

Inspection of aquatic products imported from Japan

In response to the Japanese Government's plan to discharge nuclear-contaminated water at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station, the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene issued a Food Safety Order which prohibits all aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds originating from the 10 metropolis/prefectures, namely Tokyo, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Miyagi, Chiba, Gunma, Tochigi, Niigata, Nagano and Saitama, from being imported into and supplied in Hong Kong.

For other Japanese aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds that are not prohibited from being imported into Hong Kong, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will conduct comprehensive radiological tests to verify that the radiation levels of these products do not exceed the guideline levels before they are allowed to be supplied in the market.

As the discharge of nuclear-contaminated water is unprecedented and will continue for 30 years or more, the Government will closely monitor and step up the testing arrangements. Should anomalies be detected, the Government does not preclude further tightening the scope of the import ban.

From noon on August 26 to noon today (August 27), the CFS conducted tests on the radiological levels of 113 food samples imported from Japan, which were of the "aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt" category. No sample was found to have exceeded the safety limit. Details can be found on the CFS's thematic website titled "Control Measures on Foods Imported from Japan" (www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_rafs/programme_rafs_fc_01_30_Nuclear_Event_and_Food_Safety.html).

In parallel, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has also tested 50 samples of local catch for radiological levels. All the samples passed the tests. Details can be found on the AFCD's website (www.afcd.gov.hk/english/fisheries/Radiological_testing/Radiological_Test.html).

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) has also enhanced the environmental monitoring of the local waters. No anomaly has been detected so far. For details, please refer to the HKO's website (www.hko.gov.hk/en/radiation/monitoring/seawater.html).

From August 24, 2023, to noon today, the CFS and the AFCD have conducted tests on the radiological levels of 79 671 samples of food imported from Japan (including 51 048 samples of aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt) and 18 350 samples of local catch respectively. All the samples passed the tests.

Missing man in Kowloon City located

A man who went missing in Kowloon City has been located.

Lo Shui-ping, aged 65, went missing after he left his residence on Hing Yan Street on August 25 morning. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The man was located on Prince Edward Road East, Wong Tai Sin, this morning (August 27). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

Judicial appointment

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Judiciary today (August 27) announced the appointment of Mr Lam Chin-ching as a District Judge. The appointment will take effect on August 28, 2024.

The appointment is made by the Chief Executive on the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission.

Further judicial appointments will be announced in due course.

The biographical note of Mr Lam is as follows:

Mr Lam was born in Hong Kong in 1981. He obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration (Law) Degree, an LL.B. and a P.C.LL. from the University of Hong Kong in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively. He further obtained a Master of Laws Degree from Harvard Law School of Harvard University, the United States in 2006. He was called to the Bar in Hong Kong in 2007 and has been in private practice since the same year. He was appointed as Deputy District Judge and Temporary Deputy Registrar, High Court for periods from 2016 to 2018, in 2020 and from 2022 to 2024.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 is 104.0 (up 0.1 against yesterday's index).

Thai luxury health and beauty brand opens first overseas store in Hong Kong (with photos)

Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) announced that Thai holistic wellness and lifestyle brand PAÑPURI has officially opened its first store in Hong Kong today (August 27), taking the brand to the world stage.

Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion Dr Jimmy Chiang lauded the move, saying, "Cosmetics and personal care products are popular shopping categories for both locals and visitors. The opening of PAÑPURI in Hong Kong offers not only a premium choice for customers, but also shows the attraction of Hong Kong as a global hub for international brands. I wish PAÑPURI every success in Hong Kong and beyond."

The new store at a cultural-retail shopping mall in Tsim Sha Tsui offers a wide range of fragrance and beauty products, including essential oils, ambience diffusers, fragrances and more. It also provides an exclusive Hong Kong Edition EXTRACT Perfume Oil collection and a Bespoke Sensorial Bar for customers to design their own signature scent with the assistance of trained specialists.

Managing Director of PAÑPURI Mr Pramote Dechaboonsiripanich said, "Hong Kong's consumers are known for their refined taste and demand for premium products, which presented a strategic opportunity for us to grow our customer base. Additionally, Hong Kong serves as a gateway to the Mainland and a global business hub, making it an ideal location for expansion. Our data also shows that Hong Kong customers rank among our top clients, so this move allows us to better serve both local and international customers."

He added, "Our goal is to expand to three or four stores in Hong Kong and to establish our Hong Kong office, capitalising on the city's status as a strategic gateway to Asia and a sought-after international hub. Our Hong Kong office will play a pivotal role in overseeing operations across Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao. Its key responsibilities will include driving sales, marketing initiatives and planning, as well as enhancing our retail capabilities over the next few years."

For more information about PAÑPURI, please visit www.panpuri.com.

To get a copy of the photos, please visit
www.flickr.com/photos/investhk/albums/72177720319824763.

