

社評 雙語道

保就業措施須速落實 公僕應與民共度時艱

Civil servants should weather the storm with the public if the Employment Support Scheme is to be implemented quickly

原文

統計處公布2月至4月失業率為5.2%，升至逾十年新高。本港經濟持續受新冠疫情影响，情況可能進一步轉壞，政府大手筆推出的保就業計劃應從速落實，僱主亦要盡全力照顧僱員。公務員隊伍作為穩定香港的重要力量，在此艱難時刻，應該選擇凍薪，以示與市民共度時艱，騰出更多公共資源，以幫助更有需要的基層市民。

政府早前推出三輪抗疫纾困措施，希望「撐企業、保就業、紓民困」，包括推出810億元「保就業」計劃，向僱主提供相當於僱員薪金一半的財政補助，協助企業保留員工職位，為香港經濟復甦保留實力。由於保就業計劃的補貼金額全數給僱主，僱主當然要發揚同舟共濟的精神，自覺遵守不裁員承諾，將所有政府的補貼用於員工身上，盡力履行社會責任，保障僱員的福祉，減輕疫情對就業市場的打擊。

公務員士氣和經濟社會大環境之間作出平衡。往年公務員的加薪幅度均高於通脹，如今本港經濟陷入深度低迷，公務員薪酬調整，理應反映經濟下行的現況。較早前，特首林鄭月娥聯同司局長、行政會議非官守成員已經宣布自願減薪一成，以示與民共度時艱的決心。在今時今日的經濟環境下，公務員有穩定的工作，無被裁員減薪的後顧之憂，如果選擇凍薪，可以顯示體恤民情民意、願與市民同甘共苦。



香港特區決定凍結高層、中層及低層薪金級別和首長級公務員的薪酬。資料圖片

Exercise

- 1. 經濟衰退 2. 封城 3. 隔離 4. 自僱人士 5. 就業不足

1. recession 2. lockdown 3. quarantine 4. self-employed person 5. underemployment

譯文

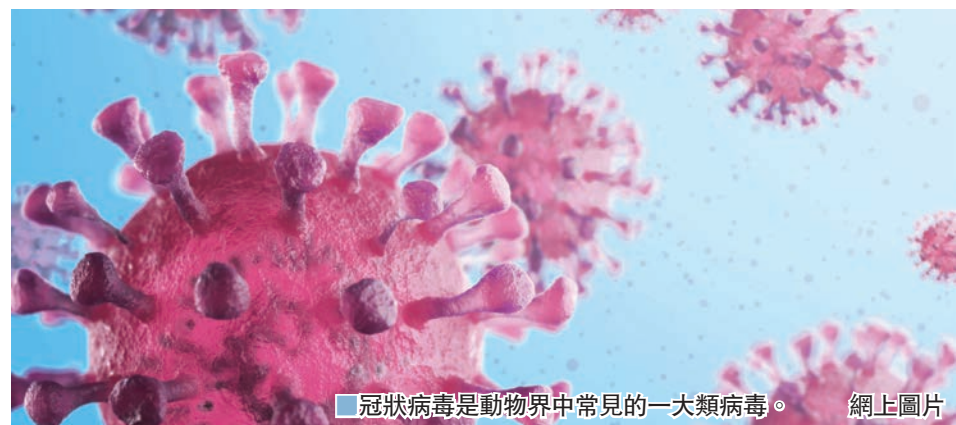
Unemployment rate in Hong Kong has hit a 10 year high as the figure for the February to April period climbed to 5.2 per cent, according to the Census and Statistics Department. As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to weigh on the local economy, employers should do their best to take care of employees, and the government's Employment Support Scheme should also be implemented as quickly as possible before the situation deteriorates further.

40,000 people losing their jobs during this period. The figures show that the Covid-19 pandemic has dealt a huge blow to the labour market, and that wage earners continue to face tremendous pressure from the economic downturn. Among all the sectors that are affected, the consumer and tourism related industries are hit hardest, as unemployment rates in these sectors soared to a 15-year high of 9 per cent. If cross-boundary and international people flow cannot return to normal in the short term, it is foreseeable that the unemployment rates in more and more sectors will reach double-digits.

made redundant, hence maintaining the strength for Hong Kong. Under the scheme, employers are going to receive financial subsidies that amount to 50 per cent of their expenditures on employees' basic salary. As the financial aid provided will be disbursed to employers, they should show solidarity with employees and comply with their undertakings by not making any redundancies and spending all the subsidies on paying wages to employees. In doing so, employers are also fulfilling their social responsibilities, safeguarding the interests of their employees, and reducing the impact of the pandemic on the local labour market.

that the survey result only covers the 12-month period from 2 April 2019 to 1 April 2020, and that the data may not reflect the full extent of the impact brought by the pandemic. As servants of the public, they must take into account the various conditions of the society as well as public perceptions when determining their pay rise. A balance should be struck between maintaining the morale of civil servants and socio-economic considerations. In the past few years, civil servants had been given pay rises at rates that were higher than inflation. Now that our economy is heading into a steep downturn, it is only reasonable to scale the pay rise of civil servants in a way that reflects the current state of Hong Kong's economy.

officials and non-official members of the Executive Council, in order to show their determination to share the ups and downs with the people. Civil servants enjoy stronger job security even in such difficult times. Accepting a pay freeze could reinforce the message that the government is willing to ride out the storm with citizens. According to Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po's earlier remarks, Hong Kong's budget deficit may hit HK \$200-300 billion by the end of the financial year as the relief measures draw up resources. When the pandemic is over, the government will have to roll out more measures to create jobs, which would in turn require even more financial resources. A pay freeze for civil servants will free up more of the much-needed resources to help those wage earners in need, and therefore is beneficial to the social harmony as a whole.



冠狀病毒是動物界中常見的一大類病毒。網上圖片

冠狀病毒大家族 人畜共患易感染

科技暢想

冠狀病毒是動物界中常見的一大類病毒，在極少數情況下，它們被科學家稱為人畜共患病 (zoonotic)，這意味着它們可以由動物傳染給人類。它們是在自然界廣泛存在的一個大型病毒家族，因其形態在電子顯微鏡下觀察類似皇冠而得名，主要引起呼吸系統疾病。目前已發現會感染人的冠狀病毒共有七種，其中SARS病毒 (嚴重急性呼吸道症候群冠狀病毒)、MERS病毒 (中東呼吸綜合症病毒) 和新型冠狀病毒都可引起嚴重的人類疾病，而冠狀病毒除感染人類以外，還可感染豬、牛、貓、犬、貂、駱駝、蝙蝠、老鼠、刺狹等哺乳動物及鳥類。

呼吸道疾病，類似於普通感冒，例如流鼻涕、咳嗽、喉嚨痛，亦可能有頭痛，甚至是發燒，這種情況可能會持續幾天。對於那些免疫系統較弱的人 (老年人和兒童) 來說，這種病毒有可能引起更嚴重的呼吸道疾病，如肺炎或支氣管炎。

患者症狀 感染病毒的話通常會有輕度至中度的上呼

流行歷史

說到今年最受關注的歷史戰略遊戲，我想大家都會想到大名鼎鼎的《三國志14》(Romance of the Three Kingdoms XIV) 了。這款由日本光榮特庫摩基 (Koei Tecmo Holdings Co., Ltd.) 發行，以三國題材製作的歷史戰略模擬遊戲，自1985年首代面世，至今已經發行了14部系列作品，堪稱是史上最長壽的電子遊戲系列之一。

川三國志 (吉川英治著名小說) 作為考據來源，陸續引用《三國志》、《後漢書》、《晉書》等正史作為遊戲考據基礎，隨著製作組的認真考據以及玩家們的狂熱，亦增加了玩家對三國歷史的真實性追求。故此，除了《三國志》、《後漢書》、《晉書》這些史書外，今天我就跟各位介紹一些與三國時代有關的古籍，讓各位在遊玩之餘，亦有更多渠道接觸更多不同的歷史資訊。

東晉間的軼事瑣語。曹植七步成詩，曹操、楊脩過曹娥碑，曹操捉刀，曹操望梅止渴，嵇康臨刑索琴等魏晉有名故事多出於此。



《三國志14》是以三國題材製作的歷史戰略模擬遊戲。資料圖片

讀三國不只《三國志》

洪文正

簡介：本會培育科普人才，提高各界對科技創意應用的認識，為香港青年人提供更多機會參與國際性及大中華地區的科技創意活動，詳情可瀏覽www.hknetea.org。



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