

## Transcript of remarks by CS at media session (with video)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr John Lee, at a media session after the Legislative Council meeting today (July 7):

Reporter: Secretary, if people quit certain political parties that have opposed the Government before, does that clear them for running in future polls? The second question, your speech just now, are you referring to Professor Johannes Chan from the Hong Kong University? And will he be prosecuted for what authorities are saying "encouraging acts of terrorism"?

Chief Secretary for Administration: In regard to the assessment and validation of whether a candidate satisfies the requirement, basically there are two criteria. One is to assess whether he truly upholds the Basic Law, the other is to assess whether he truly bears allegiance to the Hong Kong SAR. We will be considering individual cases on its own merits, taking into consideration all the factors and the information that are available at hand. So the answer to that question is simple. The criteria are just two, and always two – whether he truly upholds the Basic Law and he truly bears allegiance to the Hong Kong SAR.

As regards comments or statements made by people regarding terrorism, it is important that everybody who says something, they know that there may be a consequence, particularly for the extremists who may have been already imbedded with some extreme ideas. If there is any indication that may suggest to him that his sin can be exonerated because simply of what he believes, then it's a very dangerous thing. It is a responsibility for all who make public statements and all should bear that in mind.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)