

## **Company and director fined \$101,500 for contravening Employment Ordinance**

Dominion Watch Company Limited and its director were prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for failing to make timely payment of wages, payment in lieu of notice, annual leave pay and the sums awarded by the Labour Tribunal (LT) to four employees as required by the Employment Ordinance (EO). The company and its director pleaded guilty at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (December 20) and were fined \$59,500 and \$42,000 respectively, making a total fine of \$101,500.

The company failed to pay four employees in accordance with the EO wages, payment in lieu of notice and annual leave pay totalling about \$208,000, as well as the awarded sum of about \$555,000 within 14 days after the date set by the LT award. The director concerned was prosecuted and convicted for his consent, connivance or neglect in the above offences committed by the company.

"The ruling will disseminate a strong message to all employers, directors and responsible officers of companies that they have to pay wages to employees within the statutory time limit stipulated in the EO, as well as the sums awarded by the LT or the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board," a spokesman for the LD said.

"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will spare no effort in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.