Paper for Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting Special meeting to be held on 1 November 2005

Response to the Question raised by Hon Emily Lau

Question (2)

The Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data ("the Privacy Commissioner") is concerned about the incident and has taken the initiative to inquire of the relevant e-mail service provider in Hong Kong to have a better understanding of the incident. He is particularly concerned about whether there was indeed any disclosure of that e-mail account subscriber's personal data by the relevant e-mail service provider and if so, any legal justification for such disclosure.

If the Privacy Commissioner has reasonable grounds to believe that an act done by a party may be a contravention of a requirement of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance ("the Ordinance"), he would exercise the power conferred upon him by the Ordinance to initiate immediate formal investigation on the party concerned.

Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data 26 October 2005