



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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Ms Maisie LAM
Clerk to Subcommittee
Council Business Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms LAM,

Thank you for your letter of 12 January 2021, seeking supplementary information on matters discussed at the meeting on the same day. Our reply is set out below –

(a) number of persons failing to comply with the Compulsory Testing Notices issued on 30 and 31 December 2020 and the follow-up actions taken by the Administration

2. The Government earlier issued Compulsory Testing Notices (CTNs) on 30 December and 31 December 2020 respectively in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J), requiring any person who had been present on some 40 specified premises for more than two hours during the specified period (persons subject to compulsory testing) to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test by 4 January 2021.

3. As at 12 January 2021, the Government has confirmed that a cumulative total of some 59 000 persons subject to compulsory testing had taken the test by the specified deadline through channels such as mobile specimen collection stations, community testing centres and deep throat saliva specimen collection points in accordance with the CTNs. The number accounted for about 91 percent of the estimated number of residents of the corresponding buildings covered by the CTNs.

4. The Government hopes to implement compulsory testing expeditiously by verifying test records and taking an advisory approach in the first place. To encourage the persons subject to compulsory testing who had taken the test through channel other than mobile specimen collection stations and community testing centres to provide relevant information, the Government has issued circular to residents, posted notice at lobby, performed checks at main entrances and sent staff to conduct home visits etc., with a view to collecting and verifying their test records. Taking into account factors such as certain households may have moved out the flats or be currently away from Hong Kong, the Government has adjusted the relevant records in order to ensure the testing figures could better reflect the actual situation.

5. In order to proactively handle and follow up on cases that failed to comply with the CTNs, the Government conducted, by way of random checking, an inter-departmental joint enforcement operation at Ming Yan Lau of Jat Min Chuen in Sha Tin on 24 December 2020. During the operation, there were a total of 150 cases in which the relevant test records could not be verified on the spot. 133 cases of which were subsequently verified to be in compliance with the requirements of the CTNs. The Department of Health has issued one Compulsory Testing Order and is following up with the investigation on the remaining cases.

(b) number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 among persons who were in transit at the Hong Kong International Airport since 2020 and the Administration's mechanism for handling such cases

6. All passengers, including departing, arriving and transfer/transit passengers, as well as airport staff are required to wear face masks in all passenger accessible areas of the airport's restricted area. All transit passengers must undergo temperature screening by the Department of Health (DH) upon arrival. Passengers who are found to have fever will be sent, on a compulsory basis, to the hospital by DH for further check-ups. In addition, the Airport Authority has put in place other preventive measures for transit passengers, including setting up designated dining areas, giving them stickers at transfer points for identification purpose, requesting them to immediately and directly go to the boarding gates for their connecting flights, etc. We do not maintain information on the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 among persons who were in transit.

Yours sincerely,



(Sophia HUI)

for Secretary for Food and Health