<u>Special work arrangement for</u> <u>Government employees</u>

A spokesman for the Government announced today (July 19) that save for those involved in the provision of emergency services and essential public services, all other government employees should work from home starting from tomorrow (July 20). The measure will be implemented tentatively for a week until July 26. The Government will closely monitor the epidemic situation and review the arrangement in due course.

In view of the severity of the local epidemic situation, the Government needs to take further measures in order to significantly reduce the flow of people and social contacts to stop COVID-19 from further spreading in the community.

Government departments will continue to provide emergency services and essential public services. Individual government departments will announce the latest arrangements of their services separately. The Government appreciates that the reduction in public services in view of the epidemic will bring inconvenience to the public but appeals for their understanding.

The spokesman strongly appealed to employers of private organisations to allow their staff members to work from home as far as possible according to their operational needs so as to reduce the flow of people and social contacts in the community.