

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 is 105.7 (up 0.3 against yesterday's index).

Silver Mine Bay Beach to reopen

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 (LCSD) announced today (October 23) that Silver Mine Bay Beach in Islands District will reopen tomorrow (October 24). The beach was temporarily closed earlier for clearance of debris and fallen trees as well as repairs of the shark prevention net and beach facilities after the typhoon.

Thirteen beaches under the LCSD have been reopened recently. They are Butterfly Beach, Castle Peak Beach, Kadoorie Beach, Cafeteria Old Beach, Cafeteria New Beach and Golden Beach in Tuen Mun District; Hoi Mei Wan Beach, Approach Beach, Anglers' Beach and Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach in Tsuen Wan District; Hung Shing Yeh Beach and Lo So Shing Beach in Islands District; and Repulse Bay Beach in Southern District.

Meanwhile, other gazetted beaches in Southern, Tsuen Wan, Islands and Sai Kung Districts, including Deep Water Bay Beach which is normally open all year round, will remain closed until further notice as much longer time is needed for repairing beach facilities and damaged shark prevention nets or clearing debris due to the severe damage brought about by the typhoon earlier. Red flags have been hoisted at these beaches.

The LCSD reminds members of the public not to go to the beaches that are temporarily closed, and not to swim or participate in other activities at those beaches for the sake of safety.

Lunar New Year fair stall auctions to

start in early November

â€‹The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) announced today (October 23) that stalls at the 2019 Lunar New Year (LNY) fairs will be put up for open auction starting from November 5.

The LNY fairs are to be held at 15 locations and will be open for seven days from January 30 to February 5, 2019. A total of 1 154 wet goods stalls, 854 dry goods stalls, eight thematic stalls and 17 fast food stalls will be put up for auction.

The opening prices range from \$630 to \$10,880 for wet goods stalls, \$750 to \$14,230 for dry goods stalls, and \$7,610 to \$374,850 for fast food stalls.

Apart from wet goods, dry goods and fast food stalls, eight thematic stalls will also be set up in the Victoria Park LNY Fair to sell festive commodities such as LNY food, spring couplets (fai chun), LNY decorations and other goods. The auction for these thematic stalls, with an opening price of \$41,650, will take place in the AM session of the second auction day (November 6) for the Victoria Park LNY Fair.

The six fairs on Hong Kong Island, in Islands District and in Kowloon will provide 502 wet goods stalls, 561 dry goods stalls, eight thematic stalls and 11 fast food stalls. The fairs will be located at Victoria Park in Causeway Bay, Tat Tung Road Garden in Tung Chung, Fa Hui Park and Cheung Sha Wan Playground in Sham Shui Po, Morse Park in Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong Recreation Ground.

The auction for stalls of the LNY fair in Victoria Park will be held for four days from November 5 to 8 (Monday to Thursday) at the Assembly Hall, Lai Chi Kok Government Offices, 19 Lai Wan Road, Lai Chi Kok, Kowloon. The first auction day (November 5) is scheduled for fast food stalls and wet goods stalls, the second auction day (November 6) is scheduled for thematic stalls and dry goods stalls and the third and fourth auction days (November 7 and 8) are scheduled for dry goods stalls. Due to the limited number of seats, those who are interested in bidding for the specific types of stalls at the Victoria Park LNY fair are invited to participate in the auction at the Lai Chi Kok Government Offices on the designated auction date. The auctions for stalls of the Sham Shui Po, Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong fairs will also be held at the Assembly Hall, Lai Chi Kok Government Offices, from November 13 to 16. The auction sessions are scheduled from 9am to 12.30pm (AM session) and 2pm until completion of the auction (PM session).

The auction for stalls of Tat Tung Road Garden LNY Fair in Tung Chung will be held at Rooms 1413 and 1414, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, on November 9 (Friday). The auction session is scheduled from 9.30am until completion of the auction.

Details of the auctions and opening prices are as follows:

Victoria Park (Causeway Bay)

Auction date: November 5 (Monday)

AM session: Fast food and wet goods (Stall Nos. 301 to 372)

PM session: Wet goods (Stall Nos. 373 to 480)

Opening prices:

Fast food: \$374,850 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)

Fast food: \$200,780 (Stall size: 5m x 4m)

Wet goods: \$10,880

Auction date: November 6 (Tuesday)

AM session: Thematic goods and dry goods (Stall Nos. 1 to 40)

PM session: Dry goods (Stall Nos. 41 to 88)

Opening prices:

Thematic goods: \$41,650 (Stall size: 6m x 1.5m)

Dry goods: \$14,230

Auction date: November 7 (Wednesday)

AM session: Dry goods (Stall Nos. 93 to 140)

PM session: Dry goods (Stall Nos. 141 to 148 and 153 to 192)

Opening price:

Dry goods: \$14,230

Auction date: November 8 (Thursday)

AM session: Dry goods (Stall Nos. 193 to 208 and 213 to 246)

PM session: Dry goods (Stall Nos. 247 to 268 and 273 to 300)

Opening price:

Dry goods: \$14,230

Tat Tung Road Garden (Tung Chung)

Auction date: November 9 (Friday)

Stall types: Wet goods and dry goods

Opening prices:

Wet goods: \$630

Dry goods: \$750

Fa Hui Park (Sham Shui Po)

Auction date: November 13 (Tuesday)

AM session: Wet goods

PM session: Fast food and dry goods

Opening prices:

Wet goods: \$5,900

Fast food: \$67,440 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)

Fast food: \$29,140 (Stall size: 5m x 3m)

Dry goods: \$13,000

Morse Park (Wong Tai Sin)

Auction date: November 14 (Wednesday)
AM session: Wet goods
PM session: Fast food and dry goods
Opening prices:
Wet goods: \$2,500
Fast food: \$16,670 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)
Dry goods: \$2,290

Kwun Tong Recreation Ground (Kwun Tong)

Auction date: November 15 (Thursday)
AM session: Wet goods
PM session: Fast food and dry goods
Opening prices:
Wet goods: \$3,640
Fast food: \$10,100 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)
Dry goods: \$3,550

Cheung Sha Wan Playground (Sham Shui Po)

Auction date: November 16 (Friday)
AM session: Wet goods
PM session: Fast food and dry goods
Opening prices:
Wet goods: \$830
Fast food: \$7,610 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)
Dry goods: \$920

In the New Territories, 652 wet goods stalls, 293 dry goods stalls and six fast food stalls will be set up at nine fairs. They are located at Sha Tsui Road Playground in Tsuen Wan, Yuen Wo Playground in Sha Tin, Kwai Chung Sports Ground in Kwai Tsing, Tung Tau Industrial Area Playground in Yuen Long, Shek Wu Hui Playground in North District, Tin Hau Temple Plaza in Tuen Mun, Tin Hau Temple Fung Shui Square in Tai Po, Man Yee Playground in Sai Kung and Po Hong Park in Tseung Kwan O. Details of the auctions for these stalls, to be held at 9.30am until completion on November 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28 and 30 are as follows:

Sha Tsui Road Playground (Tsuen Wan)

Auction date: November 19 (Monday)
Auction venue: Assembly Hall, Lai Chi Kok Government Offices
Stall types: Dry goods and wet goods
Opening prices:
Dry goods: \$14,140
Wet goods: \$2,950

Yuen Wo Playground (Sha Tin)

Auction date: November 20 (Tuesday)
Auction venue: Wo Che Community Hall, Sha Tin

Stall types: Dry goods and wet goods

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$7,610

Wet goods: \$5,970

Kwai Chung Sports Ground (Kwai Tsing)

Auction date: November 22 (Thursday)

Auction venue: Assembly Hall, Lai Chi Kok Government Offices

Stall types: Dry goods and wet goods

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$3,750

Wet goods: \$820

Tung Tau Industrial Area Playground (Yuen Long)

Auction date: November 23 (Friday)

Auction venue: Yuen Long Town East Community Hall

Stall types: Dry goods, wet goods and fast food

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$2,250

Wet goods: \$1,170

Fast food: \$9,130 (Stall size: 5m x 4m)

Shek Wu Hui Playground (North District)

Auction date: November 26 (Monday)

Auction venue: Luen Wo Hui Community Hall, Fanling

Stall types: Dry goods and wet goods

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$2,560

Wet goods: \$1,190

Tin Hau Temple Plaza (Tuen Mun)

Auction date: November 27 (Tuesday)

Auction venue: Tseng Choi Street Community Hall, Tuen Mun

Stall types: Dry goods, wet goods and fast food

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$3,570

Wet goods: \$2,490

Fast food: \$9,130 (Stall size: 7.6m x 4.8m)

Tin Hau Temple Fung Shui Square (Tai Po)

Auction date: November 28 (Wednesday)

Auction venue: Tai Po Community Centre

Stall types: Dry goods, wet goods and fast food

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$2,410

Wet goods: \$3,790

Fast food: \$9,130 (Stall size: 5m x 4m)

Man Yee Playground (Sai Kung)

Auction date: November 30 (Friday)

Auction venue: Hang Hau Community Hall, Sai Kung

Stall types: Dry goods and wet goods

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$750

Wet goods: \$630

Po Hong Park (Tseung Kwan O)

Auction date: November 30 (Friday)

Auction venue: Hang Hau Community Hall, Sai Kung

Stall types: Dry goods, wet goods and fast food

Opening prices:

Dry goods: \$2,560

Wet goods: \$1,390

Fast food: \$7,610 (Stall size: 5m x 4m)

Bidders for LNY fair stalls must be at least 18 years old and ordinarily resident in Hong Kong.

Anyone can bid for more than one stall. A bidder must pay the bid price and register in person with his or her own name as the licensee of the stall immediately after successfully bidding for a stall. The bidder is also required to sign at once a licence agreement with the FEHD, or will forfeit the rights to operate the stall.

All fair sites will be made available three days in advance for the setting up of stalls from January 27 to 29, 2019. In the event of any unforeseeable incident that will cause reduction of the whole licence period (including the duration for setting up and the fair), the Government will have a right to postpone the commencement date and shorten the duration of the period. The bidding price (licence fee) paid will be refunded to the successful bidder on a pro-rata basis without interest payment.

Stall licensees must completely remove the stall structure and all paraphernalia, together with all refuse, debris and unsold commodities (whether damaged or otherwise) from the licensed area before 7am on February 5 (9am for the Victoria Park LNY Fair).

Stall licensees should not destroy, damage or abandon any unsold commodities at or in the vicinity of the stall. They may surrender unsold flowers and plants left behind at the stall to the FEHD at no charge, cost or compensation whatsoever, before 7am on February 5 (9am for the Victoria Park LNY Fair).

According to the licence agreement, except inside designated stalls, licensees shall not keep or store or use helium cylinders in the licenced

area. Whereas licensees of designated stalls could keep or store or use helium cylinders in the licenced area, the quantity of helium should be such that a licence is not required pursuant to Regulation 74 of the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations (Cap 295B), i.e. one cylinder of helium deemed to be equivalent to 5 litres of helium.

In addition, sales of floating LED glowing balloons and aquarium fish by stall licensees are prohibited at the LNY fairs.

An FEHD spokesman said, "Successful bidders shall comply with all the stipulations and provisions as set out in the licence agreement. Otherwise, the department is entitled to terminate the agreement and the licensee shall immediately vacate the stall."

Details of the 2019 LNY fairs such as the public notice, the locations and layouts of the fair venues, commodities allowed for sale at the fair stalls, open auction arrangements and related rules, and a sample of the licence agreement are available at the FEHD website (www.fehd.gov.hk). For enquiries, please call the FEHD hotline 2868 0000.

Speech by Acting CE at Financial Times-AIIB Summit (English only) (with photo/video)

Following is the speech by the Acting Chief Executive, Mr Paul Chan, at the Financial Times-AIIB Summit this morning (October 23):

President Jin (President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Mr Jin Ligu), Angela (Global Publisher, FT Live and Managing Director, Asia Pacific of Financial Times (FT), Ms Angela Mackay), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. I'm pleased to join you today for the second time at Financial Times-AIIB Summit. This year's theme, "Bridging the Bankability Gap," is a smart and timely topic.

Getting the right infrastructure in the right place at the right time, as you can see from here in Hong Kong, is surely key to economic growth and prosperity.

The challenge, of course, is getting the funding to make it work, or more precisely, getting private funding to play a bigger role in infrastructure development. Making infrastructure bankable is one of our great challenges.

We need answers as quickly as they can be raised. Between 2016 and 2030, developing Asian countries will require infrastructure investment totaling US\$26 trillion, in other words, US\$1.7 trillion a year on average, to maintain growth, fight poverty and address climate change.

Infrastructure spending, to date, has largely come from the public sector, namely governments and multilateral development agencies. As the funding gap continues to expand, public-sector investment will no longer be adequate.

At the same time, we are seeing strong infrastructure investment interest among private investors. However, there is a lack of bankable projects out there for investors and financiers due to a number of issues from political and legal risks at the country level, to construction, operation and financial risks at the project level.

In short, mitigating these risks is critical to improving the bankability of infrastructure projects and, in doing so, narrowing the infrastructure financing gap.

At the recent Finance Minister's Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) which I attended last week in Papua New Guinea, infrastructure financing was one of the focus areas. The APEC Business Advisory Council, which comprises representatives from the private sector of each APEC economy, also urged financial ministers to explore ways to make infrastructure projects more bankable.

In this regard, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) plays a key role, bringing countries together to address Asia's urgent infrastructure needs and improving social and economic development in the region. In operation only since 2016, the Bank has already approved projects worth more than US\$5 billion.

Hong Kong has been a member of the AIIB since June of last year. We have the resources, capital, connections and expertise, to contribute to the AIIB. Indeed, we have what it takes to serve as the region's fundraising and financial management hub for infrastructure projects.

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong has led the world in IPO (initial public offering) fund raising in five of the past nine years. Last year, our IPO funds totalled US\$16.5 billion. And it is highly likely that this year we will top the world again given the huge amount of funds raised so far this year.

As mentioned last year, our Securities and Futures Commission also set out the criteria for assessing the eligibility of infrastructure project companies looking to list on our Main Board. It provides a clear pathway for infrastructure project companies.

This year, in order to promote sustainable developments in the region,

we have launched a Green Bond Grant Scheme to subsidise the costs incurred by green bond issuers in obtaining green finance certification. We are also working on a Government Green Bond Programme, with a borrowing ceiling up to HK\$100 billion, to fund Government green public works projects. In addition, we have introduced a pilot Bond Grant Scheme plus tax incentives to attract more issuers to Hong Kong.

In the first half of this year, at least 15 green bonds were issued in Hong Kong, with an aggregate size of US\$8 billion. The Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and the European Investment Bank were among the issuers. This speaks well of Hong Kong's promise as a regional green finance hub.

The first and foremost important step in ensuring a project's bankability, perhaps is a proper project feasibility study and preparation. In this regard, I applaud AIIB for the introduction of a Project Preparation Special Fund to assist lower income developing countries with funding support for appropriate technical assistance, in their preparation of projects for subsequent consideration and approval by AIIB. Hong Kong has therefore pledged to donate US\$10 million to this worthy cause.

On risk mitigation, our deep pool of multicultural finance and legal professionals is our compelling advantage. Leading the field in conducting project feasibility, due diligence, financial engineering and arranging for insurance, we are able to help de-risk infrastructure projects to make it more bankable. Our legal profession can also help ensure contract enforcement and resolve disputes. We are well-positioned to serve as the region's international arbitration hub for commercial disputes. Arbitral awards made in Hong Kong are enforceable in over 150 jurisdictions, including the Mainland of China.

As China's international financial capital, Hong Kong is also the world's largest offshore Renminbi (RMB) business hub. That makes us an attractive destination for those who wish to raise funds in RMB, in addition to US dollar.

The Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) is a first mover in infrastructure financing. Its network of partners has now exceeded 90. Coming from all over the world, they include development banks, project developers and operators, financiers, institutional investors and professional services firms.

Apart from financing green field projects, we are also looking at how we may better assist projects in brownfield stage. The new capital standards for banks do not make it attractive for them to hold on to these infrastructure loans on a long term basis, even though the projects are operating smoothly and profitably. Yet, there are many other investors, such as insurance companies and pension funds, which are looking for less risky investments that can produce stable long-term cash flow. The Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Limited, again under the HKMA is pursuing the proposition of securitising infrastructure loans to provide banks with opportunity to offload their loans to those long-term investors. That will facilitate

additional flow of capital into infrastructure projects.

Hong Kong, in short, is fast becoming a key infrastructural financing centre. We have the means, the expertise and the motivation, to serve as a hub for the AIIB, sourcing investment opportunities, prospective investors, and financing partners.

Hong Kong, of course, is a world leader when it comes to infrastructure, finishing second in the category in this year's Global Competitiveness Report by the World Economic Forum. Our annual infrastructure investment has soared from US\$2.5 billion to more than US\$10 billion over the past decade. In the coming five years, we expect that the annual contract value of construction work in Hong Kong to reach US\$30 billion or so, given our unshakable commitment in increasing land and housing supply, expediting hospital developments, building railway extensions and other infrastructure projects.

Infrastructure has long been the engine driving Hong Kong's economic growth. As some of you may have heard, we have more plans in hand for Lantau. In the Policy Address earlier this month, we announced the Lantau Tomorrow Vision.

Under this Vision, we will begin studies on a large-scale reclamation in phases. The first phase will encompass some 1 000 hectares of artificial islands southeast of Lantau and to be followed by a second phase comprising 700 hectares of artificial islands. Together, they will provide land to sustain the long-term housing, economic and employment needs of Hong Kong.

The reclaimed land will also allow us to thin out our densely populated urban areas. It will enable the redevelopment of old districts and improve our overall living environment, while achieving more balanced spatial development for Hong Kong.

The artificial islands will become Hong Kong's third Core Business District, after Central and Kowloon East. And we will ensure that plenty of space is set aside for business and industrial development.

Roads and railway networks will be built to support the new developments and to relieve traffic on the western part of the New Territories.

We also see a promising opportunity to create a cluster of airport-related businesses in the proximity of the Hong Kong International Airport.

And, let me make it clear, we are as committed to protecting the natural and rural environment of Lantau as we are to pursuing this far-reaching vision. And we have set aside a dedicated fund for that purpose.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a development without precedent, huge in scope and vast in its significance. Such an undertaking will bring with it diverse views throughout the community. That's both understandable and welcome. Constructive comments can help ensure its ultimate success.

Rest assured, we believe in the Lantau Tomorrow Vision, in its long-term promise – that of ensuring a sustainable, thriving and livable city for the people, and for the economy of Hong Kong.

We look forward, as well, to supporting the AIIB, in contributing to the inclusive economic development of Asia.

My sincere thanks to the Financial Times and the AIIB for organising today's summit. I wish you all a rewarding summit and the best of business – and bankable investment, of course, in the coming years.

Thank you.



[Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results:

Tender date	: October 23, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q1843
Issue date	: October 24, 2018
Maturity date	: January 23, 2019
Amount applied	: HK\$139,250 MN

Amount allotted	: HK\$58,136 MN
Average yield accepted	: 1.66 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 1.70 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 2 PCT
Average tender yield	: 1.73 PCT

Tender date	: October 23, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H1872
Issue date	: October 24, 2018
Maturity date	: April 24, 2019
Amount applied	: HK\$50,270 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$17,000 MN
Average yield accepted	: 1.76 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 1.78 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 68 PCT
Average tender yield	: 1.84 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning October 29, 2018:

Tender date	: October 30, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q1844
Issue date	: October 31, 2018
Maturity date	: January 30, 2019
Tenor	: 91 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$34,898 MN

Tender date	: October 30, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H1873
Issue date	: October 31, 2018
Maturity date	: May 2, 2019
Tenor	: 183 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$11,000 MN

Tender date	: October 30, 2018
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Y1896
Issue date	: October 31, 2018
Maturity date	: October 30, 2019
Tenor	: 364 Days

Amount on offer : HK\$5,000 MN