

Government announces list of second cycle designated quarantine hotels

The Government announced today (January 18) the list of the designated quarantine hotels for the second cycle. A total of 36 hotels will provide about 10 000 rooms in the new cycle, with the contract period lasting from February 20 to April 20.

A Government spokesman said, "The Government issued letters to some 2 000 hotels with valid hotel or guesthouse licences on January 5 to invite application for enlisting as designated quarantine hotels in the second cycle. We have received applications from over 70 hotels.

"Upon assessment, 36 hotels were shortlisted as the designated quarantine hotels for the second cycle (see list in the Annex) to provide about 10 000 rooms of various types and rates for selection by returnees to Hong Kong. Thirty-two hotels on the list are designated hotels in the first cycle while four are newly included."

The spokesman added, "We have increased the number of hotels offering lower room rates in this new cycle of the scheme after considering the market demand for hotels offering different rates. The number of hotels offering room rates of \$500 or below will increase from seven to 11 and the number of these rooms will be almost doubled to over 2 800 rooms. This represents 27 per cent of the total number of rooms in the second cycle and an increase of 1 200 rooms as compared to that of the first cycle. The number of rooms with rates of \$1,000 or below accounts for 83 per cent of the total number of rooms offered in this cycle, providing about 8 500 rooms in total."

To further prevent importation of COVID-19 cases and reduce contact between returnees from overseas and the local community, the Government fully implemented the Designated Quarantine Hotel and Designated Transportation Scheme on December 22, 2020, requiring all travellers arriving from countries outside China to undergo compulsory quarantine for 21 days at designated quarantine hotels according to the specifications under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H). Thirty-six hotels were selected as designated hotels in the first cycle, providing about 12 000 rooms. The contract period of these hotels will end on February 19.

The list of designated hotels in the second cycle and related details such as room rates have been uploaded to the thematic webpage www.designatedhotel.gov.hk.