## <u>Additional quarantine hotel for close</u> <u>contacts</u>

â€<The Government announced today (January 12) that starting from January 17, Silka Seaview Hotel Hong Kong will be used as a quarantine hotel for close contacts of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Due to the recent surge in cases tested positive and substantial increase in the number of close contacts that needed to be quarantined at quarantine facilities, the Government has activated the Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village as well as three quarantine hotels in addition to the Penny's Bay Quarantine Centre. The Government is also making preparation to activate Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre in Pat Heung and Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre for receiving close contacts and their household contacts. Including the 268 units to be provided by Silka Seaview Hotel Hong Kong, there will be altogether around 5 000 units for quarantine of close contacts to cope with the demand stemming from the epidemic.

Silka Seaview Hotel Hong Kong is currently a designated quarantine hotel (DQH) under the sixth and seventh cycles of the Designated Quarantine Hotel Scheme. With immediate effect, Silka Seaview Hotel Hong Kong temporarily ceases to be a DQH under the Scheme and ceases taking reservations for inbound travellers. Persons currently under quarantine at Silka Seaview Hotel Hong Kong will be arranged in phases to transfer to other designated quarantine hotels to continue their quarantine in accordance with infection control guidelines.

A Government spokesman said, "We trust that the additional close contact quarantine hotel will help cope with the recent demand for quarantine facilities. The Government will continue to closely monitor the situation of various quarantine facilities and make timely adjustments."