

Man sentenced for breaching compulsory quarantine order

A 47-year-old man was sentenced to immediate imprisonment for 14 days by the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (June 8) for violating the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E) (the Regulation).

The man was issued a compulsory quarantine order when he entered Hong Kong on November 13, 2020, stating that he must conduct quarantine at a hotel for 14 days. The Police subsequently located him in Sham Shui Po on November 24, 2020, upon receipt of a report. Investigations revealed that he did not enter the place of quarantine after his entry into Hong Kong. He was charged with contravening sections 8(4) and 8(5) of the Regulation and was sentenced by the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today to immediate imprisonment for 14 days.

Breaching a quarantine order is a criminal offence and offenders are subject to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months. A spokesman for the Department of Health said the sentence sends a clear message to the community that breaching a compulsory quarantine order is a criminal offence that the Government will not tolerate, and solemnly reminded the public to comply with the regulations. As of today, a total of 142 persons have been convicted by the courts for breaching compulsory quarantine orders and have received sentences including immediate imprisonment for up to 14 weeks or a fine of up to \$15,000. The spokesman reiterated that resolute actions will be taken against anyone who has breached the relevant regulations.