<u>Department of Justice releases</u> "Prosecutions Hong Kong 2020"

The Department of Justice (DoJ) today (December 22) published online "Prosecutions Hong Kong 2020", which reviews the DoJ's prosecution work of last year.

The DoJ is always committed to safeguarding the rule of law and judicial and prosecutorial independence, and to discharging the prosecutorial duties fearlessly, fairly and without prejudice.

Noting that there were allegations in the past that the DoJ's prosecutorial decisions had been influenced by political considerations or pressure from parties outside the department, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms Maggie Yang, reiterated in the Director's Overview that all prosecutorial decisions made by the DoJ's prosecutors are based on applicable laws, the Prosecution Code and evidence. Prosecutions would be commenced only if there is sufficient admissible evidence to support a reasonable prospect of conviction and if it is in the public interest to do so.

Apart from a detailed account of the key cases handled by each subdivision of the Prosecutions Division, this latest review also provides information on various outreach and training activities organised by the Division during the year.