

Transcript of remarks of SFH at media session

Following is the transcript of remarks made by the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, after attending a mosquito and rodent control event today (May 26):

Reporter: Can you tell us more about what the Government will be doing to tackle the problem of mosquitoes and mice? And you also said just now the teams that are going around the districts, can you tell us more about that?

Secretary for Food and Health: The Government concerns about the rodent and mosquito control, especially in the summer months. But it is important that not only for the Government to increase resources and strengthen the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), in terms of rodent and mosquito control, but we also appeal to the public to pay attention to their own hygiene. Also, many of the back lanes are very dirty, it is important for all the restaurant owners not to dump rubbish at the back lanes, so that the entire environment will be cleaner. Of course we are very concern about this, that is why at the Food and Health Bureau level, I, together with the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the environmental hygiene committees of the 18 District Councils, meet every six months to look at their concerns in the district, in terms of environmental hygiene. The FEHD is also using some new technologies to wash street and keep cleaning in the community. Together with all these efforts, I am sure that we can have a better and cleaner community.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Hong Kong supports bilateral and regional economic arrangements that further trade and investment liberalisation (with photos)

Hong Kong supports high quality bilateral and regional economic arrangements that would add momentum to further trade and investment liberalisation, contributing to the realisation of the long-term vision of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, said at a discussion session themed "Toward an APEC Post 2020" on the second day of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for

Trade (MRT) Meeting in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea today (May 26).

"As an economy which champions free and open trade for years, Hong Kong consistently practises what we preach, and has been duly recognised for decades by international institutions as the world's freest economy for 24 years in a row. We firmly believe that inclusive economic growth and free and open trade can go hand-in-hand, reinforcing each other," he said.

Mr Yau said being a services-oriented economy, Hong Kong welcomes APEC's progress in the implementation of the APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap. Hong Kong will continue to work with APEC member economies in the implementation of the Roadmap. He hoped all APEC members could make the best of APEC's strength as a forward looking, highly motivated driving force for open and free trade and investment in the world when developing its post 2020 vision.

At the conclusion of the MRT Meeting, a Chair's statement that represents APEC's prevailing view in support of the Multilateral Trading System was issued. Participating ministers also endorsed the MRT statement which reaffirmed APEC member economies' commitment to improving connectivity and deepening regional economic integration; promoting sustainable and inclusive growth; strengthening inclusive growth through structural reform; and strengthening economic and technical cooperation.

On the margins of the MRT Meeting, Mr Yau met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Papua New Guinea, Mr Rimbink Pato; the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei, Dato Erywan Yusof; the State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, Mr Kosaburo Nishime; and the Deputy United States Trade Representative, Mr Jeffrey Gerrish. They discussed various trade and economic co-operation issues.

Mr Yau will return to Hong Kong this evening.



Special traffic arrangements for race meeting in Sha Tin tomorrow

Police advise motorists that special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Sha Tin to facilitate the race meeting tomorrow (May 27).

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.

SED on Revised Curriculum Frameworks of Junior Secondary Chinese History and History

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, at a media session after attending a radio programme today (May 26):

Reporter: It emphasises the one country aspect and reduces students' sense of belonging to Hong Kong...

Secretary for Education: You mean the revised curriculum?

Reporter: Yes, scrapping the chapter of Hong Kong.

Secretary for Education: As I said, it is not scrapping of the Hong Kong section, it is a methodology of teaching that puts the content of the Hong Kong development into the history of our country. So there is no political consideration in that aspect.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Immigration Complaints Hotline services resume

The Immigration Complaints Hotline (2824 1551) and Immigration Complaints Faxline (2824 1166) have resumed normal service after completion of regular inspection of the building's electrical installation system at Skyline Tower, Kowloon Bay.