

Nearly 60 per cent of people comply with compulsory testing notices to undergo testing

According to the compulsory testing notices published on December 30 and 31, 2020, the Government has arranged mobile specimen collection stations or other testing facilities for the 43 specified premises to provide testing for persons covered by the compulsory testing notices.

According to the Home Affairs Department (HAD)'s records, as at 5pm today (January 2), a cumulative total of over 35 000 persons who are required to undergo compulsory testing have undertaken the test via the abovementioned specimen collection stations or testing facilities, which accounts for nearly 60 per cent of the estimated number of residents of corresponding buildings covered by the testing notices. In addition, the HAD understands that some people may choose to undergo testing via other routes as specified in the testing notices.

The HAD thanks the many residents who had complied with the compulsory testing notices for their co-operation to fight against the virus together. The HAD is also grateful for the efforts and support by the relevant government departments and colleagues, as well as the testing contractors and their staff, to carry out the testing for the public.

The HAD appeals to members of the public who are required to undergo testing according to the compulsory testing notices to undergo testing at the testing centers as soon as possible within the period specified (i.e by January 4, 2021) in the compulsory testing notices.

The HAD reminds the public again that the Government will take resolute follow-up action to ensure compliance to all testing notices.

The COVID-19 virus is high in transmissibility. Although many patients are asymptomatic, they still infect people around them. Therefore, participating in testing is a responsible act for oneself, family members as well as the community. The Government appeals to the public to undergo testing in compliance with the notice. Any person who fails to comply with the testing notice commits an offence and may be fined a fixed penalty of \$5,000. The person would also be issued with a compulsory testing order requiring him/her to undergo testing within a specified timeframe. Failure to comply with the order is an offence and the offender would be liable to a fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months.