

Government clarifies rumours about Emergency Regulations Ordinance

In response to rumours on social media platforms that the Chief Executive would invoke the power under the Emergency Regulations Ordinance to announce suspension of the stock market, work and classes on Tuesday and Wednesday, as well as freezing the assets of Hong Kong citizens, a Government spokesman today (October 6) clarified that the rumours are totally unfounded.

The spokesman said that as the current situation had given rise to a critical state of extensive and serious public danger, the Government had put in place the Prohibition on Face Covering Regulation to assist the Police in its law enforcement and to have deterrence effects on people intending to break the law, to stop violence and restore calmness in Hong Kong society as soon as possible. This is definitely not an arbitrary act, but a difficult and also a necessary decision.

As regards rumours about the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) implementing a new regulation to cap the daily amount of cash withdrawal from banks, HKMA has already issued a statement today saying that the message was totally fake and unfounded. The HKMA also pointed out that the Hong Kong banking system is robust and sound, and that banks have sufficient supply of banknotes to meet the needs of the public.

The spokesman reminded members of the public to be mindful of the intention of these rumours on social media platforms. They are fabricated to cause panic and lead Hong Kong society to further chaos.