

Red flags hoisted at some beaches

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 announced today (October 5) that the Environmental Protection Department has classified the water quality at Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District and Casam Beach in Tsuen Wan District as Grade 4, which means the beaches are not suitable for swimming. The red flags have been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach, Casam Beach and Lido Beach. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches until further notice.

The red flag was hoisted at Silverstrand Beach earlier due to big waves.

Exchange Fund Bills tender results

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

Exchange Fund Bills tender results:

Tender date	: October 5, 2021
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q2140
Issue date	: October 6, 2021
Maturity date	: January 5, 2022
Amount applied	: HK\$256,740 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$64,342 MN
Average yield accepted	: 0.01 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 0.01 PCT
Pro rata ratio*	: About 26 PCT
Average tender yield	: 0.01 PCT

Tender date	: October 5, 2021
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H2169
Issue date	: October 6, 2021
Maturity date	: April 6, 2022
Amount applied	: HK\$82,300 MN

Amount allotted	: HK\$17,000 MN
Average yield accepted	: 0.01 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 0.01 PCT
Pro rata ratio*	: About 86 PCT
Average tender yield	: 0.02 PCT

*"Pro rata ratio" refers to the average percentage of allotment with respect to each tender participant's tendered amount at the "highest yield accepted" level.

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning 11 October 2021 :

Tender date	: October 12, 2021
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q2141
Issue date	: October 13, 2021
Maturity date	: January 12, 2022
Tenor	: 91 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$66,347 MN

Tender date	: October 12, 2021
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H2170
Issue date	: October 13, 2021
Maturity date	: April 13, 2022
Tenor	: 182 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$16,000 MN

[Public hospitals daily update on COVID-19 cases](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 9am today (October 5), five COVID-19 confirmed patients (case numbers: 12151, 12194, 12195, 12196 and 12197) were discharged from hospital in the last 24 hours. So far, a total of 11 931 patients with confirmed or probable infection have been discharged.

At present, there are 567 negative pressure rooms in public hospitals

with 1 050 negative pressure beds activated. A total of 51 confirmed patients are currently hospitalised in 10 public hospitals and the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre and all of them are in stable condition.

The Hospital Authority will maintain close contact with the Centre for Health Protection to monitor the latest developments and to inform the public and healthcare workers on the latest information in a timely manner.

The hottest September

Due to the stronger than usual subtropical ridge over southern China, September 2021 was the hottest September in Hong Kong on record. The monthly mean maximum temperature of 32.8 degrees, the monthly mean temperature of 29.7 degrees and the monthly mean minimum temperature of 27.8 degrees were 2.3 degrees, 1.8 degrees and 1.7 degrees above their corresponding normal figures (or 2.7 degrees, 2.0 degrees and 2.0 degrees above their corresponding 1981-2010 normal figures), making all of them the highest on record for September. There were 15 very hot days and 11 hot nights in the month, both marking new records for September. Meanwhile, the numbers of very hot days and hot nights from January to September 2021 have already reached 53 days and 57 days respectively, both exceeding the annual records made in 2020. September 2021 was also much drier than usual with a total rainfall of 129.6 millimetres, about 40 per cent of the normal figure of 321.4mm (or about 40 per cent of the 1981-2010 normal of 327.6mm). The accumulated rainfall recorded in the first nine months of the year was 1 650.7mm, about 26 per cent below the normal figure of 2 242.8mm for the same period (or about 26 per cent below the 1981-2010 normal of 2 233.1mm).

Under the dominance of the anticyclone over southern China, apart from a few showers and isolated thunderstorms, the weather of Hong Kong was sunny and very hot for most of the time from September 1 to 12. Over the western North Pacific, Super Typhoon Chanthu tracked northwards and moved across the Luzon Strait and the sea areas to the east of Taiwan from September 10 to 12. With plenty of sunshine and under the influence of the outer subsiding air of Chanthu, the temperature recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory soared to 34.5 degrees on September 12, the highest of the month. The daily mean temperature of 31.2 degrees on that day was the joint highest on record for September.

Under light wind conditions, high temperatures triggered localised thundery showers in some regions from September 13 to 17 with sunny periods in between. The daily minimum temperature of 29.5 degrees on September 13 was the joint highest on record for September. Localised heavy showers and thunderstorms occurred on September 16 with hail reported in Tseung Kwan O at around 1pm and more than 100mm of rainfall recorded in that region. A man was also reported dead after being struck by lightning in Clear Water Bay that

afternoon.

Affected by an anticyclone aloft, there were a few showers and isolated thunderstorms with sunny periods from September 18 to 19. Under light wind conditions, there were sunny periods from September 20 to 22 with the day heating triggering a few thundery showers. The showers were particularly heavy in some areas on September 21, with more than 60mm of rainfall recorded over Tsuen Wan District. With plenty of sunshine, the temperature recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory soared to a maximum of 34.0 degrees on the afternoon of September 22, making it the hottest day following the Mid-Autumn Festival on record.

With the setting in of a fresh to strong easterly airstream on the night of September 22, the local weather turned mainly cloudy with occasional showers and squally thunderstorms the next day. Under the rain, the temperature recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory dropped to a minimum of 26.0 degrees, the lowest of the month. This was also the highest monthly absolute minimum temperature on record for September. The weather gradually became sunnier and less showery from September 24 to 26. Under the influence of an anticyclone aloft and the moderation of the easterly airstream, apart from some isolated showers and thunderstorms from September 29 to 30, the local weather became mainly fine and was very hot towards the end of the month.

Five tropical cyclones occurred over the South China Sea and the western North Pacific in September 2021.

Details of issuance and cancellation of various warnings/signals in September are summarised in Table 1. Monthly meteorological figures and departures from normal for September are tabulated in Table 2.

Land Registry releases statistics for September

The Land Registry today (October 5) released its statistics for September 2021.

Land registration

* The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received for registration in September was 7,400 (-6.0 per cent compared with August 2021 but +12.4 per cent compared with September 2020)

* The 12-month moving average for September was 8,050 (0.9 per cent above the

12-month moving average for August 2021 and 42.1 per cent above that for September 2020)

* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in September was \$66.8 billion (-5.2 per cent compared with August 2021 but +30.1 per cent compared with September 2020)

* Among the sale and purchase agreements, 5,844 were for residential units (+5.4 per cent compared with August 2021 and +16.3 per cent compared with September 2020)

* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in respect of residential units was \$56.1 billion (+2.9 per cent compared with August 2021 and +29.1 per cent compared with September 2020)

Statistics on sales of residential units do not include sale and purchase agreements relating to sales of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme, the Tenants Purchase Scheme, etc unless the premium of the unit concerned has been paid after the sale restriction period.

Figures on sale and purchase agreements received for the past 12 months, the year-on-year rate of change and breakdown figures on residential sales have also been released.

As deeds may not be lodged with the Land Registry until up to 30 days after the transaction, these statistics generally relate to land transactions in the previous month.

Land search

* The number of searches of land registers made by the public in September was 489,429 (-5.3 per cent compared with August 2021 but +6.6 per cent compared with September 2020)

The statistics cover searches made at the counter, through the self-service terminals and via the Integrated Registration Information System Online Services.