Suspected MERS case reported

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (February 7) reported a suspected case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and again urged the public to pay special attention to safety during travel, taking due consideration of the health risks in the places they visit. The case is detailed below:

Sex	Female
Age	10
Affected area involved	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
High-risk exposure	Nil
Hospital	Princess Margaret Hospital
Condition	Stable
MERS-Coronavirus preliminary test result	Negative

"Travellers to the Middle East should avoid going to farms, barns or markets with camels; avoid contact with sick persons and animals, especially camels, birds or poultry; and avoid unnecessary visits to healthcare facilities. We strongly advise travel agents organising tours to the Middle East to abstain from arranging camel rides and activities involving direct contact with camels, which are known risk factors for acquiring MERS-CoV," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Locally, the CHP's surveillance with public and private hospitals, with practising doctors and at boundary control points is firmly in place. Inbound travellers and members of the public who recently visited the Middle East and developed fever or lower respiratory symptoms within 14 days will be classified as suspected MERS cases. They will be taken to public hospitals for isolation and management until their specimens test negative for MERS-Coronavirus (MERS-CoV).

Travellers to affected areas should maintain vigilance, adopt appropriate health precautions and take heed of personal, food and environmental hygiene. The public may visit the MERS pages of the CHP and its Irravel Health Service, MERS statistics in affected areas, the CHP's Facebook Page and YouTube Channel, and the World Health Organization's Latest news for more information and health advice. Tour leaders and tour guides operating overseas tours are advised to refer to the CHP's health advice on MERS.

<u>Services of Leisure Link computerised</u> <u>booking system resumed normal</u>

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (February 7) that the counter booking, internet booking and self-service kiosks of the Leisure Link computerised booking system have all resumed normal. The booking services were suspended earlier on due to system maintenance and data centre electrical repair works.

Yau Tsim Mong District Council byelection nominations open tomorrow

Nominations for the by-election for the Tai Nan Constituency of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council will open tomorrow (February 8).

"The nomination period will end on February 21. A nominee must be a registered geographical constituency elector aged 21 or above who has ordinarily resided in Hong Kong for the three years immediately preceding his or her nomination. Details on the eligibility to be nominated as a candidate, disqualification for being nominated as a candidate and from being elected as an elected member, and the requirements to be complied with by persons nominated as candidates are set out in sections 20, 21 and 34 respectively of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547)," a spokesman for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) said today (February 7).

"A nomination form must be subscribed by 10 registered electors of the Tai Nan Constituency. Each elector is allowed to subscribe only one nomination," he added.

The nominee must personally hand in the completed nomination form and an election deposit of \$3,000 to the Returning Officer for the by-election within the nomination period. Nominations are accepted from 9am to 5pm, Mondays to Fridays, and from 9am to noon on Saturdays.

The District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) has been appointed as the Returning

Officer, whose office is located at 4/F and 6/F, Mong Kok Government Offices, 30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon.

Nomination forms are available at the office of the Returning Officer or can be downloaded from the REO website (www.reo.gov.hk). They can also be obtained at the REO at 10/F, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. The office will extend its service hours to include Saturday mornings from 9am to noon until the end of the nomination period.

"Nominees are advised to submit their nominations as early as possible to allow time to correct mistakes, if any, in the nomination forms before the deadline," the spokesman said.

If the number of validly nominated candidates is more than one at the by-election, a poll will be held on March 24, 2019 (Sunday).

Enquiries can be made to the election hotline on 2891 1001.

Car park at Hong Kong Wetland Park full

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The car park at Hong Kong Wetland Park is full. Motorists going to the Park can use the nearby public car parks at Tin Heng Estate, Tin Yat Estate, Grandeur Terrace or Tin Yip Road.

Members of the public are encouraged to take public transport to the Park.

<u>Special traffic arrangements for race</u> <u>meeting in Sha Tin</u>

Police advise motorists that special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Sha Tin to facilitate the race meeting today (February 7).

The arrangements will come into effect two hours before the start of the

first race and will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

Appropriate traffic signs will be put up and police will be on hand to guide motorists.

The Police also appeal to people going to Sha Tin Racecourse for the race meeting and to Happy Valley Racecourse for cross betting to make maximum use of public transport.

Parking spaces at the two racecourses are available only to holders of appropriate permits issued by Hong Kong Jockey Club and any vehicles illegally parked will be towed away.