

Transcript of remarks by CE at media session before ExCo (with video)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting today (June 1):

Reporter: How are full-vaccinated senior executives from listed company different than any other full-vaccinated person? What makes them eligible to skip the quarantine but others cannot? The second question, how do you respond to those who argue that it is inconsistent with the science to ban protest while allowing indoor art fairs when research shows only a tiny percentage of coronavirus infections are acquired outdoors? Thank you.

Chief Executive: On the two questions, first is, I must point out that from the very beginning when the Government passed regulations to restrict arrivals from the Mainland or from other parts of the world under what we call the Cap. 599C, in respect of other parts of China, and Cap. 599E, in respect of other parts of the world, there is always this exemption scheme that will empower the Government to exclude certain categories of arrivals from the prevailing quarantine arrangement, whether it is home quarantine, hotel quarantine, 14 days or 21 days. There is always that exemption scheme. And the authority to exempt has been delegated to the Chief Secretary for Administration. In the past 15, 16 months, the Chief Secretary for Administration has been granting exemptions either by categories or by individuals where the cases justify that exemption. For example, scientists travelling to Hong Kong or people who are involved in the production of PPE (personal protective equipment) have to come to Hong Kong, to put them under quarantine defeats the purpose of the whole regime. That is point number one. We are not creating a new regime. We are not creating a new piece of law. That is always there.

The time has come for us to consider the revival of Hong Kong's economy because, as you will realise, the situation has fast stabilised since the fourth wave hit us. In examining the economic activities that Hong Kong has to conduct at any point in time, there is a very important area called the "financial centre" because after all Hong Kong is an international financial centre. So the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, in consultation with the regulatory authorities, has proposed that we should provide an alternative arrangement for these senior executives to come so that they can continue to conduct very essential economic activities in Hong Kong.

But let me make it very clear, if I may also draw your attention to some of the guidelines issued, it is not a free-for-all situation. These senior executives, who have to be recognised individually by the regulatory bodies, whether it is the Securities and Futures Commission, the Insurance Authority or the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, they have a real genuine business purpose to come to Hong Kong. And when they are given that exemption to come

to Hong Kong without being subject to the usual, prevailing quarantine arrangements, they are subject to another set of – we still call it quarantine arrangement – which restricts their behaviours and their activities. They have to stay in one designated spot, and then they have to travel to another designated spot for the business, for example, attend a meeting, consult lawyers on their IPOs and whatnot, and then they have to go back to that designated spot. They could not go out to the community at all. Even their itinerary is being controlled. I think we have struck the right balance; on the one hand in recognition of the economic needs of this city, and on the other hand we have served the needed public health purposes.

As far as the second question, since the protests and the assemblies have been objected to by the Police, and the applicant has already appealed and the appeal has been dismissed, what we have to do is to act in accordance with the law. I do not have a second opinion on this matter.

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

FEHD continues to arrange free COVID-19 testing services for targeted groups

A spokesman for the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) said today (June 1) that apart from the regular testing services provided for practitioners working at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse, the FEHD will continue to arrange free COVID-19 testing services for targeted groups, including high-exposure groups such as staff and personnel working in markets, licensed hawkers and practitioners of cold stores, to safeguard public health. The deadline for online registration for the scheme has been extended to June 30. People in high-exposure groups who have already registered and undergone testing may register again.

Under the scheme, the testing agency (Prenetics Limited) will be responsible for the provision of one-stop services covering specimen taking and testing. For details of the testing programme, please call the hotline of the testing agency at 3008 8319 or visit the FEHD website (www.fehd.gov.hk/english/events/covid19_test/info_20200926.html).

The spokesman also appealed to the groups concerned to continue to comply with the directions made under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), and to maintain personal and environmental hygiene continuously with a view to ensuring cleanliness of the premises and food safety.

[Distinctive arts on offer at LCSD parks \(with photos\)](#)

Members of the public are invited to visit the new phase of the Arts Fun Fair to be launched by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) at Kowloon Park from this Sunday (June 6). Visitors can enjoy the beautiful scenery of the park while appreciating a wide range of handicrafts and artworks.

The 23rd phase of the Arts Fun Fair at Kowloon Park runs from June 6 until May 29 next year, and will be open from 1pm to 7pm on Sundays and public holidays at the park's Loggia. There will be 17 stalls displaying and selling craftworks including paper crafts, handmade soaps, floral artworks and ornaments as well as arts services including marbling art and caricatures.

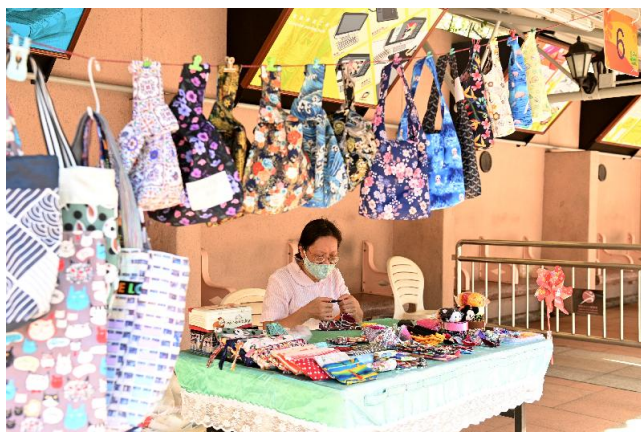
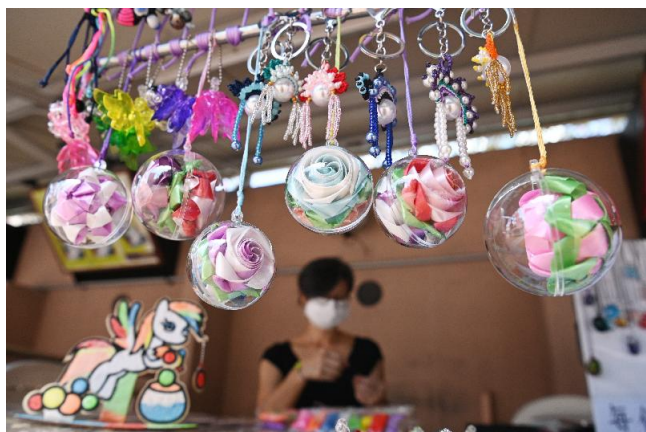
The Arts Fun Fair aims at enhancing public interest in the arts and enriching the arts atmosphere in Hong Kong. It will also make the park more appealing and enjoyable for park visitors, a spokesman for the LCSD said.

"The Arts Fun Fair at Kowloon Park has been well received by the general public. In addition to the fair, other specialised facilities in the park, such as the Sculpture Walk, the Sculpture Garden and the Maze Garden, also win the hearts of visitors enjoying fun-filled weekends," the spokesman said.

In addition to the fun fair at Kowloon Park, the Arts Corner at Hong Kong Park has also commenced.

The 21st phase of the Hong Kong Park's Arts Corner is now open from noon to 6pm every Saturday, Sunday and public holiday. It will continue until December 31 at the outdoor area near the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware inside the park. There are 10 stalls in operation featuring fabric crafts and ornaments as well as stalls providing arts services including painting, sketching and calligraphy.

For enquiries, please call 2724 3344 (Kowloon Park) or 2521 5041 (Hong Kong Park).



[Red flags hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach](#)

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 (June 1) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach in Islands District and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

[Occupational safety and health courses open for applications](#)

The Kwun Tong Occupational Safety and Health Centre of the Labour Department (LD) will launch a wide range of occupational safety and health courses in the second half of 2021. The courses aim to enhance the working population's awareness of occupational health and their understanding of occupational safety regulations.

The courses cover a wide range of topics, including:

1. Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance and Regulations
2. Gas Poisoning in Manholes

3. Confined Spaces Regulations
4. Major Safety Regulations Related to Working in Catering Trade
5. Dangerous Substances Regulations
6. Safety Management Regulation
7. Safety Regulations on Manual Handling Operations
8. Regulations Related to Safety in Hotel Industry
9. Safety Regulations on Working in Times of Inclement Weather and Hot Environment
10. Major Safety Regulations Related to Accident Prevention in Office Work
11. A Brief Introduction to the Regulation on Display Screen Equipment
12. Office Workstation Setup
13. Air Monitoring in the Workplaces
14. Lighting Assessment in the Workplaces
15. Guidance Notes on Standing at Work
16. A Brief Introduction to the Regulation on Display Screen Equipment and Workstation Risk Assessment
17. A Brief Introduction on Occupational Health Hazards in Elderly Homes
18. Risk Assessments on Manual Handling Operations in Elderly Homes
19. A Brief Introduction to Noise at Work Regulation
20. More Exercise, Smart Work
21. Strategies for the Prevention of Occupational Diseases
22. Occupational Health in Catering Industry
23. Chemicals and Occupational Health
24. Medical Examinations for Workers Engaged in Hazardous Occupations in Industrial Undertakings
25. Manual Handling Operations and Prevention of Back Injuries
26. Occupational Health for Security Guards
27. Chemicals and Occupational Health in Hotel Industry
28. Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work in a Hot Environment
29. Occupational Health for Office Workers
30. Health Hints on the Use of Computer
31. Prevention of Upper and Lower Limb Disorders
32. Noise Hazards and Prevention of Hearing Loss
33. Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders for Office Workers
34. Occupational Health for Cleansing Workers
35. Occupational Contact Dermatitis
36. Manual Handling Operations and Prevention of Back Injuries for Workers of Residential Care Home
37. Occupational Health for Professional Drivers
38. Work and Common Gastrointestinal Diseases
39. Occupational Stress Workshop
40. Work and Healthy Lifestyle
41. Work and Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension
42. First Aid in the Workplaces (including demonstration and practice of bandaging)

The courses will mainly be conducted in Cantonese at the LD's Occupational Safety and Health Centre, G/F, Kwun Tong Community Health Centre Building, 60 Hip Wo Street, Kwun Tong. Enrolment is free.

Application forms are available at the centre or offices of the

Occupational Health Service of the LD. They can also be downloaded from the department's website (www.labour.gov.hk/eng/osh/content6.htm). For enquiries, please call 2361 8240.