

# Hong Kong Customs issues clarification on face mask rumours

With regard to recent rumours that a backlog of face masks sent from overseas via air parcels has occurred at Hong Kong Customs, resulting in delayed deliveries to members of the public, Hong Kong Customs today (February 14) clarified again that such rumours are totally fabricated and unfounded.

Hong Kong Customs issued a press release on January 28 this year to offer a clarification in response to similar rumours. However, misinformation continues to allege that Customs has hindered the import of face masks into Hong Kong. In order to give a true account of the facts, the department sees a need to make a further clarification.

A spokesman for the department said that Customs operations at the Air Mail Centre (AMC) have all along remained normal. Sufficient manpower and inspection equipment are in place to conduct Customs clearance.

"No imported cargo backlog has ever been caused by Hong Kong Customs, and air-mail and postal delivery has never been delayed by Customs clearance either. The department will continue to fully collaborate with Hongkong Post in handling mail items at the AMC," the spokesman continued.

In the meantime, Customs will continue to make use of risk-profiling and intelligence analysis to carry out customs clearance for passengers, cargo, conveyance and postal articles at various control points pursuant to relevant legislation to combat the import and export of controlled and prohibited items into and out of Hong Kong.