

Chapter 2

The Legal System

'A robust legal system is the foundation for a harmonious society, and the recognition of, and commitment to, the rule of law by both the public and the government is the central pillar of such a society.' — Secretary for Justice, Mr Wong Yan Lung, at the Ceremonial Opening of the Legal Year on January 8, 2007.

The legal system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) differs from that of the Mainland, and is based on the common law.

The constitutional framework for the legal system is provided at the international level by the Sino-British Joint Declaration and at the domestic level by the Basic Law, enacted by the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) under Article 31 of the Chinese Constitution. Both the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law guarantee the continuance of the existing legal system after China resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997.

Continuation of the Legal System

Common law principles, and nearly all the ordinances that were in force before July 1, 1997, continue to apply in the HKSAR. Some ordinances required adaptation to bring them into line with the Basic Law and to reflect Hong Kong's new status as a Special Administrative Region of the PRC. Most of these ordinances have now been adapted and those that have not require further consideration of the policy issues involved.

The existing courts and tribunals were re-established on July 1, 1997 (though some were renamed). The Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal was established on that date and replaced the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as the highest court of appeal for Hong Kong. All serving judges were reappointed by the HKSAR's Chief Executive on July 1, 1997. All judicial proceedings that had been instituted before July 1, 1997 were continued by virtue of the Hong Kong Reunification Ordinance.

Law in the HKSAR

The laws in force in the HKSAR are:

- (1) the Basic Law;
- (2) national laws listed in Annex III to the Basic Law;
- (3) the laws in force before July 1, 1997 that were adopted as laws of the HKSAR by the NPC's Standing Committee; and
- (4) laws enacted by the HKSAR's legislature.

National laws relating to defence and foreign affairs, as well as other matters outside the HKSAR's autonomy, may be applied locally by way of promulgation or legislation by the HKSAR. Currently, 12 national laws apply in the HKSAR.

All ordinances in force in the HKSAR are bilingual, and their Chinese and English texts are equally authentic. Those ordinances, and their subsidiary legislation, are published in both a hard-copy loose-leaf edition and on the Internet.

International treaties and agreements applying to the HKSAR

Under the Basic Law, multilateral treaties can apply to the HKSAR. There are approximately 229 such treaties. In certain areas, the HKSAR can conclude its own bilateral agreements and 156 such agreements have been concluded. Lists of these treaties and agreements are available on the Internet.

Court challenges under the Basic Law

Since July 1, 1997, Hong Kong has, for the first time, a detailed written constitution. Litigants are able to base their arguments on provisions of the Basic Law, and challenge actions that they believe are inconsistent with them.

Legal challenges based on the Basic Law have been launched in a wide variety of cases. Constitutional challenges have included the right of abode in Hong Kong of various categories of persons, the right to use the Chinese language in courts, the freedom to travel and enter the HKSAR, the Court of Final Appeal's power of final adjudication, the right to legal representation and the freedom of speech and of assembly. The gradual development of a body of jurisprudence on the Basic Law reinforces its effectiveness in determining the rights, obligations, powers and privileges guaranteed to the people of Hong Kong.

Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution

Arbitration in the HKSAR is governed by the Arbitration Ordinance, which provides a domestic regime derived from English law and for international arbitrations incorporates the Model Law adopted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ('the UNCITRAL Model Law'). The Department of Justice has published a consultation paper on arbitration law reform which proposes to abolish the distinction between domestic and international arbitrations and

recommends that the UNCITRAL Model Law be adopted as the basis of the arbitration regime in Hong Kong.

HKSAR awards can be enforced in more than 135 jurisdictions that are signatories to the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. A system for reciprocal enforcement of arbitration awards between the HKSAR and the Mainland, based on the spirit of the New York Convention, has been in place since January 2000.

The Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) was established in 1985 to be the focus for Asia of dispute resolution. The HKIAC provides advisory and support services for the resolution of local and international disputes by arbitration, adjudication and mediation.

The Secretary for Justice chairs the newly formed Working Group on Mediation. The Working Group's primary purpose is to promote the use of mediation in Hong Kong.

The Secretary for Justice

The Secretary for Justice heads the Department of Justice, and is the Chief Executive's legal adviser and a member of the Executive Council. The Secretary for Justice chairs the Law Reform Commission and the Legal Practitioners' Liaison Committee, is the Deputy Chairman of the Fight Crime Committee, and is a member of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission and the Operations Review Committee of the Independent Commission Against Corruption.

The Secretary for Justice is the representative of the HKSAR Government in all actions brought by, or against, it and is also responsible for the drafting of all government legislation.

The Secretary for Justice is responsible for all prosecutions in the HKSAR, with responsibility for deciding whether a prosecution should be instituted in any particular case, and, if so, for instituting and conducting the prosecution.

The Department of Justice provides legal advice to all government departments and bureaux. It has five law divisions, each headed by a Law Officer to whom the Secretary for Justice delegates certain powers and responsibilities.

The Civil Division, headed by the Law Officer (Civil Law), provides legal advice to the Government on civil law, drafts commercial contracts and franchises, and conducts civil litigation, arbitration and mediation, on behalf of the Government.

The International Law Division, headed by the Law Officer (International Law), advises the Government on issues relating to public international law. This division's lawyers participate in the negotiation of agreements and arrangements with other jurisdictions and, as members of the Chinese delegation, at the Hague Conference on Private International Law. The division also handles requests to and from the HKSAR for international legal cooperation.

The Law Drafting Division, headed by the Law Draftsman, drafts all legislation, including subsidiary legislation, and assists in steering legislation through the Executive and Legislative Councils. It also compiles the loose-leaf edition of the Laws of Hong Kong and maintains the computer database of Hong Kong's legislation, which is freely available on the Internet.

The Solicitor General heads the Legal Policy Division, which includes the Law Reform Commission Secretariat. The division provides legal policy input on a wide variety of topics being considered by the Government, and advises on issues affecting the administration of justice, human rights, constitutional law, Mainland law and the Basic Law.

The Director of Public Prosecutions heads the Prosecutions Division. This division's counsel conduct most criminal appeals, including those to the Court of Final Appeal, and the majority of trials in the Court of First Instance and the District Court. When necessary, they prosecute in the Magistrates' Courts. The division also provides legal advice to law enforcement agencies and other government departments.

The Law Reform Commission

The Law Reform Commission considers and reports on those topics referred to it by the Secretary for Justice or the Chief Justice. Its membership includes academics, practising lawyers and prominent community members.

Since its establishment in 1980, the commission has published 53 reports covering subjects as diverse as commercial arbitration, divorce, data protection, fraud and hearsay in civil proceedings. The recommendations in 28 of these reports have been implemented, either in whole or in part. The commission is currently considering a range of subjects, including charities, class actions, double jeopardy and sexual offences.

The Legal Profession

Lawyers in Hong Kong are admitted as either barristers or solicitors. Solicitors have limited rights of audience whereas barristers have unlimited rights of audience in all courts. Lawyers practising within one branch of the profession are not, at the same time, allowed to practise within the other branch.

Hong Kong has about 5 890 practising solicitors and 705 local law firms, plus 54 foreign law firms, 840 registered foreign lawyers, and 11 registered associations between foreign law firms and local law firms. Around 400 solicitors are also notaries public, and are members of the Hong Kong Society of Notaries.

The Law Society is responsible for maintaining professional and ethical standards of solicitors and foreign lawyers and foreign law firms and for considering complaints against these legal professionals.

The governing body for Hong Kong's 1 042 barristers is the Hong Kong Bar Association. The Bar's Code of Conduct governs their conduct and etiquette.

The Judiciary

A key element in the success and continuing attraction of the HKSAR is that its judicial system operates on the principle, fundamental to the common law system, of the independence of the judiciary from the executive and legislative branches of government. The courts make their own judgments, whether disputes before them involve private citizens, corporate bodies or the Government itself. And the Government is advised on matters relating to pay and conditions of service of judicial officers by the Independent Standing Committee on Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service.

The Court of Final Appeal is the highest appellate court in the HKSAR. The court is headed by the Chief Justice. There are three permanent judges and a panel of six non-permanent Hong Kong judges and 10 non-permanent judges from other common law jurisdictions. In hearing and determining appeals, the court will consist of five judges, and the court may, as required, invite a non-permanent Hong Kong judge or a non-permanent judge from other common law jurisdictions to sit on the court. The Chief Justice is the head of the Judiciary. He is assisted in the overall administration by the Judiciary Administrator.

The High Court, comprising the Court of Appeal and the Court of First Instance, is headed by the Chief Judge of the High Court. Sitting in the High Court in addition to the Chief Judge are nine Justices of Appeal and 27 Judges of the Court of First Instance. The Registrar, Senior Deputy Registrars and Deputy Registrars of the High Court deal mainly with interlocutory and taxation matters.

The Court of Appeal hears civil and criminal appeals from the Court of First Instance, the District Court and the Lands Tribunal. The Court of First Instance has unlimited jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters. Civil matters are usually tried by Court of First Instance judges sitting without juries, although there is a rarely used provision for jury trials in certain cases, including defamation. Criminal offences in the Court of First Instance are tried by a judge with a jury of seven, or when a judge so orders, a jury of nine. The Court of First Instance also hears appeals from the Magistrates' Courts and the Labour and Small Claims Tribunals.

The District Court is one level below the Court of First Instance. It comprises a Chief District Judge and 32 judges. They sit without a jury in criminal and civil proceedings. There are also a Registrar and three Deputy Registrars dealing with interlocutory and taxation matters. The District Court tries criminal cases except murder, manslaughter and rape. The maximum term of imprisonment is seven years. Its general civil jurisdiction is limited to claims up to \$1 million, or recovery of land where the rateable value does not exceed \$240,000. It has jurisdiction over employees' compensation and matrimonial matters including divorce, custody, maintenance and adoption. It also has jurisdiction to hear stamp duty assessment appeals.

The Magistrates' Courts process about 90 per cent of the cases in Hong Kong annually. Led by the Chief Magistrate, the team consists of seven Principal Magistrates, 63 Permanent Magistrates and 11 Special Magistrates sitting in seven

locations. Magistrates exercise criminal jurisdiction over a wide range of offences. In general, their sentencing power is limited to two years' imprisonment and a fine of \$100,000. Specific statutory provisions empower magistrates to impose sentences of up to three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$5 million. Magistrates also handle cases in the Juvenile Courts which deal with offences, except homicide, committed by children and young persons below 16 years of age. Special Magistrates handle minor offences such as traffic contraventions. Their sentencing power is limited to a maximum fine of \$50,000 or as specified in their warrants of appointment.

In addition, there are five tribunals. The Lands Tribunal handles tenancy claims, rating and valuation appeals, applications for compulsory sale of buildings for redevelopment, and compensation assessments when land is resumed by the Government or reduced in value by development. The Labour Tribunal handles claims arising from contracts of employment. The Small Claims Tribunal handles civil claims of up to \$50,000. The Obscene Articles Tribunal determines whether articles are obscene or indecent. It also classifies articles submitted by authors and publishers. The Coroner's Court conducts inquests and inquires into the causes of and circumstances connected with a death.

In accordance with the Basic Law and the Official Languages Ordinance, the courts can use both official languages in any proceedings.

Legal Aid

Eligible applicants receive legal aid through the provision of the services of a solicitor and, if necessary, a barrister in court proceedings to ensure that a person who has reasonable grounds for pursuing or defending a legal action is not prevented from doing so by lack of means. Publicly funded legal aid services are provided through the Legal Aid Department and the Duty Lawyer Service.

Legal Aid Department

The Legal Aid Department provides legal aid services to any person in Hong Kong, resident or non-resident, who satisfies the criteria for legal aid, namely the means test and merits test.

Ordinary Legal Aid Scheme for Civil Cases

The Ordinary Legal Aid Scheme is available for representation in civil proceedings in the District Court, Court of First Instance, Court of Appeal and Court of Final Appeal covering proceedings relating to major areas of the livelihood of the community including family and matrimonial disputes, personal injury claims, employment disputes, disputes related to landed properties, contractual disputes, immigration matters and professional negligence claims.

An applicant must pass the means and merits tests to qualify for legal aid. For the means test, the applicant must show that his financial resources, the aggregate of his annual disposable income and total disposable capital after deduction of certain statutory allowances, do not exceed \$165,700. The Director of Legal Aid may waive the upper financial eligibility limit in meritorious cases where a breach of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance or an inconsistency with the International

Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as applied to Hong Kong are at issue. For the merits test, the applicant must satisfy the Director of Legal Aid that he has reasonable grounds for bringing or defending the civil proceedings. An aided person may be required to pay a contribution depending on his financial resources and is required to pay costs if property is recovered or preserved on his behalf in the proceedings.

An applicant who is refused civil legal aid may appeal to the Registrar of the High Court, or in Court of Final Appeal cases, to a Review Committee.

During the year, 15 462 applications for legal aid were received, and legal aid was granted to 7 858 applicants. The Legal Aid Department's expenditure on civil cases was \$327.7 million, and \$740.1 million was recovered for the aided persons.

Supplementary Legal Aid Scheme

This scheme provides legal assistance to applicants whose financial resources exceed the limit stipulated in the Ordinary Legal Aid Scheme but do not exceed \$460,300. Under this scheme, legal aid is available for cases involving personal injury or death as well as medical, dental or legal professional negligence, where the claim for damages is likely to exceed \$60,000. The scheme also covers claims under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance irrespective of the amount of the claim.

The scheme is self-financing and funded by contributions paid by aided persons and a percentage deducted from damages or compensation recovered on their behalf. In 2007, 136 applications for legal aid were received and legal aid was granted to 79 applicants. Expenditure was \$4.8 million, and \$39 million was recovered on behalf of the aided persons.

Legal Aid in Criminal Cases

In criminal cases, legal aid is available for representation in proceedings in the Court of First Instance and the District Court, in committal proceedings in the Magistrates' Courts, in appeals from the Magistrates' Courts, and in appeals to the Court of Appeal and the Court of Final Appeal.

Legal aid is granted to applicants who pass the means test and if the Director of Legal Aid is satisfied that it is in the interests of justice for legal aid to be granted. The Director of Legal Aid has the discretion to grant legal aid in a criminal case even if the applicant's financial resources exceed the financial eligibility limit if he is satisfied that it is desirable in the interests of justice to do so, subject to payment of a contribution. An applicant who is refused legal aid on the ground of merits may apply to a judge for legal aid to be granted to him, provided that he passes the means test. Applicants charged with or convicted of murder, treason or piracy with violence, may apply to a judge not only for legal aid for the trial and appeal, but also for exemption from the means test or payment of a contribution.

Appeals against refusal of legal aid for appeals to the Court of Final Appeal are heard by a Review Committee chaired by the Registrar of the High Court and comprising a barrister and a solicitor. During the year, 3 765 applications for criminal legal aid were received and legal aid was granted to 2 507 applicants. Total expenditure on criminal cases was \$96.7 million.

Duty Lawyer Service

The Duty Lawyer Service operates the Legal Advice Scheme, the Duty Lawyer Scheme, the Legal Representation Scheme for Children/Juveniles Involved in Care or Protection Proceedings and the Tel-Law Scheme. It is subvented by the Government but independently administered by the legal profession of Hong Kong.

The Legal Advice Scheme provides free advice to members of the public without means testing at nine advice centres located in the District Offices. Members of the public can make appointments to see volunteer lawyers through one of the 29 referral agencies (with over 153 branches), which include all District Offices, Caritas Services Centres and the Social Welfare Department. A total of 6 429 people were given legal advice during the year by 918 volunteer lawyers participating in the scheme.

The Duty Lawyer Scheme provides legal representation to defendants who are charged in the magistracies. To be eligible for legal representation under the scheme, an applicant's gross annual income must not exceed \$121,720. However, the Administrator of the Duty Lawyer Service has a discretion to grant legal representation to defendants whose gross annual income exceeds this limit, if it is considered to be in the interests of justice to do so. Applicants are also subject to a merits test. The prime consideration is whether the defendant is in jeopardy of losing his liberty or whether a substantial question of law is involved.

The scheme assigns barristers and solicitors to advise defendants facing extradition and to represent persons who are at risk of criminal prosecution as a result of giving incriminating evidence in Coroner's inquests. They are also assigned to represent hawkers at the hearing of their appeals to the Municipal Services Appeals Board.

In 2007, 1 549 barristers and solicitors were on the duty lawyer panel and 38 640 persons were represented under the Duty Lawyer Scheme.

Legal representation is also offered to children/juveniles in care or protection proceedings who are deprived or likely to be deprived of their liberty under the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance. In 2007, 831 children/juveniles were represented under this scheme (including 682 new cases and 149 cases carried forward from 2006).

The Tel-Law Scheme offers taped legal information to the public in Cantonese, Putonghua and English. The tapes cover various aspects of law including matrimonial, landlord and tenant, criminal, financial, employment, environmental and administrative law. They are updated regularly and new tapes are added when new subjects are identified as being of interest to the public.

Legal Aid Services Council

The Legal Aid Services Council is an independent statutory body established to advise the Chief Executive of the HKSAR on legal aid policies. Chaired by a non-official who is not in the legal profession, members include barristers and solicitors, lay members and the Director of Legal Aid, to attain a balanced representation of

views. To facilitate its work, the council has set up various working parties and interest groups to study and recommend to the council on ways and means to improve legal aid services. During the year, aside from the Administration's regular reviews on legal aid matters, such as annual review on financial eligibility limits of legal aid applicants, the council has deliberated and offered its views on various other issues, such as the scope of legal aid and the criteria for assessing financial eligibility limits. The council also operates an assistance scheme under which a legal aid applicant seeking to appeal to the Court of Final Appeal may apply for a counsel certificate for a review of the Director of Legal Aid's refusal to grant legal aid on the grounds of merit.

The Official Solicitor

The Director of Legal Aid was appointed the Official Solicitor under the Official Solicitor Ordinance.

The Official Solicitor's main duties are to act as guardian ad litem or next friend in legal proceedings for persons under a disability of age or who are mentally incapacitated, as representative of deceased persons' estates for the purpose of legal proceedings, as Official Trustee and Judicial Trustee, and to act as committee of the estate of mentally incapacitated persons. The Official Solicitor's caseload for 2006-2007 was 437, an increase of 23 per cent over the previous financial year.

Director of Intellectual Property

This statutory office was established in 1990 under the Director of Intellectual Property (Establishment) Ordinance. The Intellectual Property Department operates the Trade Marks, Patents, Designs and Copyright Licensing Bodies Registries. It is also responsible for making recommendations on policy and legislation related to intellectual property protection, providing civil intellectual property legal advice to the Government and promoting public awareness of and respect for intellectual property rights.

Rights of the Individual

Legal protections

Chapter III of the Basic Law prescribes the fundamental rights and freedoms of people in Hong Kong. In particular, Article 39 (which forms part of Chapter III) provides that the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) as applied to Hong Kong shall remain in force. Additionally, the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance gives domestic effect to the provisions of the ICCPR as applied to Hong Kong.

Other statutory protections, overseen by the Equal Opportunities Commission, are contained in the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, and the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance. Additionally, the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance — administered by the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data — protects the right to privacy with respect to personal data.

The Race Discrimination Bill

On December 13, 2006, the Government introduced the Race Discrimination Bill into the Legislative Council. This, when enacted, will provide specific safeguards for the rights of individuals against discrimination, harassment and vilification on the grounds of race. The Bill is being examined by the Legislative Council.

United Nations Human Rights Treaties

Fourteen international human rights treaties apply to Hong Kong. Six of these oblige governments to submit periodic reports to the UN treaty monitoring bodies. At the end of 2007, the position regarding the Government's reporting obligations was:

- (a) **the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR):** the UN Human Rights Committee heard the second report in March 2006;
- (b) **the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR):** the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights heard the second report, as part of China's first report, in April 2005;
- (c) **the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD):** the initial report — as part of China's combined eighth and ninth report — was examined by the UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2001. The second report would form part of China's combined tenth to thirteenth report to be submitted to the committee;
- (d) **the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT):** the UN Committee against Torture examined the initial report — as part of China's third report — in 2000. The second report which formed part of China's combined fourth and fifth report was submitted in June 2006;
- (e) **the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC):** the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child heard the initial report — as part of China's second report — in September 2005; and
- (f) **the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):** the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women heard the second report — as part of China's combined fifth and sixth report — in August 2006.

With the exception of the ICCPR, to which China is not yet a party, Hong Kong teams attend the UN hearings as part of the Chinese delegations. In the case of the ICCPR, Hong Kong attended alone under the leadership of the Chinese Permanent Ambassador to the UN.

Race Relations

The Race Relations Unit

The unit was established in June 2002 to promote the interests of the ethnic minorities. It produces publicity materials, operates a hotline for complaints and enquires, conducts an outreach education programme in schools, and serves as the secretariat to the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony. It maintains close liaison with ethnic minority communities and their representatives, and started in 2007 to organise a series of cultural events to promote integration of ethnic minorities into the community and better public understanding of their traditions and cultures.

The Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony

The Committee was established in 2002. It advises the Government on promotion of race relations and oversees a funding scheme to subsidise publicity and public education activities by non-governmental organisations.

Children's Rights

To enhance the awareness of children and adults of children's rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to provide children with opportunities to express their views, the Government has supported various awareness-raising initiatives, established the Children's Rights Forum as a direct communication channel with children and children's rights advocates, and provided financial support to non-governmental organisations via the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme.

Equal Opportunities Commission

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is an independent statutory body established under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance in 1996 to implement the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance and the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance. Its functions include handling complaints, encouraging conciliation, providing assistance to aggrieved persons, and undertaking public education, research and training programmes to promote equal opportunities and eliminate discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status, pregnancy, disability and family status. In 2007, the commission received 3 525 enquiries and 811 complaints relating to the three anti-discrimination ordinances; 195 complaint cases were conciliated.

Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) was established in 1996 as an independent statutory body under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO) to monitor, supervise and promote compliance with the ordinance.

The PCPD launched the 'Privacy Awareness Week 2007', a promotional campaign to raise awareness of the importance of protecting privacy in the Asia-Pacific Region, jointly with its counterparts from Australia, New Zealand and South Korea in August 2007. In addition, the PCPD organised monthly seminars on

'Introduction to the PDPO' for the general public as well as data protection workshops and seminars for members of the Data Protection Officers' Club set up by the PCPD as a network for professionals tasked with the responsibility of implementing and coordinating measures to protect personal data privacy in their respective organisations. The PCPD also delivered a series of thematic seminars to reach a wide spectrum of audience from different professions, which were well received.

In 2007, the PCPD handled 1 074 complaints and 13 170 enquiries; 14 enforcement notices were issued and eight cases were referred to the Police for prosecution. There were three successful convictions pertaining to direct marketing activities. As regards compliance work, the PCPD conducted 15 matching applications and 86 compliance checks.

During the year, the PCPD published two investigation reports, one on the disclosure of an email account subscriber's personal data by an email service provider, and one relating to the excessive collection of sensitive personal data by a credit company in a promotional activity.

Websites

Administration Wing, Chief Secretary for Administration's Office:

www.admwing.gov.hk

Department of Justice: www.doj.gov.hk

Judiciary: www.judiciary.gov.hk

Legal Aid Department: www.lad.gov.hk

Home Affairs Bureau: www.hab.gov.hk

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau: www.cmab.gov.hk

Intellectual Property Department: www.ipd.gov.hk