

## SCMA explains to ethnic minorities measures to fight COVID-19 (with photos)

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Patrick Nip, visited the Islamic Union of Hong Kong today (February 27) and met with the ethnic minorities (EM) from the Union to explain to them Hong Kong's anti-epidemic measures. He also appealed to the EM community to stand together with the Government to fight the epidemic.

In a meeting with Union representatives, Mr Nip briefed them on the Government's measures against COVID-19, the latest infection situation in Hong Kong and related health information. He also listened to their sharing on the impact of the epidemic on their daily life, and presented to them promotional leaflets on health education as well as surgical masks. Mr Nip said that owing to the epidemic, members of the public have been facing difficulty in sourcing masks. In view of this, the Government has been sending the masks donated by various sectors to non-government organisations for them to distribute to underprivileged groups. At the same time, the Government will continue to increase the overall supply of surgical masks through a multi-pronged approach.

Mr Nip also introduced to them the thematic website on COVID-19 ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html)) set up by the Government to enhance the dissemination of epidemic information. The website integrates news updates from related government bureaux and departments, provides the latest updates on COVID-19, such as figures relating to the epidemic, measures undertaken by bureaux and departments, clarifications made and public health education information, as well as various practical information. To enable the EM to keep abreast of the latest updates, some website content has been translated into different languages, including Hindi, Nepali, Urdu, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, Tagalog, Sinhala, Bengali and Vietnamese. The EM can also make use of interpretation services provided by the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents to obtain the relevant health information if necessary.

Mr Nip said that the Government would keep up the effort to disseminate anti-epidemic information to the EM in a timely manner. He also appealed to members of the public to support the Government's anti-epidemic work by reducing social contacts, including refraining from going to crowded places and attending social gatherings, and staying home as much as possible to minimise the risk of the spread of the disease.

