani
Mr Derek Hung Chiu-wah
Mr Akil Khan
Ms Rigam Rai
Dr Chura Bahadur Thapa

Other incumbent members:

Mr Mohamed Ibramsa Sikkander Batcha
Ms Ping Somporn Bevan
Dr Theresa Cunanan
Ms Vivian Kong Man-wai
Mrs Poonam Vijayprakash Mehta
Ms Lamia Sreya Rahman
Ms Yvonne Tsui Hang-on
Mr Wong Ka-chun
Mr Matthew Wong Man-ho

The CPRH is a non-statutory advisory body set up to advise the Government on matters relating to fostering racial harmony in the community and to enhancing mutual understanding among people of different ethnic origins. Chaired by the Deputy Director of Home Affairs, the Committee includes representatives from the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, the Education Bureau, the Labour Department and the Information Services Department. The Race Relations Unit of the Home Affairs Department provides secretariat support to the Committee.

“Quarterly Report on General Household Survey” for January to March 2020 published

The "Quarterly Report on General Household Survey" for January to March 2020 is now available for download.

The report contains statistics on labour force, employment, unemployment and underemployment for the first quarter of 2020. It also contains detailed analyses of the characteristics of different categories of members of the labour force, including their age, sex, educational attainment, employment status, occupation, industry, hours worked per week and monthly employment earnings. Information on reasons for leaving last job and duration of unemployment for the unemployed is also presented.

Users can download the report free of charge from the website of the Census and Statistics Department (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp200.jsp?productCode=B1050001).

The summary of broad survey findings published in the report is shown in Table 1 attached. Enquiries about the contents of the report can be directed to the Household Statistics Analysis Section, Census and Statistics Department (Tel: 2887 5508 or email: ghs@censtatd.gov.hk).

Government establishes Arboriculture and Horticulture Industry Development Advisory Committee

The Development Bureau (DEVB) announced today (May 29) the establishment of the Arboriculture and Horticulture Industry Development Advisory Committee and the appointment of 12 non-official members for a term of two years from June 1, 2020.

Appointed by the Secretary for Development, the Committee will advise on issues related to the Registration Scheme for Tree Management Personnel, the Study Sponsorship Scheme and Trainee Programme under the Urban Forestry Support Fund, and the development and the manpower supply and demand of the arboriculture and horticulture industry.

The Committee comprises a wide range of experienced academics,

practitioners and vocational trainers from the trade associations, unions, professional groups and higher education and vocational training institutions in the industry.

A spokesman for the DEVB said, "This composition will offer broad perspective and pragmatic insight on a wide range of issues related to the industry's development."

The membership of the Committee is set out below:

Chairperson

Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1

Non-official Members (Individuals)

Professor Leslie Chen Hung-chi

Mr Kingsley Choi Lim-cho

Mr Ho For-hei

Mr Daniel Ho Tat-pui

Ms Iris Hoi

Mr Lai Ka-ming

Dr Allen Lim Miaw-shin

Mr Victor Man Kwok-hing

Mr Ken So Kwok-yin

Dr Peter Yau

Non-official Members (Institutions)

Construction Industry Council

Vocational Training Council

Official Members

Head of Greening, Landscape, and Tree Management Section, DEVB

Representative of Education Bureau

Representative of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Representative of Highways Department

Representative of Housing Department

Representative of Leisure and Cultural Services Department

[LegCo Public Accounts Committee to 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 "Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China" (Chapter 2) of the Director of Audit's Report No.74 next Monday (June 1) at 9am in Conference Room 3 of the LegCo Complex.

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

The programme for the public hearing is as follows:

Date: June 1 (Monday)

Time: 9am

Venue: Conference Room 3

Subject:

Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China
(Chapter 2 of the Director of Audit's Report No.74)

Witnesses:

Mr Caspar Tsui

Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Yeung Tak-keung

Commissioner for Sports

Mr Paul Cheng

Principal Assistant Secretary (Recreation and Sport)¹,
Home Affairs Bureau

Mr Ronnie Wong

Honorary Secretary General, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of
Hong Kong, China

Mr Abraham Cheng

Executive Director, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong,
China

The 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.

Interest on Tax Reserve Certificates

The Government Gazette published today (May 29) contains a Legal Notice to the effect that the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury has

authorised a change in the rate of interest payable on Tax Reserve Certificates. From June 1, 2020, the new annual rate of interest will be 0.2 per cent against the current rate of 0.2333 per cent, i.e. the new rate will be \$0.0167 per month per \$100.

Tax Reserve Certificates bear simple interest, and interest is calculated monthly (including part of a month) from the date of purchase to the date of payment of tax.

Interest is only credited when certificates are used to pay tax and no interest is due where the principal value of a certificate is repaid to its holder.

The rate of interest payable on Tax Reserve Certificates is periodically revised in line with the market trend. Currently, it is reviewed every month based on the average prevailing interest rate for the 12-month time deposit for \$100,000 to \$499,999 offered by the three note-issuing banks.

The new rate will apply to all certificates purchased on or after June 1, 2020. Certificates purchased before June 1, 2020, will continue to earn interest at the rates prevailing on their respective purchase dates. Below is a summary of the interest rates for the past periods:

For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum January 4, 2010, and before August 6, 2018:	0.0433
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum August 6, 2018, and before November 5, 2018:	0.0767
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum November 5, 2018, and before January 17, 2020:	0.2500
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum January 17, 2020, and before February 3, 2020:	0.3667
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum February 3, 2020, and before May 4, 2020:	0.3167
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum May 4, 2020, and before June 1, 2020:	0.2333
For certificates purchased on or after per cent per annum June 1, 2020, until further notice:	0.2000

This is always subject to the general rule that interest ceases to

accrue after 36 complete months.