

## Sick person in custody dies in public hospital

A sick 62-year-old male person in custody at Stanley Prison died in a public hospital yesterday (March 31).

The person in custody suffered from tongue cancer. He required continuous medical care and follow-up at the institution hospital and a public hospital. On March 16, 2020, he was sent to a public hospital for treatment due to physical discomfort. During hospitalisation, his condition deteriorated and he was certified dead at 8.54pm yesterday.

The case has been reported to the Police. A death inquest will be held by the Coroner's Court.

The person in custody was sentenced to imprisonment for the offence of trafficking in a dangerous drug in 2014.

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## Fraudulent websites related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited on fraudulent websites, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the websites concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the websites should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

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## Government launches enhancement measures for Technology Voucher Programme

The Innovation and Technology Commission today (April 1) launched enhancement measures for the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) to further assist enterprises and organisations in making use of technology to improve their business operations and enhance their competitiveness.

With effect from today, the Government's funding ratio for each TVP project will be raised from two-thirds to three-quarters. The funding ceiling per applicant will be increased from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and the maximum number of approved projects will also be increased from four to six.

Under the Innovation and Technology Fund, the TVP aims to subsidise local enterprises and organisations to use technological services and solutions to improve productivity, or upgrade or transform their business processes. Details are available on the TVP website ([tvp.itf.gov.hk](http://tvp.itf.gov.hk)). For enquiries, please email the TVP Secretariat at [tvp-enquiry@itc.gov.hk](mailto:tvp-enquiry@itc.gov.hk).

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## HKSAR government announces arrangement to take Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru back home by chartered flight

A Government spokesman announced today (March 31) that to assist the Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru to leave the country smoothly, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will arrange a chartered flight to fly them from Lima to London, followed by a connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong. The cost will be borne by the users. Peru has declared a state of emergency and imposed strict restrictions on all land and air traffic. At present, the Hong Kong residents still in Peru cannot depart there through normal flight arrangement.

After receiving requests for assistance from the Hong Kong residents affected, the Security Bureau and the Immigration Department (ImmD) have been liaising with the Chinese Embassy in the Republic of Peru (Chinese Embassy in Peru) and several airlines to make every effort to secure flight bookings or arrange a flight for the return of the stranded Hong Kong residents. The chartered flight arranged by the HKSAR Government is tentatively scheduled to depart from Lima for London on April 3, Peru time. Passengers concerned will

then take a connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong.

Among the Hong Kong residents there, some are in different places in Peru. They would have to take domestic flights or other land transports to go to Lima to facilitate arrangement of their departure collectively by an international flight from Lima out of Peru. In this regard, the HKSAR Government is actively following up with the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR and the Chinese Embassy in Peru, including assisting in arranging a chartered flight to take the some 30 Hong Kong residents in Cusco to Lima. Those in other locations will be assisted by local travel agencies or transportation companies to make arrangement for them to arrive at Lima Airport before noon on April 3 to catch the chartered flight for departing Peru.

The HKSAR Government appeals to the Hong Kong residents in Peru who have yet to contact the Assistance to Hong Kong Residents Unit (AHU) of the ImmD but wish to take the chartered flight to fly out of Peru to London and then return to Hong Kong, to call ImmD's 24-hour hotline (852) 1868 or email to 1868@immd.gov.hk for assistance by March 31, Peru time (i.e. 1pm on April 1, Hong Kong time). AHU officers will follow up according to actual circumstances.

The spokesman pointed out that the HKSAR Government currently can only arrange the above-mentioned chartered flight to fly Hong Kong residents out of Peru, urging those who are still in Peru but plan to return to Hong Kong to contact AHU through the above-mentioned channels as early as possible.

For the Hong Kong residents in Peru who have already contacted AHU for assistance, they need not call the hotline or email again. AHU officers will proactively contact them by phone to notify them of the detailed chartered flight arrangement.

According to legal requirements, all persons who have been to an overseas country / territory within 14 days before arriving in Hong Kong must undergo 14 days of compulsory quarantine.

According to the World Health Organization's guidelines, airlines will refuse to board passengers with symptoms of illness.

As at noon today, the ImmD has received a total of 91 assistance requests from Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru, including more than 30 group tour members. Nine of those who sought assistance have left Peru already through other arrangements. One of the Hong Kong residents passed away earlier from COVID-19 infection. Three Hong Kong residents who are close contacts of the deceased have to stay in Peru for quarantine and taking COVID-19 virus test.

Meanwhile, the HKSAR Government continues to closely follow up on Hong Kong residents stranded in Morocco. The ImmD received assistance requests from 152 Hong Kong residents concerning the home passage from Morocco. To assist the Hong Kong residents to return to Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government

has been taking actions on multiple fronts, including actively liaising with several airlines to secure flight bookings for the affected Hong Kong residents to leave Morocco via other places.

As at noon today, 113 people have either already returned to Hong Kong by different flights, or have secured return arrangements. For the 39 Hong Kong residents remaining in Morocco, they are mainly in the cities of Casablanca and Marrakesh. The HKSAR Government is actively following up with the Chinese Embassy in the Kingdom of Morocco and a number of airlines to make every effort to secure flight bookings or arrange a flight for the return of the stranded Hong Kong residents. It will notify the Hong Kong residents concerned of the latest information at the earliest possible.

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## **Update on COVID-19 test centres**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

From March 20 to 9pm today (March 31), 713 and 180 people have been referred to the test centres at the AsiaWorld-Expo and North Lantau Hospital respectively for COVID-19 viral test. So far, 804 people have negative test results for COVID-19 and have returned to their residence to continue the home quarantine.

Preliminary positive test results will be further confirmed by the Department of Health and announced as confirmed cases in due course.