

## EMSD announces test results of LPG quality in April 2021

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (May 10) announced that the department collected eight liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) samples from auto-LPG filling stations and LPG terminals on a random basis in April 2021 for laboratory tests. The results show that the LPG quality of all these samples complied with auto-LPG specifications.

The detailed test results are available on the EMSD's website ([www.emsd.gov.hk/en/rl/lpg\\_sample\\_analysis\\_simple](http://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/rl/lpg_sample_analysis_simple)). Enquiries can also be made to the EMSD's hotline on 2333 3762.

In addition, the EMSD has been vetting independent third-party test reports submitted by LPG supply companies for each shipment to ensure that the quality of imported LPG complies with the specified requirements.

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## Total lunar eclipse in Hong Kong on May 26

The public will have an opportunity to observe a total lunar eclipse on May 26 (Wednesday), the same day when the biggest full moon of the year (viz. the "super moon") appears. The diameter of the moon on that day will be about 7 per cent larger than the ordinary full moon.

The coming total lunar eclipse will begin before moonrise. As the elevation of the moon will be rather low during the eclipse, the event can be best observed at places with an unobstructed view to the southeast if weather permits. Details of the total lunar eclipse are as follows:

Date	Time	Phenomenon	Elevation	Direction (Azimuth)
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May 26 (Wednesday)	6.56pm	Moonrise	-1 degree	East-southeast (113 degrees)
	7.01pm	Sunset	-1 degree	West-northwest (293 degrees)
	7.09pm	Total eclipse begins	2 degrees	East-southeast (114 degrees)
	7.19pm	Maximum eclipse	4 degrees	East-southeast (115 degrees)
	7.28pm	Total eclipse ends	6 degrees	East-southeast (116 degrees)
	8.53pm	Moon leaves umbra	22 degrees	Southeast (126 degrees)
	9.52pm	Moon leaves penumbra	31 degrees	Southeast (136 degrees)

The total lunar eclipse will begin at 7.09pm on that day and end at 7.28pm, with the maximum eclipse occurring at 7.19pm. During the period of the total lunar eclipse, the moon will not completely vanish but will appear as dull red. This is the result of the blue part of sunlight being scattered away by the Earth's atmosphere and the remaining red light refracted onto the moon.

Members of the public can watch the lunar eclipse event via a webcast to be jointly provided by the Hong Kong Observatory, the Hong Kong Space Museum, the Ho Koon Nature Education cum Astronomical Centre (sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen) and the Po Leung Kuk Ngan Po Ling College on the following webpage: [www.hko.gov.hk/en/gts/event/webcast-20210526.htm](http://www.hko.gov.hk/en/gts/event/webcast-20210526.htm).

For the latest weather conditions and the astronomical observation conditions on May 26, please refer to the 9-day Weather Forecast issued by the Hong Kong Observatory ([www.hko.gov.hk/en/wxinfo/currwx/fnd.htm](http://www.hko.gov.hk/en/wxinfo/currwx/fnd.htm)) and the Weather Information for Astronomical Observation webpage ([www.hko.gov.hk/en/gts/astronomy/astro\\_portal.html](http://www.hko.gov.hk/en/gts/astronomy/astro_portal.html)) respectively.

The next lunar eclipse observable in Hong Kong will be a partial lunar eclipse on November 19, 2021.

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## Red flag lowered at Silver Mine Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

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

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (May 10) that since the water off Silver Mine Bay Beach in Islands District is now suitable for swimming, the red flag has been lowered.

The red flag was hoisted at the beach earlier after a red tide was found.

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## FHB thanks FDHs for co-operation in compulsory testing

A spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) thanked foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) and employers for their co-operation in undergoing compulsory testing for fighting the virus together today (May 9).

During the period from May 1 up to 6pm today, nearly 340 000 FDHs have been tested at 21 community testing centres (CTCs) and mobile specimen collection stations or submitted deep throat saliva specimen. Moreover, it is estimated that around 40 000 FDHs have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, such that they are exempt from compulsory testing.

The Government has been adopting the new direction for fighting the pandemic since mid-April. Targeted border control and infection control measures were introduced to safeguard Hong Kong against imported cases and prevent cases from spreading locally.

The spokesman said, "For local cases with unknown sources of infection involving mutant strains, the Government has to be decisive in adopting swiftly stringent testing and quarantine measures, with an aim to cutting the transmission chains as soon as possible. Otherwise, the whole society will have to bear significant consequence when there is a major outbreak."

Testing has been an integral part of the strategy in preventing and fighting the virus. The Government has been implementing the Targeted Group

Testing Scheme for high-risk and high-exposure groups and essential staff of critical infrastructure and services, etc since mid-2020. Around 3.4 million tests have been conducted so far. Among them, all FDHs were offered a one-off free test on a voluntary basis at CTCs from mid-December 2020 to end February this year. Over 34 000 FDHs, equivalent to less than 10 per cent of the total number of FDHs in Hong Kong, had received voluntary testing at CTCs during the period. Under the new direction for fighting the pandemic, high-risk or high-exposure groups such as staff members of residential care homes for the elderly, residential care homes for persons with disabilities and nursing homes, as well as most of the frontline staff of catering businesses, are required to undergo regular testing if they have not completed a COVID-19 vaccination course.

"The Government requested on April 30 that all FDHs in Hong Kong who had yet to complete a COVID-19 vaccination course to receive testing on a compulsory basis on or before May 9. In accordance with the established practice, the relevant decision was made solely on public health grounds after detailed risk assessment. The factors that have been taken into account include that two recent cases involving N501Y mutant strain were FDHs, the transmissibility of mutant strains is higher, the sources of infection of the cases were not known, and that the confirmed case had gatherings and contacts with other FDHs during the incubation and infection periods, etc.

"In view of the surge in testing demand within a short period of time, the Government has substantially increased the booking quotas of 21 CTCs, set up additional mobile specimen collection stations in various districts and extended the service period of mobile stations. The Government would like to express gratitude to all those who received test, including FDHs, for their patience and understanding, and to frontline staff including staff of service providers, relevant government departments and venues for their full co-operation. The Government and service providers will continue to serve the public with concerted efforts and ensure the quality of testing at the same time. We also encourage them to get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect themselves and their family members."

"In view of the threat posed by the mutant strains, it is imperative for us to get vaccinated. While there is still shortage in COVID-19 vaccines internationally, the two vaccines procured by the Government are sufficient for all Hong Kong people to get vaccinated. At present, there are still plenty of unutilised quotas in the 29 community vaccination centres and over 1000 private clinics. We call on the public to treasure the vaccine supply in Hong Kong and get vaccinated as soon as possible."

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**[Mobile specimen collection stations](#)**

## continue to provide COVID-19 testing service to public

Having reviewed the usage and public demand for the COVID-19 testing service, the Government has decided to extend the service period of the mobile specimen collection station at carpark of Quarry Bay Community Hall to May 16 (Sunday).

The opening dates and operating hours of the mobile specimen collection stations in various districts providing free COVID-19 nucleic acid testing services for the general public are stated in Annex. Persons of certain targeted groups (including employees of scheduled premises and catering businesses, construction site personnel, school staff), persons subject to compulsory testing, as well as persons with "LeaveHomeSafe" COVID-19 exposure notification or SMS notification from the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) reminding them to undergo testing as soon as possible may receive free testing at community testing centres or mobile specimen collection stations (if service scope is applicable).

People whose test results are negative will be informed by SMS message through their mobile phones. Persons subject to compulsory testing must properly keep the relevant records. If any specimen tested shows a preliminarily positive COVID-19 result, the specimen will be referred to the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of the DH for a confirmatory test. Confirmed cases will be followed up and announced by the CHP.

The Government reminds the public that they can undergo COVID-19 testing through various means. For details, please refer to the following webpage: [www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html). If a person has symptoms, he or she should seek medical attention immediately and should not attend the mobile specimen collection stations or community testing centres.

The Government spokesman urges all individuals who are in doubt about their own health conditions, or individuals with infection risks (such as individuals who visited places with epidemic outbreaks or contacted confirmed cases) to undergo testing promptly for early identification of infected persons.