

Legislative Council
Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Security

Further Report on the Tin Shui Wai Family Tragedy

Purpose

A brief report on the Tin Shui Wai family tragedy was previously provided vide Panel Paper No. CB(2)2131/03-04(02) on 26 April 2004. This paper is to provide additional information about the police investigation into the case and related incidents.

The Incidents

2. On 18 February 2004, Madam JIN Shu-ying (金淑英) first sought assistance from the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch (ISS). On 19 February 2004, the case was referred to the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for investigation of a suspected child sexual abuse incident raised by Madam JIN.

3. Following a joint investigation by the Police and SWD, there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the sexual abuse allegation against Mr. LI Pak-sum (李柏森), Madam JIN's husband.

4. As a result of this matter, Madam JIN and her two daughters had stayed at the Wai On Home for Women (WOHW) in two periods of time between 19 February 2004 and 8 March 2004. Thereafter the ISS had provided counselling sessions for Madam JIN, Mr. LI and their two daughters.

5. On 8 April 2004, Mr. LI made a report of 'Missing Person' to the Police that Madam JIN had been missing from their home since 2 April 2004.

6. On the evening of 9 April 2004, a '999' call was made by Madam JIN to the Police to report an incident of 'dispute'. The Police found her at home having a dispute with Mr. LI. Madam JIN reported that she had stepped on some broken glass during the dispute. Madam JIN did not give consent for the Police to refer the incident to the SWD. She then stayed in the WOHW on 10 April 2004, unaccompanied by her children, until the following day.

7. On the evening of 11 April 2004, Mr. LI made a '999' call to the Police, alleging that Madam JIN had killed their two daughters and tried to kill him too. Police officers attending the scene found the wooden door was locked from the inside by an anti-burglary chain. With the assistance of the Fire Services Department, the Police gained entry to the flat, Madam JIN and her two daughters were lying dead inside and Mr. LI was critically injured. Whilst receiving medical treatment in Tuen Mun Hospital, Mr. LI alleged that his wife had chopped him after her daughters sustained knife injuries. Mr. LI since became unconscious and died on 23 April 2004.

8. The Regional Crime Unit of New Territories North has taken over the homicide investigation from Yuen Long District. To date, nearly 50 witnesses have been interviewed.

9. Investigation into the homicide is completed. The investigation file has been submitted to the Coroner who will decide whether a death inquest should be held.

Separate Enquiry

10. Investigation into the case also shows that at about 1204 hours on 11 April 2004, Madam JIN visited the Tin Shui Wai Police Station. She requested Police to accompany her home to ascertain the safety of her daughters. Madam JIN made several telephone calls whilst at TSW Police Station and became of the view that Mr. LI and their two daughters were not at home. The officer handling her request then, based on the information given, chose not to provide any police escort for Madam JIN to return to her home. In addition, Madam JIN told the officer that she might return later. She was then advised to contact the police again, by telephoning 999 in case of immediate danger, should she require further assistance.

11. Subsequent Police enquiries have revealed that around 1402 hours on 11 April 2004, Madam JIN, Mr. LI and their two daughters were seen together at the ground floor of Heng Wan House taking the lift to return home and nothing untoward was observed.

12. A separate enquiry into the handling of all the incidents involving the victimized family by the Police is in progress. The investigators will take into account the decision made by the Coroner before arriving at their findings.

**Social Welfare Department/Hong Kong Police Force
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