

[Hong Kong Customs seizes over three tonnes of suspected scheduled dried shark fins \(with photo\)](#)

â€‹Hong Kong Customs seized over three tonnes of suspected scheduled dried shark fins of endangered species with an estimated market value of about \$2.2 million at the Hong Kong International Airport today (May 29).

Through risk assessment, Customs officers inspected two air consignments arrived at Hong Kong from Mexico and found the suspected scheduled dried shark fins inside.

The case has been handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up investigation.

Under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting an endangered species without a licence is liable to a maximum fine of \$10 million and imprisonment for 10 years.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



[CE signs Improving Electoral System \(Consolidated Amendments\) Ordinance 2021 \(with photos\)](#)

â€‹The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, today (May 29) signed in accordance with Article 48(3) of the Basic Law the Improving Electoral System

(Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance 2021 passed by the Legislative Council (LegCo). The Ordinance will come into immediate effect after it is published in the Gazette on Monday (May 31).

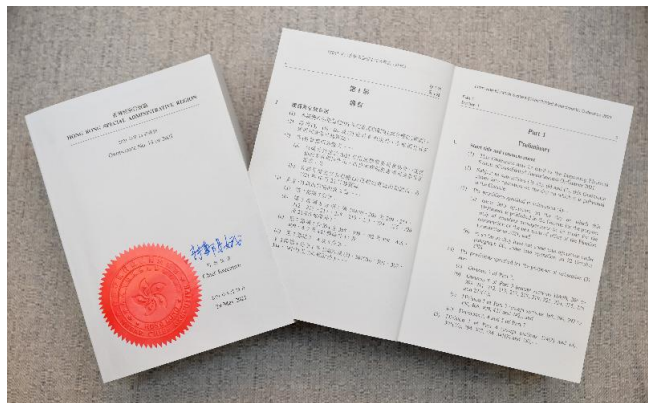
"Signing bills passed by the LegCo and promulgating laws is one of the Chief Executive's constitutional powers and functions. I have exercised this power and discharged this function in respect of four legal instruments within a year, which are essential to upholding the principle of 'One Country, Two Systems' in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and ensuring its full and faithful implementation. It is indeed a significant responsibility," Mrs Lam said.

The four pieces of legislation comprise the National Anthem Ordinance signed on June 11, 2020; the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, which was passed by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and implemented following the signing of the promulgation by the Chief Executive on June 30, 2020; the Public Offices (Candidacy and Taking Up Offices)(Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2021 signed on May 20, 2021; and the Ordinance signed today.

"The vitality of the law lies in its faithful and accurate implementation. The HKSAR Government will fulfil its responsibility and take resolute enforcement action without fear to strive to safeguard the constitutional order of the HKSAR and ensure its long-term prosperity and stability.

"I express my gratitude to the LegCo for enacting the several pieces of legislation and various sectors and the general public for their support for the legislative work," Mrs Lam said.

Looking ahead, Mrs Lam said that the HKSAR Government's priorities after completing the legislative work of the Ordinance are fighting COVID-19 to achieve "zero infection"; preparing for the three forthcoming elections in accordance with the law to ensure that they are held in a fair, just and open manner; and reviving the economy and working in concert with the LegCo to resolve the fundamental livelihood issues.



Public hospitals daily update on COVID-19 cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 9am today (May 29), one COVID-19 confirmed patient (case number: 11836) was discharged from hospital in the last 24 hours. So far, a total of 11 571 patients with confirmed or probable infection have been discharged.

At present, there are 619 negative pressure rooms in public hospitals with 1 130 negative pressure beds activated. A total of 25 confirmed patients are currently hospitalised in 13 public hospitals and the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre, among which one patient (case number: 6794) is in critical condition, one (case number: 9907) is in serious condition and the remaining 23 patients 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.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (May 29) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex

2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –

Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –

Wah Kwai Community Centre
Wah Kwai Estate, Kellett Bay

Wan Chai –

Wan Chai Activities Centre
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –

Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –

Tung Chung North Park (Zone B) Activity Room
29 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –

Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall

Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –
King Lam Neighbourhood Community Centre
King Lam Estate, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –
Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

SED on students studying overseas, vaccination and school education

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, at a media session after attending the 27th HK International Education Expo today (May 29):

Reporter: Multiple figures and teachers are reflecting that most students are withdrawing from local and international schools this year. Many of them are migrating overseas. Is this an alarming trend and would the Government acknowledge that this is a part of the result of the fear of the National Security Law and would the Education Bureau (EDB) find ways to maintain the stability? The second question, has the EDB looked into the number of percentage cities' teachers having been vaccinated and will the EDB take a first step, for example, to give Government Schools' teachers holiday after being vaccinated as an incentive? And last question, June 4 is approaching,

and Alliance's application for gathering has been banned. Can schools still hold memorial event about June 4 (incident) this year? And if teachers upload photos on social media, would they face consequences?

Secretary for Education: You asked a number of questions. The first one is about the students studying overseas. Every year, when the school year starts, we start to collect information about the number of students seated at every school. So at this stage, I could not tell for sure, the actual number of student leaving or studying overseas, leaving Hong Kong studying overseas. But we of course will monitor the figures. But Hong Kong is a free society, and the students and parents could decide where the students will study. We respect their decisions. At the same time, I wish to point out that the quality of education in Hong Kong is comparable to all the major countries or cities in the rest of the world. So our quality of education is really very good. So if the factor is about the quality of education, I can ensure all parents that the student will have bright future if they stay in Hong Kong. But, of course, when parents decide where their children are going to study, they must have other considerations. Then that is something for parents to decide.

Reporter: Will the EDB consider giving incentive, for example, incentive holiday to Government Schools' teachers (after they get vaccinated)?

Secretary for Education: On vaccination, we have collected information from schools about the number of teachers having taken vaccination or planning to take vaccination. We are consolidating the data and we will provide a reply to the LegCo (Legislative Council). Since this is a question from the Legislative Council Special Finance Committee meeting, we will give it a reply in due course. But in terms of Government Schools' teachers, you ask about whether we will be giving holiday to Government teachers. It will follow the arrangement for civil servants. And I think we should wait for the Civil Service Bureau to come up with the final proposal. And the teachers of Government Schools will follow that practice. The third question, as I always say, Hong Kong is a free society, and freedom of expression is guaranteed in the Basic Law. But when it comes to education, when it comes to education at school, schools have to consider the overall objective of bringing a subject in the curriculum or into the lessons. What they are trying to achieve, whether it is suitable for that level of students and that age of students. So when the schools decide whether they wish to cover the subject of June 4, I think they have to consider the curriculum's objective, the lessons' objective, and whether it is suitable for that age of students. And on the question regarding the expression of personal opinions, I think it all depends on how they do it and what they are going to achieve. But I can say that the freedom of expression is guaranteed under the Basic Law.

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