

(Letterhead of The Frontier)

Office of Emily Lau, Legislative Councillor

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It is reported that last year, a journalist for Hunan's *Contemporary Business News* sent to an overseas forum some information about the Mainland authorities' directive to strictly guard against activities to be held in commemoration of the June 4 incident, resulting in his being alleged to have committed the offence of "leaking state secrets". It is learnt that Yahoo! Hong Kong, an Internet email service provider, has furnished the personal particulars of the journalist concerned to the Mainland authorities, leading to his conviction and 10 years' imprisonment. This incident not only involved an Internet email service provider in Hong Kong, but also had a negative impact on the protection of personal privacy. In this regard, will the Executive Authorities inform this Council:

- (a) whether our law enforcement agencies have offered any assistance to the Mainland law enforcement agencies in the investigation of the above incident;
- (b) whether the journalist himself, his family members or other persons have contacted the SAR Government or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (OPCPD) and requested for an investigation into Yahoo! Hong Kong? If they have not done so, whether the SAR Government and the OPCPD will take the initiative to follow up the incident; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (c) of the circumstances under which Internet service providers and email service providers are required to furnish personal particulars of their clients to law enforcement agencies and the relevant Mainland departments?

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Emily LAU