

[Missing woman in Sheung Shui located](#)

A woman who went missing in Sheung Shui has been located.

Lam Ting, aged 50, went missing after she left her residence on Tin Ping Road on September 18 afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on October 24.

The woman was located on Lockhart Road in Wan Chai yesterday morning (December 4). She sustained no injuries and was sent to Ruttonjee Hospital for examination. No suspicious circumstances were detected.

[DH launches first language assessment tool for Cantonese-speaking preschool children \(with photos\)](#)

The Department of Health (DH) today (December 5) launched the Hong Kong Test of Preschool Oral Language (Cantonese) (TOPOL). The test is the first locally developed and comprehensive spoken language assessment instrument for Cantonese. Designed for use on Hong Kong Cantonese-speaking preschool children between the ages of 2 years and 6 months and 5 years and 11 months, the test will enable speech therapists to provide a more accurate diagnosis for local children with language development disorders.

Local speech therapists have been using adapted overseas assessment tools for assessing Hong Kong's Cantonese-speaking preschool children in the past decades. The newly launched TOPOL, which caters for the needs of local Cantonese-speaking preschool children, will enable evidence-based assessment of Hong Kong children's language development and its disorders, contributing to quality clinical services and providing a platform for future research.

TOPOL was developed by a multi-disciplinary team of the DH's Child Assessment Service (CAS) together with senior academic scholars of the Academic Unit of Human Communication, Development, and Information Sciences of the Faculty of Education of the University of Hong Kong, the Department of Applied Social Sciences of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Department of Linguistics and Modern Language Studies of the Education University of Hong Kong, and renowned experts in research methodology from the institutions. Research for the project started in 2013.

Having undergone stringent development procedures, TOPOL was normed on a widely stratified sample of Cantonese-speaking preschool children recruited

from nurseries and kindergartens across 18 districts in Hong Kong. The tool provides information on a child's profile across language domains and modalities as well as directions for further criterion-referenced language assessment.

TOPOL is intended to be used by Cantonese-speaking individuals who have received professional qualifications as speech therapists from recognised university programmes and who possess a background in Cantonese linguistics. It is applicable to professionals working in the public sector, as well as those from non-government organisations and the private sector. The DH today held a seminar to introduce TOPOL for the local speech therapy sector.

TOPOL will be sold to eligible users at \$5,440 per set. Interested speech therapists may visit the CAS website (www.dhcas.gov.hk) for details.



[Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected smuggled dried shark fins \(with photo\)](#)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (December 4) detected a case of suspected smuggling by speedboat in Tung Chung and seized about 1.1 tonnes of suspected smuggled dried shark fins with an estimated market value of about \$1 million.

Customs officers conducted an anti-smuggling operation in North Lantau waters last night. Several men were spotted moving bags of goods from a private car to a speedboat near Tung Chung. The officers suspected the men were engaging in smuggling activities and therefore took action.

The men immediately jumped into the speedboat and left Hong Kong waters at high speed.

During the operation, apart from the seizure of about 1.1 tonnes of suspected smuggled dried shark fins, two private cars involved were also detained for further investigation.

Investigation is ongoing.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

Customs will continue to take stringent enforcement action to combat sea smuggling activities.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



[Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan third stage public consultation session in New Territories East rescheduled](#)

The Labour and Welfare Bureau today (December 5) announced that the public consultation session of the Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan (RPP) (Consensus Building Stage) of the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee in New Territories East originally scheduled for November 16 has been rescheduled to be held from 3pm to 5.30pm on December 18 (Wednesday) at the Hall, Sun Tin Wai Community Hall, Sun Tin Wai Estate, Sha Tin.

Please visit the Consulting Team's website (www.rs.polyu.edu.hk/rpp) for details and registration arrangements of the public consultation session. Any views or enquiries on the new RPP may be sent to the Consulting Team (rs.rpp@polyu.edu.hk) by email.

HAD opens temporary cold shelters

In view of the cold weather, the Home Affairs Department has opened 18 temporary shelters today (December 5) for people in need of the service.

The temporary shelters will remain open during the daytime tomorrow (December 6) when the cold weather warning is still in force.

To ensure that cold shelter users can rest in a quiet and undisturbed environment, members of the public or agencies wishing to make donations to shelter users are requested to register with the staff of the shelter first. Donors will then be directed to place the donated items at a specified indoor location. The staff will help notify the shelter users to collect the items on their own.

Anyone seeking temporary refuge or with any questions about the donation arrangements at the cold shelters may call the department's hotline 2835 1473 for more information.

The 18 temporary cold 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:
Nam Cheong District Community Centre
1 Cheong San Lane, 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:

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

Kwai Tsing:
Tai Wo Hau Estate Community Centre
15 Tai Wo Hau Road, Kwai Chung

North:
Cheung Wah Community Hall
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

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