

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 (July 30) will be cancelled.

Londoners enjoy Hong Kong movies at open air cinema in Leicester Square (with photos)

Hundreds of Londoners and visitors enjoyed an afternoon and evening of great Hong Kong movies in Leicester Square, central London on July 28 (London time) with support from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (London ETO) and CreateHK. Organised by the London East Asia Film Festival (LEAFF) last weekend (July 27 – 28), the Open Air Screenings showed a total of eight movies over the two days, including two Hong Kong movies on Sunday: "A Lifetime Treasure" (2019), followed by a Q&A session with Director Albert Mak and actor Bob Lam; and Wong Kar-wai's award-winning classic "In the Mood For Love" (2000).

The Director-General of the London ETO, Ms Priscilla To said: "It is our great pleasure to support the first ever open air film screenings organised by LEAFF at Leicester Square, which is London's major centre for entertainment, and its cinemas regularly host red-carpet film premieres. Situated right next to London's Chinatown, the Square will be familiar to Hong Kong people based in London as it regularly hosts events for Chinese New Year celebrations.

"Hong Kong's film industry has become world-famous in the 100 years or so since it first started. Now Hong Kong is one of the world's largest film production bases, and many of our actors, directors, cinematographers and producers have become household names in the world."

"And the Hong Kong Government is committed to supporting the industry to showcase and promote the brand of 'Hong Kong Films'. At the end of last year the government announced it would inject another HK\$1 billion into the Film Development Fund to nurture local talent, enhance local production, expand markets and build audience." Ms To added.

LEAFF was first launched in 2015 to champion the growing collaboration and diversity in East Asian film-making. With the support of London ETO, Hong Kong films have all along played an important part of LEAFF.



ISD clarifies rumour

Regarding an online post claiming that the senior management of the Information Services Department (ISD) had forced colleagues to sign a letter to support the police, a spokesperson for the department stated today (July 29) that the allegation was absolutely not true and it was entirely a fabrication.

The spokesperson said it was regrettable and deplorable that some people were deliberately spreading false information to mislead the public.

Missing boy in Lantau North located

A boy who went missing in Lantau North has been located.

Earl Seamus Barry Siam, aged 15, went missing after he left his residence on Kin Tung Road on June 29 night. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The boy was located in Yat Tung Estate this afternoon (July 29). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

Sample of Shanghai noodles detected with excessive preservative

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (July 29) that a sample of loose-packed Shanghai noodles was found to contain a preservative, benzoic acid, at a level exceeding the legal limit. The CFS is following up on the case.

A spokesman for the CFS said, "Subsequent to announcing earlier that a sample of Shanghai noodles taken from a shop in Tin Shui Wai was found to contain excessive benzoic acid, the CFS took a sample of Shanghai noodles from another shop in Kwai Chung for testing and the test result showed that the sample contained benzoic acid at a level of 1 800 parts per million (ppm), exceeding the legal limit of 1 000 ppm. A follow-up investigation found that the two batches of Shanghai noodles were from the same local manufacturer."

The CFS has informed the vendor concerned of the irregularity and instructed the vendor to stop the sale of the affected product. Prosecution will be instituted should there be sufficient evidence.

Benzoic acid is a preservative of low toxicity. Based on the level detected in the sample, adverse health effects will not be caused under usual consumption.

The spokesman reminded the food trade that the use of preservatives in food must comply with the Preservatives in Food Regulation (Cap 132BD). Offenders are liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and six months' imprisonment upon conviction.

The CFS will continue to follow up on the incident and take appropriate action.