MD reminds passengers on high-speed craft to fasten seat belts (with photos)

The Marine Department (MD) today (September 7) launched a new round of its publicity campaign at the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal in Sheung Wan, the China Ferry Terminal in Tsim Sha Tsui and the Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal to promote the message that passengers on high-speed craft plying between Hong Kong and Macao should have their seat belts fastened for a safer sea journey.

The MD has set up a large backdrop of a Hong Kong scene installed with genuine cabin seats at the waiting lounge of the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal in Sheung Wan. Passengers of high-speed craft plying between Hong Kong and Macao are encouraged to try the seats with their seat belts fastened to enjoy the Hong Kong scenery as if they were on board a high-speed craft. Promotional leaflets and souvenirs are being distributed to passengers in the waiting lounge by the MD's Marine Inspectors, who are also appealing to passengers to fasten their seat belts at the appropriate time to ensure a safe sea journey.

A spokesperson for the MD said the slogan of the campaign is "Have a Safe and Happy Journey with Your Seat Belt Fastened", which aims to remind passengers on high-speed craft plying between Hong Kong and Macao to be aware of the master's announcement during the voyage. When the master announces the instruction, passengers should fasten their seat belts to ensure a safe journey.

The spokesperson said the MD will continue to distribute promotional leaflets at the waiting lounges and display promotional materials such as posters prominently at the three cross-boundary ferry terminals. In addition, the MD will make use of different channels to enhance passenger awareness of fastening seat belts on high-speed craft plying between Hong Kong and Macao.





EMSD announces latest sampling results for legionella at fresh water cooling towers

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (September 7) announced that the department tested 91 water samples collected from cooling towers in 85 buildings in its routine inspections in August this year. Six samples were detected to have a total legionella count at or above the upper threshold, which is 1 000 colony-forming units per millilitre. The latest statistics are set out in Annex 1.

The cooling towers in which the six samples were collected in August are located at 40 Praya Street, Cheung Chau; Fortune Factory Building, 40 Lee Chung Street, Chai Wan; Gateway TS, 8 Cheung Fai Road, Tsing Yi; New Lucky House, 13-13C Jordan Road, Jordan; Kwun Tong Industrial Centre Phase 3, 448-458 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong and Lee Wo Building, 124-136 Wo Yi Hop Road, Kwai Chung. The EMSD has issued nuisance notices under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance to the owners of the cooling towers requiring appropriate disinfection work to be done. Disinfection of the cooling towers in these six cases has already been completed by the owners. Details of these six cases can be found in Annex 2. The EMSD publishes the latest statistics of the above information on a half-monthly basis on its website

(www.emsd.gov.hk/en/other_regulatory_services/cooling_towers/water_sampling/i ndex.html).

The EMSD reminds the owners of fresh water cooling towers that they have the responsibility to design, operate and maintain cooling towers properly. They should arrange regular inspections, timely maintenance and periodic testing of the water quality in their cooling towers in accordance with the Code of Practice for Fresh Water Cooling Towers issued by the department to prevent the proliferation of legionella.

Welcome remarks by S for IT at HKRITA Innovation and Technology Symposium 2018 (English only) (with photo)

Following are the welcome remarks by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Nicholas W Yang, at the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA) Innovation and Technology Symposium 2018 today

(September 7):

Harry (Chairman of the Board of Directors of the HKRITA, Dr Harry Lee), Edwin (Chief Executive Officer of the HKRITA, Mr Edwin Keh), Felix (Chairman of the Fashion Summit Steering Committee, Mr Felix Chung), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. I am delighted to join you all at the opening of the Innovation and Technology Symposium. First, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to a distinguished group of researchers, experts, industry leaders, designers, who are here today, from different parts of the world.

I would like to also thank the HKRITA and the organisers of the Fashion Summit for hosting this prestigious event. Today's symposium is an excellent platform for industry experts to get together and deliberate on the opportunities and challenges ahead. We all know that with innovation and technology, we can always turn challenges into opportunities, and opportunities into business.

Innovation and technology is the key to enable enterprises to stay competitive. Leveraging on its industry expertise in textile and clothing, the HKRITA has been assisting the industry to migrate towards green and smart manufacturing. Since its establishment in 2006, the HKRITA has embarked upon nearly 200 projects, with over \$600 million support from the Innovation and Technology Fund, and has collected many accolades from the successful projects. Government funding alone is never enough. We need collaboration from industry partners to achieve the multiplier effect and put innovative technology into practice. Our industry, academia, research sector and the community must work together to reap the benefits. The HKRITA's four-year R&D project in textile recycling technology with the H&M Foundation provides a vivid example of such collaboration.

Earlier this week, the HKRITA joined hands with its industry partners to announce the major breakthrough in creating a closed loop system for recycling disposed textiles and garments at the Mills in Tsuen Wan. On the same day, I also witnessed the opening of an environmentally friendly yarn production line in Tai Po Industrial Estate. This is the first textile production line set up in Hong Kong in more than 50 years. A Hong Kong company, Novetex Textiles Limited, has adopted the HKRITA's technology in an automated mass production line, to recycle old or disposed textiles and clothing to manufacture yarns, which are then used to make new textiles or clothing. This HKRITA technology was awarded a Gold Medal at the 46th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva in April 2018.

As we all know, the Financial Secretary announced in the 2018-19 Budget to allocate over \$50 billion to enhance the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong. This includes injecting \$10 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund, to further strengthen our support for R&D. Last month, the Innovation and Technology Bureau launched the Technology Talent Scheme to help nurture more tech talents in Hong Kong. The Scheme comprises the Postdoctoral Hub Programme, which subsidises eligible organisations to recruit postdoctoral talent for R&D work; and the

Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme, which subsidises local enterprises to train their staff in advanced technologies which can add value to their businesses. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government is deeply committed to facilitating and promoting the development of innovation and technology. The prospects are very exciting indeed. Let's make use of innovation and technology to open up new frontiers for Hong Kong and for the world.

Before closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Harry and Edwin for their dedication in leading the HKRITA to become an R&D and innovation partner of the textiles industry. To all the speakers of the symposium, I am most grateful for the sharing of your invaluable knowledge, experience and insights. I am sure we can all benefit from your presentation and fruitful discussion.

Thank you very much and have a great day at the conference.



2019 Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination to open for applications

The following is issued on behalf of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong:

The Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong today (September 7) announced that applications for the 2019 Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination will open on September 17, 2018.

Applicants applying for the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination for the first time should submit their applications by October 31, 2018. Listed Chinese medicine practitioners or repeaters who wish to undertake the 2019 Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination,

should submit their enrolments by March 29, 2019.

The 2019 Licensing Examination consists of Part I Written Examination and Part II Clinical Examination. The written examination will be held in June 2019, while the clinical examination will be held in August 2019.

According to the Chinese Medicine Ordinance (Cap. 549), any person who wishes to apply for registration as a registered Chinese medicine practitioner must first undertake and pass the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination.

Other than listed Chinese medicine practitioners who are required by the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board to undertake the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination, a person is eligible to undertake the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination if the applicant has satisfactorily completed an undergraduate degree training course in Chinese medicine practice or its equivalent as approved by the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board.

The undergraduate degree courses in Chinese medicine of no less than five years' duration offered by the universities and institutes stated in Table 1 of the "Candidates' Handbook of the 2019 Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination" are recognised by the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board. Other than the clinical internship and clinical practice, the course must be fully conducted in the university/institute awarding the bachelor degree in Chinese medicine.

The "Candidates' Handbook for the 2019 Chinese Medicine Practitioners Licensing Examination", the application form and the enrolment form are available at the Secretariat of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong at Room 2201, 22/F Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong; the Chinese Medicine Division of the Department of Health; and the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres. They can also be downloaded from the Council's homepage (www.cmchk.org.hk).

Response to UK report on Hong Kong

In response to media enquiries, a spokesman for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government made the following response today (September 7) to the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office's sixmonthly report on Hong Kong (January to June 2018):

"Since the return to the motherland, the HKSAR has been exercising a high degree of autonomy and 'Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong' in strict accordance with the Basic Law. This demonstrates the full and successful implementation of the 'one country, two systems' principle, which has been widely recognised by the international community. Foreign

governments should not interfere in any form in the internal affairs of the HKSAR."

On "Hong Kong's independence" and freedom of speech

"The Basic Law clearly stipulates that the HKSAR is an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China (PRC). 'Hong Kong's independence' is a blatant violation of the Basic Law and a direct affront to the national sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of the PRC. 'Hong Kong's independence' runs counter to the successful implementation of 'one country, two systems' and undermines the HKSAR's constitutional and legal foundations as enshrined in the Basic Law.

"The HKSAR Government attaches great importance to freedom of speech, which is also protected by the Basic Law. However, both the relevant international human rights convention and court cases clearly point out that freedom of speech is not absolute."

On Legislative Council (LegCo) By-election

"Article 26 of the Basic Law stipulates that 'Permanent residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall have the right to vote and the right to stand for election in accordance with law'. The HKSAR Government all along respects and safeguards the rights enjoyed by Hong Kong residents according to law, including the aforesaid rights to vote and to stand for election. At the same time, the HKSAR Government has a duty to implement and uphold the Basic Law and to ensure that all elections will be conducted in accordance with the Basic Law and relevant electoral laws. Upholding the Basic Law is a basic legal duty of a legislator. If a person advocates or promotes 'Hong Kong's independence', 'self-determination' or changing the HKSAR system by referendum which includes the choice of independence, he/she cannot possibly uphold the Basic Law or fulfil his/her duties as a legislator, and cannot possibly comply with the requirement of the Legislative Council Ordinance that requires a candidate to make a declaration to uphold the Basic Law and pledge allegiance to the HKSAR. Decisions made by Returning Officers (ROs) in the 2018 LegCo By-election are aimed to ensure that the by-election is held in strict accordance with the Basic Law and other applicable laws in an open, honest and fair manner."

On an election petition lodged against the results of the 2016 LegCo General Election

"In accordance with section 40(1)(b)(i) of the Legislative Council Ordinance, a person is not validly nominated as a candidate for an election for a constituency unless the nomination form includes or is accompanied by a declaration to the effect that the person will uphold the Basic Law and pledge allegiance to the HKSAR. The HKSAR Government welcomes the Court of First Instance's decision concerning an election petition in February this year which, amongst others, confirms that the ROs, in accordance with the Legislative Council Ordinance, have the power to determine whether the declaration made by a person seeking candidature in the nomination form that he/she will uphold the Basic Law and pledge allegiance to the HKSAR is

genuine, in order to decide whether the relevant nomination is valid. Advocating 'Hong Kong's independence' is inconsistent with the constitutional and legal status of the HKSAR as stipulated in the Basic Law, as well as the established basic policies of the PRC regarding Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government supports ROs to continue to determine whether a candidate's nomination is valid in accordance with the law and all relevant information, so that elections will be conducted in compliance with the Basic Law and other applicable laws in an open, honest and fair manner."

On National Anthem Law

"The Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Anthem (the National Anthem Law) was added to Annex III to the Basic Law in November 2017. In accordance with Article 18(2) of the Basic Law, the national laws listed in Annex III to the Basic Law shall be applied locally by way of promulgation or legislation by the HKSAR. The HKSAR will implement the National Anthem Law by local legislation. The HKSAR Government has commenced work on the local legislation to implement the National Anthem Law, and has been actively listening to views from the community in the process, including consulting the LegCo and attending special meetings to receive deputations on the proposed framework of the bill, etc. We will submit the bill to the LegCo for scrutiny once the drafting of the bill is completed."

On Co-location arrangement of the Guangdong-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link

"Hong Kong is a society that upholds the rule of law. Legislation and policies must be consistent with the Constitution of the PRC, the basic policy of 'one country, two systems' as well as the Basic Law of the HKSAR. In the course of the discussions between the HKSAR and the Mainland on the clearance options of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL), both sides have always agreed that the colocation arrangement must be consistent with 'one country, two systems' and must not contravene the Basic Law.

"In any event, the implementation of co-location arrangement at the West Kowloon Station of the XRL is a facilitation measure for cross-boundary transport and a livelihood issue by nature, and its objective is to fully unleash the benefits of the XRL and maximise convenience to passengers. The HKSAR Government hopes that different sectors of the community can understand the co-location arrangement in an objective, pragmatic and all-round manner."