

SB responds to media enquiries on incident of prohibition breach on group gathering regulation

A spokesman for the Security Bureau (SB) said today (July 9) that during an investigation of a criminal case, the Police found that several people had breached the prohibition on the group gathering regulation. As legal proceedings of this criminal case are in progress, further details will not be disclosed.

The Under Secretary for Security, Mr Sonny Au; the Director of Immigration, Mr Au Ka-wang; and the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Hermes Tang, made further clarifications on their violation of the prohibition on the group gathering regulation that occurred at a dinner:

- Only three officials from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government attended the dinner. They were invited to attend it at a place where they were told by the host was a private premises, and therefore mistakenly believed that the venue fell outside the regulation of the prohibition on group gathering;
- The food served at the dinner consisted of normal hotpot ingredients;
- As the trio's work requires frequent communication with different sectors in the community, the dinner on that day was an ordinary social gathering; and
- The three officials admitted that they were negligent and lacked sensitivity on this occasion. They apologised for it, pledging that they will exercise particular caution when attending events in the future.

The SB spokesman emphasised that these three officials were not involved in the aforementioned criminal case.