## Introduction to the Heat Stress at Work Warning

In order to facilitate employers and employees in assessing the level of heat stress when working outdoors or in indoor environments without air conditioning system in hot weather, the Labour Department has established a system of Heat Stress at Work Warning (HSWW) based on the Hong Kong Heat Index (HKHI) and the "Extremely Hot" Special Alert issued by the Hong Kong Observatory. Coded amber, red, and black, HSWW indicates the significant and increasing level of heat stress that employees face when working in the relevant environment. Please refer to the table below for more details:

Hong Kong Heat Index	Heat Stress at Work Warning	Warning Signs
<sup>#</sup> 30 to <32	Amber	黄 Amber
	Amber Heat Stress at Work Wa heat stress in certain work environ	
32 to <34	Red	
	Red Heat Stress at Work Warning stress in certain work environment	
≥34	Black	黑 Black 兴
	Black Heat Stress at Work Warnin stress in certain work environmen	

# When the Hong Kong Observatory issues "Extremely Hot" Special Alert, the Labour Department issues "Amber" Heat Stress at Work Warning even if the HKHI has not reached 30.

2. The main purpose of HSWW is to warn about the significant heat stress and health risks posed by the weather in Hong Kong as a whole to employees working outdoors or in indoor environments without air-conditioning systems overall, and to remind employers and employees to take necessary preventive measures to reduce the risk of heat stroke at work.

3. After the issuance of a Heat Stress at Work Warning, updates will be provided every hour. If the conditions for issuing a higher level of Heat Stress at Work Warning are met in the meantime, an earlier update will be made. Employers have to make appropriate arrangements for the adjusted rest periods based on the level of physical exertion in work, preset control measures and other heat stress risk factors, etc., in the hour following the announcement of the Heat Stress at

Work Warning and the hourly updates announcing the continued effectiveness of the warning. For details, please refer to the "<u>Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat</u> <u>Stroke at Work</u>".

4. The Heat Stress at Work Warning is developed and issued by the Labour Department, with the assistance of Hong Kong Observatory in producing and transmitting the message. The issuance, update or cancellation of the warning is automatically generated through a computer system based on the Hong Kong Heat Index data and the issuance of "Extremely Hot" Special Alert, without manual intervention under normal circumstances. The entire process usually takes about 10 to 20 minutes.

5. When different levels of Heat Stress at Work Warning are in force, the <u>Hong Kong Observatory</u> will display relevant information on the homepage of its official website and the "<u>My Observatory</u>" mobile application. Employers or employees can also receive details of the Heat Stress at Work Warning by allowing push notifications from "<u>My Observatory</u>" or "<u>GovHK Notifications</u>" mobile applications.

6. In addition, the Labour Department will issue prompt message to the public regarding the coming effect of Heat Stress at Work Warning through <u>press</u> releases and various electronic media.

7. If you have any inquiries, please WhatsApp the "OSH 24-Hours Hotline on Prevention of Heat Stroke" at 9317 0987 (text messages only) or call us at 2852 4041 during office hours.

Labour Department 2 May, 2024



## Download the app "GovHK Notifications"



Android: click here

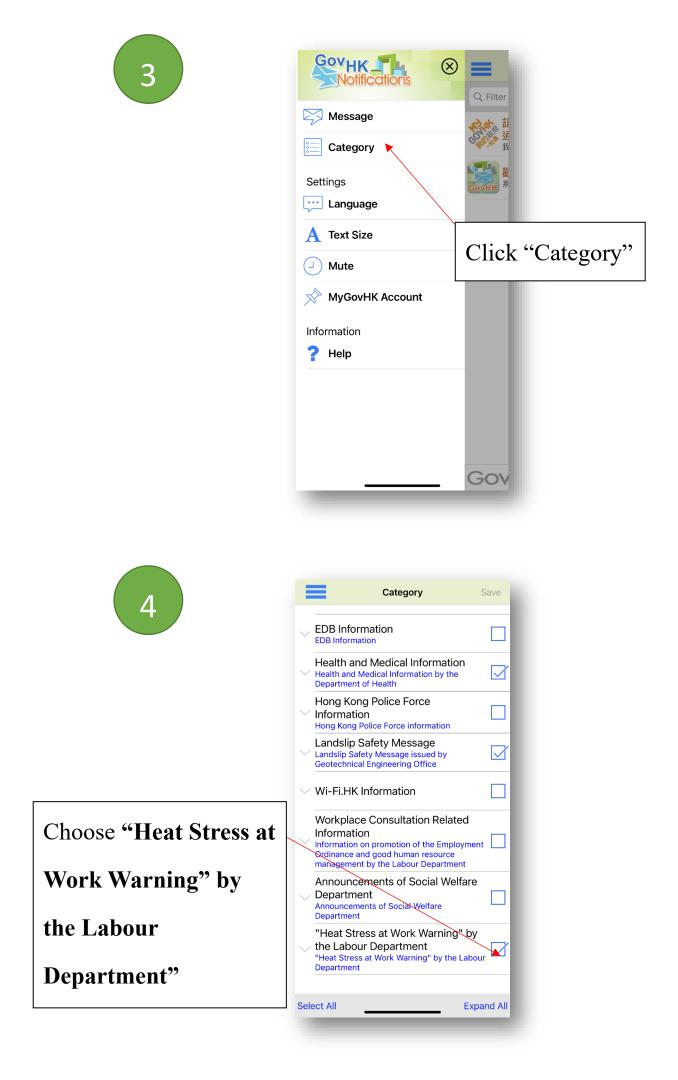
IOS: <u>click here</u>





2

	Message	Edit	
Q. Filter Messag	e Subject	Advanced	
請即連約 通」帳月 我的政府一	高「我的政府一站 ■	14:22 >	
GovHK S統		14:22 >	
		Click '	'Menu''
Gov <mark>HK</mark>	<b>禾</b> 港	_ 立上 计函	







IOS: <u>click here</u>

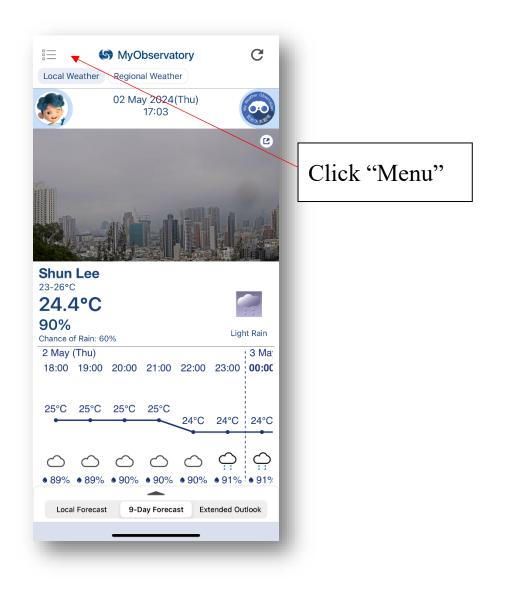
Android: click here



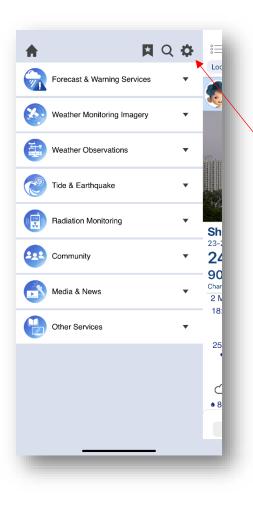


2

1







Settings

Front Page Settings Notification Setting

Us

<

Options

CUSTOMIZE Select Location Manage My Bookmarks

語言/LANGUAGE English

TEMPERATURE UNIT

FONT SIZE

Celsius

THEME MODE Auto switch

DAY THEME COLOR

NIGHT THEME COLOR

Click "Settings"

Click "Notification

Setting"

			Setti	ngs									
	Front Setti		Notific Setti		User Gu	ide							
					ED								
	Receive P		SETTINGS ications	5									
s	elect Me	ssage Ty	pe 📐										
Ν	lotes												
ı		N-SPECI	IFIC HEA		<b>\</b>								
F	Receive P	ush Notif	ications										
k V	ocation acce rou are locat	ed at. If you ory would on	ding heavy ra manually sel Ily provide he	ain notification lected your lo	eds 'always all n service in th cation. icati	ow e district							
	LOC-BAS		IFALL & L	IGHTNIN		lick	"Se	elec	t ]	Mes	ssag	ge T	ур
N	lotificatior	n											
k	ocation acce ocation. If yo	ss' for provi u manually	ding nowcast selected you	notification ar notification, My	eds 'always all ervice near yo Observatory i	vould							
				ice near your	selected loca	.011.							
	JEDATE	FREQUE											
I	_ess Freq	luent			More Fr	equent							
F	POSITION		RACY										
		-			•								
< 	bld Weat		ect Mess		pe								
		ther Wa	rning		-		1						
VE	Ery Ho	ther Wa		ARNING	-		ĺ						
VE Ve	ERY HO ery Hot V	ther Wa T WEA1 Veather	rning THER W.	ARNING	-		Ì						
VE Ve	ERY HO ery Hot V GUNAMI	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN	rning THER W.	ARNING	-								
VE Ve	ERY HO ery Hot V	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN	rning THER W.	ARNING	-								
VE Ve TS	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E	rning THER W. Warning ING	ARNING									
VE Ve TS TS LC	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY ocally Fe	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor	ARNING									
VE Ve TS TS LC LC	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY ocally Fe	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E It Earth R-RELA	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI	ARNING						Clic	ck '	ʻHe	at
	ERY HO Bry Hot V SUNAMI Uunami V DCALLY DCALLY EATHEF	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E Ht Earth R-RELA CEMEN	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI	ARNING						Clie	ck '	'He	at
VE Ve TS LCC LCC WW	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY ocally Fe EATHEF	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E It Earth R-RELA CEMEN elated S	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI	ARNING B REMOR ECIAL								'He t W	
VE Ve TS LC LC W Ar	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY ocally Fe EATHEF NNOUN eather-r	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E It Earth R-RELA CEMEN elated S	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI T Special A	ARNING B REMOR ECIAL						tres	s ai	t W	ork
VE Ve TS TS LC Lc Lc WW Arr	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V OCALLY ocally Fe EATHEF NNOUN eather-r- Y WEAT	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E It Earth R-RELA CEMEN elated S HER Ol her Obse	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI T Special A BSERVA ervation	ARNING C REMOR ECIAL Innounce	ement					tres	s ai		orł
VE Ve Ts LC LC WM Ar	ERY HO ery Hot V SUNAMI unami V DCALLY ocally Fe EATHEF NNOUN eather-rr Y WEAT by Weath	ther Wa T WEAT Weather WARN Varning FELT E It Earth R-RELA CEMEN elated S HER Ol her Obse	rning THER W. Warning ING ARTH T Tremor TED SPI T Special A BSERVA	ARNING ARNING CIAL Innounce TION	ement					tres	s ai	t W	orł