

## Government steps up enforcement against shop front extension at Mong Kok Flower Market

The goods placed by some shop operators on the walkways and public roads at the Mong Kok Flower Market (MKFM) are obstructing the passageways, endangering public and traffic safety in particular when the pedestrian flow in the area is anticipated to increase in the run-up to the Chinese New Year. To keep the passageway clear, the Yau Tsim Mong District Office (YTMDO), the Mong Kok District of the Hong Kong Police Force and the Mong Kok District Environmental Hygiene Office of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department met shop operators at the MKFM today (January 14) reminding them again to be self-disciplined and not to place goods on pedestrian walkway or public road to cause danger. The relevant Government departments will step up inspection and enforcement in the area of the MKFM, including clearing relevant goods or articles that cause street obstruction.

The YTMDO also reminded the shop operators to comply strictly with anti-epidemic measures, and distributed to them advice on public health and infection control.

The Government will also display promotional banners at a number of spots in MKFM and hand out notices to shop operators shortly, to remind them not to occupy public places or roads with goods or articles which will impede the flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

The Government appeals to shop operators not to occupy public places for the purpose of conducting or facilitating business activities, which would not only cause obstruction of passageway but jeopardise the safety of road users. Depending on the situation, enforcement departments may issue fixed penalty notices of \$1,500 to offenders, or issue summonses and/or take arrest actions to clear the goods or articles that cause the obstruction.