

# About 800 university students and teaching staff receive vaccination (with photos)

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Patrick Nip, visited the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) today (June 23). During the visit, he met with the President of HKUST, Professor Wei Shyy, and the Vice-President for Administration and Business of HKUST, Mr Mark Hodgson, before they together viewed the administering of COVID-19 vaccines on the campus to students and teaching staff of the university and others as arranged by the Government's outreach vaccination service.

HKUST is the first university to participate in outreach vaccination. A total of about 800 people, including HKUST students and teaching staff and others, are expected to receive the Sinovac vaccine or the BioNTech vaccine.

Mr Nip said, "I am pleased to learn that HKUST had earlier planned to make arrangements for vaccination so as to reduce the risk of the possible spread of the virus in a crowded environment and to provide a safe and healthy learning and working environment for students and teaching staff amid the epidemic.

"Experience in many parts of the world tells us that the epidemic situation will deteriorate rapidly in the face of the threat posed by mutant strains. We must seize the moment and get vaccinated as early as possible when the epidemic situation is relatively stable. The society will then be well protected when the virus attacks. It takes time to complete the vaccination of two doses, and it may not be possible to provide adequate protection immediately as it takes time for the body to develop protective antibodies."

Mr Nip called on various sectors and industries to join the Government in promoting the "Early Vaccination for All" campaign and encourage people to get vaccinated so as to help build an immune barrier in Hong Kong as soon as possible by significantly raising the vaccination rate, thereby restoring normality to society sooner rather than later.

He said should enterprises and organisations have a sufficient number of employees who would like to get vaccinated and a suitable venue with sufficient space, they can make use of the outreach vaccination service so that their employees can be vaccinated in a more convenient way. Enterprises and groups can call the hotline for the outreach vaccination service at 3904 1490 from Monday to Friday, from 9am to 6pm, for arrangements.

There has been enthusiastic support for the outreach vaccination programme since it was launched by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB). Having provided the outreach vaccination service to the Hong Kong Sports Institute, global professional services enterprises, a property developer, a financial

institution, the construction industry, public utilities and a district organisation, the CSB is now proactively in discussions with enterprises and groups from various sectors, including theme parks and the like on the feasibility of providing the service to them.

Mr Nip expressed his gratitude to the medical team and administrative support staff of the Community Vaccination Centre at Osman Ramju Sadick Memorial Sports Centre for providing the outreach service today.

