

# Public urged not to burn wax, fly sky lanterns or litter at LCSD venues during Mid-Autumn Festival

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) today (September 4) appealed to the public to keep places clean and tidy and not to burn wax or fly sky lanterns when celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival.

"To provide a better environment for members of the public to enjoy the festive occasion, we appeal to them not to burn or melt wax. They should not sprinkle or pour liquids onto hot wax. Metal cans or non-flammable containers should be used to collect melted wax for easy disposal into litter bins after the containers cool down," a spokesman for the LCSD said.

"Moreover, members of the public should not throw glow sticks or other objects onto trees, as doing so may cause damage to the trees and affect the cleanliness of venues. Furthermore, they should not fly sky lanterns as it might cause injuries or damage to property."

The spokesman said patrols will be stepped up at the department's venues including parks, public beaches and barbecue sites on September 13 and 14. About 1 000 staff will be deployed to take enforcement action against littering, wax burning, throwing objects onto trees and flying sky lanterns on these two nights.

Members of the public may call the LCSD's hotline on 2414 5555 to report any wax burning or flying sky lantern cases, or other irregularities found at LCSD venues.

According to the Pleasure Grounds Regulation, no person shall, in any pleasure ground, melt or burn any wax; sprinkle or pour any liquid onto any hot wax; damage any part of any tree, shrub or plant; or fly kites, model aircraft, balloons or other devices (including sky lanterns). According to the Bathing Beaches Regulation, no person shall, on any bathing beach, do any act which is likely to endanger or obstruct any other person using the beach, or damage, deface or pollute the beach or anything situated thereon. Any person who is convicted is liable to a maximum fine of \$2,000 and 14 days' imprisonment.

Littering offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice with a fine of \$1,500, while those who burn wax, throw objects onto trees or fly sky lanterns might be prosecuted.

---

## **Red flags hoisted at several beaches**

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 (September 4) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Upper Cheung Sha Beach and Tong Fuk Beach in Islands District; Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay First Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

---

## **Red flags hoisted at several beaches**

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 (September 4) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Upper Cheung Sha Beach and Tong Fuk Beach in Islands District; Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay First Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

---

## **Flag-raising ceremony cancelled**

Owing to the thunderstorm warning, the flag-raising ceremony to be conducted at Golden Bauhinia Square, Wan Chai at 8am today (September 4) will be cancelled.

---

# Seventh meeting of Chief Executive's Council of Advisers on Innovation and Strategic Development held

The Chief Executive's Council of Advisers on Innovation and Strategic Development ("the Council") held its seventh meeting today (September 3) to exchange views on the current situation of Hong Kong. Members also gave their views on the broad directions of the 2019 Policy Address.

At the meeting, members were briefed on the recent performance and near-term outlook of the Hong Kong economy. Members noted that the economic conditions in the first half of 2019 were the weakest since the recession in 2009. The real Gross Domestic Product growth forecast for 2019 was revised downwards to 0 per cent to 1 per cent. With the escalating China-United States (US) trade tensions, softened global economic growth and weak local private consumption and investment, the risk of the Hong Kong economy entering a recession had increased notably. In view of the gloomy economic outlook and the negative impact of the recent social incidents, Members deliberated on measures to safeguard the stability of the Hong Kong economy.

Members also gave views and suggestions on the focuses of the 2019 Policy Address. They generally felt that, to address the challenges faced by Hong Kong, bold policies and effective measures should be taken forward to support the economy, improve people's livelihood, and rebuild Hong Kong's international image.

The Council is a high-level body to give advice on Hong Kong's strategic positioning in the global and regional contexts and directions of economic development, provide guidance on evidence-based research and studies on related issues, and advise on stakeholder engagement and public participation in the policy formulation and consensus building process.