

Company and its director fined \$91,000 for contravening Employment Ordinance

New Landmark Construction Engineering Company Limited and its director were prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for failing to pay wages and the sums awarded by the Labour Tribunal (LT) with respect to three employees, contravening the Employment Ordinance (EO). The company and its director pleaded guilty at Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts today (October 10) and were each fined \$45,500 for a total of \$91,000. The company and the director were also ordered to pay an outstanding sum of about \$88,000 to the employees concerned.

The company failed to pay three employees' wages within seven days after the expiry of the wage period or the date of termination of employment, and the awarded sum within 14 days after the date of the LT award as required by the EO. The awarded sum covering the above wages amounted to about \$88,000. The director concerned was prosecuted and convicted for his consent, connivance or neglect in the above offences committed by the company.

"The ruling helps disseminate a strong message to all employers, directors and responsible officers of companies that they have to pay wages to employees within the time limit stipulated in the EO and to pay the awarded sums according to 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.