

Labour Department to hold occupational health public talks

The Labour Department (LD) will hold a public talk entitled "First aid in the workplace" on December 11 (Wednesday). The talk will cover basic information on first aid and explain how to assist and handle injured employees in workplace accidents through case illustrations.

The talk will be given by the LD's occupational health nurse at 6.30pm in Activity Room 1, G/F, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay.

The LD will hold another talk entitled "Manual handling operations and prevention of back injuries" on December 16 (Monday). The talk will provide a brief account of the structure and functions of the back as well as causes and preventive measures of back injuries.

The talk will be held at 3pm in the Lecture Hall of the Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui. The LD's occupational health nurse and occupational hygienist will also explain proper manual handling operations and lead a demonstration and practice of workplace exercise.

Both talks will be conducted in Cantonese. Admission is free. For enquiries or registration, please call 2852 4040.

Legislative amendments on air transport of dangerous goods to be gazetted on Friday

Legislative amendments which seek to implement the latest requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for the safe transport of dangerous goods (DGs) by air will be gazetted on Friday (December 6) and tabled in the Legislative Council on December 11.

A spokesman for the Transport and Housing Bureau said today (December 4) that the Air Navigation (Hong Kong) Order 1995 (Amendment of Schedule 16) Order 2019 and the Dangerous Goods (Consignment by Air) (Safety) Regulations (Amendment of Schedule) Order 2019 serve to incorporate the ICAO's latest requirements in the local legislation. Such requirements are set out in a new edition (i.e. the 2019-2020 edition) of the ICAO's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air.

The major changes introduced by the new edition of the Technical Instructions include:

(a) The definition of DGs has been refined as "articles or substances which are capable of posing a hazard to health, safety, property or the environment and which are shown in the list of dangerous goods in the Technical Instructions or which are classified according to those Instructions". Consequent upon this change, aircraft and airport operators, shippers and freight forwarders shall review and update their DGs handling procedures and relevant manuals as appropriate;

(b) Passengers and crew are forbidden to carry DGs on board an aircraft unless the DGs are permitted and specified in the Technical Instructions. The Technical Instructions have incorporated new types of DGs introduced due to technological advancement, for example smart luggage with a built-in lithium battery; and

(c) The latest edition of the Technical Instructions has incorporated some changes to the technical requirements for the safe transport of DGs by air, including the classification, packing, marking and labelling of certain kinds of DGs, for example a new segregation requirement in packing lithium batteries such that no other flammable items should be packed together with the lithium batteries.

"The aviation industry has been consulted and generally supports the legislative proposals," the spokesperson said.

The target commencement date for the above legislative amendments is January 31, 2020.

DGs, in the context of air transport, include explosives, compressed gas, flammable liquids, flammable solids, oxidising substances, toxic substances, infectious substances, radioactive materials and corrosives.

Key statistics on service demand of A&E Departments and occupancy rates in public hospitals

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

During the winter surge, the Hospital Authority is closely monitoring the service demand of Accident and Emergency Departments and the occupancy rates in public hospitals. Key service statistics are being issued daily for public information. Details are in the appended table.

[Key statistics on service demand of A&E Departments and occupancy rates in public hospitals](#)

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[Red flag hoisted at Clear Water Bay Second Beach](#)

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (December 4) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.