Labour Department to regularly publish conviction records on offences under Employment Ordinance

The Labour Department (LD) uploaded today (January 23) to its homepage (<u>www.labour.gov.hk</u>) the conviction records on failure to pay wages or sums awarded by the Labour Tribunal (LT) or the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board (MECAB) under the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) (EO) for public viewing. The publication of these conviction records is to raise the awareness of employers, employees and the community at large on timely payment of wages or sums awarded by the LT or the MECAB.

A spokesman for LD said, "The LD's homepage will list the conviction records of employers since October 2019 in respect of their contraventions of relevant provisions relating to payment of wages or sums awarded by the LT or the MECAB under the EO, including the names of the convicted companies, offence sections, brief descriptions of offences, dates of sentence and the penalties. In accordance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486), the names of the convicted persons will not be published."

The spokesman added, "The new arrangement will help enhance the understanding of employers and the general public of the criminal liability of non-compliance with EO. The LD will update the information on a quarterly basis. The conviction records will be published for 24 months."