

**The Administration's Response to Questions raised by Members  
at the Special Meeting of the LegCo Panel on Health Services  
held on 12 June 2003**

**Question:**

The response of the Mainland health authorities to the written enquires made by the Department of Health in February 2003 regarding the outbreak of atypical pneumonia in Guangdong Province.

**Reply:**

On 10 February 2003, the Department of Health (DH) noted reports on pneumonia outbreak in Guangzhou. The DH contacted the health officials in the Mainland through telephone and fax. Verbal reply and press release on control measures were received on 11 February 2003 informing us that there was an increase in atypical pneumonia cases in six municipalities in Guangdong Province: a total of 305 cases including 5 deaths from 16 November 2002 to 9 February 2003.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau  
June 2003