

Marine Department announcement

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

As the Standby Signal No.1 has been issued, the Marine Department reminds vessel owners, masters and persons-in-charge of vessels that they should take precautionary measures immediately and properly secure their vessels at safe locations.

In case of an accident, a report should be made immediately to the Vessel Traffic Centre at 2233 7801.

Labour Department highly concerned about fatal work accident that happened in Tsuen Wan today

The Labour Department (LD) is highly concerned about a fatal work accident that happened at a building in Tsuen Wan this morning (July 20), in which a male worker, while erecting a bamboo scaffold at the external wall of the building, fell from height to the ground. He was certified dead at the scene. The LD is saddened by the death of the worker and expresses its deepest sympathy to his family.

The LD's spokesman said, "We commenced an immediate on-site investigation as soon as we were notified of the accident and issued suspension notices to the contractors concerned, suspending the erection, alteration, dismantling and use of the bamboo scaffold on the external wall of the building. The contractors cannot resume the work process until the LD is satisfied that measures to abate the relevant risks have been taken."

The spokesman added, "We will complete the investigation as soon as possible to identify the cause of the accident, ascertain the liability of the duty holders and recommend improvement measures. We will take actions pursuant to the law if there is any violation of the work safety legislation."

The general duty provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance require employers to provide safe working environments, plant and systems of work for their employees. Those who contravene the relevant provisions are liable to a maximum fine of \$10 million and imprisonment for

two years on conviction on indictment; or \$3 million and imprisonment for six months on summary conviction.

In regard to today's accident, the LD will issue a Work Safety Alert through its mobile application "OSH 2.0", website and email, giving a brief account of the accident concerned to duty holders, workers' unions, professional bodies of safety practitioners and others, and reminding the industry of the importance of following safety precautionary measures to prevent a recurrence of similar accidents.

The LD will also remind the employer concerned of the liability for employees' compensation under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, assist family members of the deceased to claim employees' compensation and closely follow up on the case. For those with financial difficulties, the LD will assist them to apply for appropriate emergency funds. Subject to the needs and wishes of family members of the deceased, the LD will also liaise with the Social Welfare Department for financial or other assistance.

For the sake of securing the safety and health of employees at work, the LD appeals to employers to provide plant and systems of work that are safe and without risks to health. Employees should co-operate with their employers, adopt all safety measures and use personal protective equipment provided properly to avoid endangering their own work safety and that of other workers.

[Appeal for information on missing man in Kwun Tong \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (July 20) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Kwun Tong.

Chow Wai-cheung, aged 33, went missing after he left his residence in Kai Tin Estate on July 18 morning. His family made a report to Police yesterday (July 19).

He is about 1.8 metres tall and of medium build. He has a square face with yellow complexion and short black hair. He was last seen wearing a white short-sleeved T-shirt, blue jeans, white shoes and carrying a grey crossbody bag.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Persons Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0335 or email to rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



[Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected cocaine worth about \\$800,000 \(with photo\)](#)

â€‹Hong Kong Customs on July 18 seized about one kilogram of suspected cocaine with an estimated market value of about \$800,000 at Hong Kong International Airport.

Through risk assessment, Customs on that day inspected an air parcel, declared as carrying gifts and arriving in Hong Kong from Mexico, at Hong Kong International Airport. Upon inspection, Customs officers found that the parcel had about 1kg of suspected cocaine concealed inside.

After follow-up investigations, Customs officers conducted a controlled delivery operation yesterday (July 19) in Mong Kok and arrested a male consignee, aged 49. The arrested person has been charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug and he will appear at the Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts on July 22.

Customs will continue to step up enforcement against drug trafficking activities through intelligence analysis. The department also reminds members of the public to stay alert and not to participate in drug trafficking activities for monetary return. They must not accept hiring or delegation from another party to carry controlled items into and out of Hong Kong. They are also reminded not to carry unknown items for other people, nor to release their personal data or home address to others for receiving parcels or goods.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002/).



CHP investigates suspected ciguatoxin poisoning case

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (July 20) investigating a suspected ciguatoxin poisoning case affecting two persons.

The case involves a male and a female both aged 46, who developed symptoms of ciguatoxin poisoning including abdominal pain and diarrhoea, as well as numbness over face, tongue and limb about six hours after consuming fish during dinner at a restaurant in Mong Kok on July 18. The duo sought medical attention at the Accident and Emergency Department of United Christian Hospital yesterday (July 19) and did not require hospitalisation. They are in stable condition.

Initial enquiries revealed that the fish consumed was brought from Okinawa. Investigation by the CHP is ongoing.

Ciguatera fish poisoning is not uncommon in tropical areas. It is mainly associated with the consumption of large coral reef fish which have accumulated the toxin in the body, particularly in internal organs, through eating small fish that consumed toxic algae in seas around coral reefs.

A larger fish is therefore more likely to carry a higher amount of the

toxin. However, it is not easy to tell from the appearance of the fish whether it contains the toxin.

People affected may have symptoms of numbness of the mouth and limbs, vomiting, diarrhoea, alternating sensations of coldness and hotness, and pain in their joints and muscles.

"Most people affected by ciguatoxin will recover without long-term health effects, but if excessive toxins are consumed, the circulatory and nervous systems can be affected. The toxin cannot be destroyed by cooking," a spokesman for the CHP said.

To prevent ciguatera fish poisoning, the public should:

- Eat less coral reef fish;
- Eat small amounts of coral reef fish at any meal and avoid having a whole fish feast in which all dishes come from the same large coral reef fish;
- Avoid eating the head, skin, intestines and roe of coral reef fish, which usually have a higher concentration of toxins;
- When eating coral reef fish, avoid consuming alcohol, peanuts or beans as they may aggravate ciguatoxin poisoning;
- Seek medical treatment immediately should symptoms of ciguatoxin fish poisoning appear; and
- Coral reef fish should be purchased from reputable and licensed seafood shops. Do not buy the fish when the source is in doubt.