

Employee fined for violation of safety legislation

An employee was fined \$37,000 at Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (April 29) for violation of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on May 8, 2021, at a construction site on Lamma Island. It was suspected that during transportation of soil and a large stone down a ramp using a rubber crawler carrier driven by a worker, the large stone rolled out from the rubber crawler carrier. While the worker was walking towards the large stone for checking, he slipped and his head struck the large stone, causing him to sustain a serious head injury. The worker passed away on the same day.

Government announces latest situation of fresh food supply from Mainland

A Government spokesman announced today (April 29) that the supply of fresh food from the Mainland yesterday (April 28) was sufficient and stable.

According to the latest information, the quantity of vegetables supplied from the Mainland to Hong Kong yesterday (as of midnight) by land and water transportation was over 2 500 tonnes, comparable to the average daily supply from the Mainland on a normal day. The volume of vegetables supplied from the Mainland to Hong Kong sold through the wholesale markets of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Vegetable Marketing Organization was about 755 tonnes. The average wholesale prices of choi sum and pak choi stood at \$6.60 and \$5.20 per catty respectively yesterday, largely comparable to the levels of a normal day. The supply of eggs to the wholesale market remained steady, with the average daily supply standing at about 3.5 million for the past week, largely comparable to the average daily supply on a normal day last year.

The total supply of chilled meat from the Mainland yesterday was over 35 tonnes. The supply of live pigs was plentiful.

The supply of chilled poultry from the Mainland was about 130 000 head yesterday, and about 12 000 live chickens were slaughtered locally. The supply was abundant.

Regarding the rice supply, in compliance with the requirement by the Government, stockholders of rice have to maintain the reserve stock of rice at a level sufficient for consumption by the local population for 15 days. The trade generally stocks double the required amount, which is sufficient for one month's consumption by Hong Kong citizens. In recent years, the import and consumption of rice in Hong Kong has stood at a steady level of around 320 000 to 330 000 tonnes per year. The import quantity (including reserve stock) as of end-March 2022 was 27 300 tonnes. Suppliers also maintain a reserve for food that can be stored, such as frozen meat, for around three months' stock generally.

The Government will continue to maintain close liaison with the Mainland authorities and major food suppliers to ensure a stable food supply.

The AFCD updates and publishes the fresh food supply information daily. Members of the public may visit the AFCD website for updates on daily supplies and wholesale prices of fresh food (www.afcd.gov.hk/english/agriculture/agr_fresh/agr_fresh.html).

Chief Executive Election polling notices delivered to Election Committee members

Polling notices and other electoral documents on the arrangements for the 2022 Chief Executive (CE) Election to be held on May 8, as well as information about the "suggested timeslot" to vote which they belong to, have been delivered to all Election Committee (EC) members.

"Items posted with the polling notice include a name badge of the EC member, the Introduction to the Candidate, a location map of the main polling station, a note on the polling and counting procedures, voting instructions and a transportation map to the main polling station. If any EC member has not yet received the polling notice and related electoral documents, he/she can call the election hotline on 2891 1001," a spokesman for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) said today (April 29).

The main polling station for the election will be set up on 1/F, Phase 2, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), Wan Chai. The polling hours will be from 9am to 11.30am.

"Given the epidemic situation and to reduce the flow of people at the main polling station, the REO has assigned a 'suggested timeslot' to vote in the main polling station for each EC member according to the EC sectors to which they belong. We call on the EC members to arrive at the main polling station to vote according to their 'suggested timeslots'," the spokesman

said.

"EC members going to vote in the main polling station should bring the original of their Hong Kong permanent identity card or other specified alternative documents. Staff will make use of the Electronic Poll Register system for issuing ballot papers. EC members should also bring their name badge for access into the HKCEC.

"At present, there is no electoral law requiring electors to use the 'LeaveHomeSafe' mobile application and comply with the Vaccine Pass requirements before entering polling stations, but we encourage the EC members to use the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app and comply with the Vaccine Pass requirements when entering the main polling station. The REO will post the 'LeaveHomeSafe' QR code of the main polling station at the passage leading to the main polling station in the HKCEC. However, whether the EC members use the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app and comply with the Vaccine Pass requirements or not will not affect their voting rights," the spokesman added.

"EC members who arrive at the main polling station after 11.30am will not be admitted to the main polling station. In view of the expected busy traffic on the polling day in the vicinity of the HKCEC, in case many vehicles arrive at the venue at the same time, they need to wait to be admitted to the venue. Therefore, EC members going to the HKCEC by car or taxi should reserve sufficient time. In addition, due to limited parking space at the venue, we encourage EC members to go to the main polling station by public transport," the spokesman reminded.

The counting of votes will be held in the central counting station cum media centre on 3/F, Phase 2, HKCEC, shortly after the close of the poll. After casting their votes, the REO encourages EC members to stay to observe the counting of votes at the central counting station cum media centre.

There is only one validly nominated candidate in the election. Each EC member may cast either a "support" vote or a "not support" vote. The candidate shall be returned at the election if the number of valid "support" votes obtained by him exceeds 750.

Information about the CE Election is available on the election website (www.elections.gov.hk). For enquiries, please call the election hotline on 2891 1001.

Government follows up on positive results of sewage surveillance and

appeals to residents to undergo virus testing

The Government announced today (April 29) that in order to fight the coronavirus epidemic, the Environmental Protection Department and the Drainage Services Department in collaboration with the cross-disciplinary team of the University of Hong Kong had strengthened the sampling of sewage for virus testing in all districts, and had detected positive results in many areas, indicating that there may be hidden cases in the premises within these areas.

Rapid test

As regards positive sewage testing results with relatively high viral loads in the following areas, the Housing Department and the respective District Offices will commence distributing about 230 000 sets of the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to residents, cleaning workers and property management staff working in the following areas for them to take the test on their own, in order to help identify infected persons:

- Tsuen Wan District – Shek Wai Kok Estate, Cheung Shan Estate, Luk Yeung Sun Chuen, The Cairnhill and The Cliveden
- Eastern District – Heng Fa Chuen
- Kwun Tong District – On Tat Estate

Members of the public may refer to (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html) for enquiries relating to the use of the RAT kits.

When using an RAT kit, please pay attention to and follow the instructions from the manufacturer to perform the test and read the result properly. It is advisable to record the displayed result by taking a photo immediately after reading. Users should wash their hands before and after performing the tests, and avoid placing non-essential items within the specimen collection area. After completing the test, wrap and seal all components of the test kit carefully and dispose properly. If the household environment is contaminated during the specimen collecting process, disinfection should be conducted with 1 in 49 diluted bleach solution or 70 per cent alcohol.

People who obtained a positive result through an RAT for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" (www.chp.gov.hk/ratp). If individuals encounter difficulties using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 183 6119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of

Health will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.

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