

Government finishes exercise on “restriction-testing declaration” in respect of specified “restricted area” in Chung Chun House, Chung Nga Court, Tai Po, and enforcement operation for breaches of compulsory testing notice (with photo)

The Government yesterday (July 15) exercised the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to make a "restriction-testing declaration" effective from 5.30pm yesterday, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Tai Po (i.e. Chung Chun House, Chung Nga Court, Tai Po, excluding the non-domestic units on G/F) were required to stay in their premises and undergo compulsory testing. Persons subject to compulsory testing were required to stay in their premises until all such persons identified in the "restricted area" had undergone testing and the test results were mostly ascertained.

Moreover, the Government issued a compulsory testing notice yesterday, requiring persons who had been present at the above building for more than two hours from July 9 to July 15, 2022, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect, to undergo compulsory testing on or before July 17, 2022. The Government finished the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today (July 16) and carried out enforcement action in the "restricted area" afterwards to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone compulsory testing in accordance with the requirements of the relevant declaration and compulsory testing notice. The Government announced that the enforcement operation ended at around 11am today.

The Government provided food packs and necessity packs for persons subject to compulsory testing, so as to facilitate the meal arrangements and daily needs of some persons subject to compulsory testing. Anti-epidemic proprietary Chinese medicines donated by the Central People's Government or procured with the co-ordination of the Central People's Government and rapid test kits were also provided to persons subject to compulsory testing to help them fight against the virus.

The Home Affairs Department also set up a hotline for people restricted by the declaration to make enquiries and seek assistance.

The Government thanks persons subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding. With everyone's co-operation and efforts, coupled

with the efforts of the testing contractors throughout the night, residents have been informed about their testing results by SMS notification. After finishing the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today, the Government took enforcement action in the "restricted area" immediately to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone testing according to the requirements of the declaration and the compulsory testing notice. Persons who could present an SMS notification containing a negative testing result as proof of having undergone the compulsory testing could leave the "restricted area" through the designated exit after providing personal information to a prescribed officer. The enforcement operation was completed at around 11am. Test records of around 630 persons subject to compulsory testing were checked. 37 persons were found not having undergone compulsory testing and compulsory testing orders were issued to them. Taking into account the above situation, the Secretary for Health revoked the "restriction-testing declaration" in accordance with Cap. 599J (see attachment).

The Government reminds the about 80 households who have not answered the door to undergo a nucleic acid test as soon as possible after reading the notices put up by the Government, in the hope of eliminating the possible risk of further spread of the virus in the community.

The Government thanks all participating government staff and the testing agencies for their hard work. The Government is also grateful to those subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding, and their full co-operation during this period in undergoing testing and waiting for the results at home.

The Government will seriously follow up on the compliance situation of the compulsory testing notices and the "restriction-testing declaration" by persons subject to compulsory testing. Any person who fails to comply with the compulsory testing notices commits an offence and may be fined a fixed penalty of \$10,000. The person would also be issued with a compulsory testing order requiring him or her to undergo testing within a specified time frame. Failure to comply with the compulsory testing order or the "restriction-testing declaration" is an offence and the offender would be liable to a fine at level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for six months.



[Transcript of remarks by SHYA](#)

â€œFollowing is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, Miss Alice Mak, at a media session after attending a radio programme today (July 16):

Reporter: Could you tell us a bit more about the review of District Council? What aspects are being reviewed and do you have a rough timetable? What are the progress right now?

Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs: This is an imminent work we have to finish as soon as possible. I know that many stakeholders in the district are very concerned about the development of the District Council, but the review of the District Council or district administration will be (done) according to the Article 97 and 98 in the Basic Law. Any development or review will have to be observed. We have to observe the Laws of Hong Kong and the Basic Law.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

[Speech by SITI at opening ceremony of PolyU InnoTech Open Day \(English only\)](#)

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, at the opening ceremony of PolyU InnoTech Open Day today (July 16):

Dr Lam (Chairman of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) Council, Dr Lam Tai-fai), Professor Teng (President of the PolyU, Professor Teng Jin-guang), Professor Houghton (Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2020 and Li Ka Shing Professor of Virology at University of Alberta, Professor Michael Houghton), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. It is my great honour to join you all here today at the InnoTech Open Day of the PolyU. I am very glad to learn that today's event, apart from being the university's first ever InnoTech open day, also carries a special meaning as one of the signature activities to celebrate PolyU's 85th anniversary.

Over the years, PolyU has been playing a long-supporting and pioneering role in driving the I&T (innovation and technology) development in Hong Kong. I am particularly pleased to see that PolyU is furthering its journey to help shine Hong Kong as a leading I&T hub by leveraging its academic strengths and world-class research competence through various strategic measures, such as

setting up the PolyU Academy for Interdisciplinary Research (PAIR), joining the Jiangsu-Hong Kong-Macao University Alliance, and supporting our InnoHK initiative to develop three research centres in our two research clusters with world-renowned universities which help transform our city into a global innovation powerhouse.

With the Government's solid commitment to the I&T development, coupling with our strong capabilities in scientific research and academic excellence of our universities, Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem is flourishing and increasingly vibrant. The number of start-ups and venture capital investment in Hong Kong have substantially increased over the past few years, during which we have also witnessed the birth of more than a dozen of unicorns. Hong Kong is now Asia's largest and the world's second largest fundraising hub for biotechnology companies.

With the unwavering support from the Central Government in the National 14th Five-Year Plan, and the encouraging support to Hong Kong's I&T development by President Xi during his recent visit to Hong Kong, this term of Government will endeavour to step up efforts in driving the I&T development with the vision to develop Hong Kong into an international I&T centre. We will devise a top-level planning, further enlarge our I&T talent pool, continue to enhance our I&T ecosystem, speed up the progress of the re-industrialisation, and deepen our I&T collaboration with the Mainland thereby bringing continuous impetus to the I&T development of Hong Kong. The concerted effort of all relevant stakeholders, including the academia, research institutes and business community is certainly indispensable.

The coming five years will be a crucial time for Hong Kong to advance from governance to prosperity and are particularly important for Hong Kong's I&T development. I look forward to joining hands with you all here to fully seize the golden development opportunities ahead and to build a better and more innovative Hong Kong. Before I close, may I take this opportunity to wish PolyU a happy 85th anniversary, today's event a great success and everyone a very fruitful and rewarding experience.

Thank you very much.

Transcript of remarks by S for Health on "LeaveHomeSafe" at media session

â€‹Following is the transcript of remarks made by the Secretary for Health, Professor Lo Chung-mau, at a media session after attending a radio programme today (July 16):

Reporter: Secretary, you said that there will be no real name registration for "LeaveHomeSafe" users except the inbound travellers and the infected

people. Could you explain a little bit more on that?

Secretary for Health: For the majority of the people, there is nothing changed. The whole purpose of the "red code" is to identify (confirmed COVID-19 cases). For the majority of the people, there is no need to have any change in the "LeaveHomeSafe". The "red code" is meant for those who have confirmed infection by the PCR test (polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test). These people, they should have their identity registered and the "red code" will ensure safety of the rest of the community. In fact, by law, people who are confirmed to have the COVID-19 infection should actually stay at the designated isolation area whether it is a designated place or home isolation. For the "yellow code", we meant to use this not actually to increase the restriction but to relieve the restriction imposed on all those inbound travellers. With the "yellow code", we will be able to identify them more precisely, to avoid them from getting into the high risk areas exposing the community to the risk of infection, and at the same time, we will be able to perhaps reduce the designated hotel quarantine period. That is the whole purpose. If we want to reduce the designated hotel quarantine period and to improve our international communication, we will need this "yellow code" to more precisely identify these people. For the rest of the public, there will not be any increase in restriction and there will not be any tracking function.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Red flag hoisted at Pui O Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 16) that due to big waves, red flag has been hoisted at Pui O Beach in Islands District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.