

**Motion on  
“The incident of attack on Mr Kevin LAU Chun-to,  
the former chief editor of Ming Pao Daily News”  
for the Legislative Council meeting of 19 March 2014**

**Progress Report**

The motion on “The incident of attack on Mr Kevin LAU Chun-to, the former chief editor of Ming Pao Daily News”, moved by Hon Andrew LEUNG as amended by Hon Claudia MO and Hon Cyd HO, was passed on the Legislative Council meeting of 19 March 2014. The wording of the motion passed is at **Annex**.

**Progress Report**

*Press freedom*

Freedom of expression and freedom of the press enjoyed by Hong Kong residents are protected under the law. Article 27 of the Basic Law provides that Hong Kong residents shall have freedom of speech, of the press and of publication. The HKSAR Government is committed to safeguarding the fundamental rights of Hong Kong residents as provided for under the Basic Law.

Freedom of the press is one of the key elements that underlies Hong Kong’s strengths as an international metropolis. The HKSAR Government will continue to adopt a light-handed regulatory policy and provide a suitable environment for the news industry to flourish freely under minimum regulation.

*Investigation of Wounding and Serious Assault Cases by the Police*

The Government never tolerates any violent acts in Hong Kong, a community where the rule of law prevails. The Police will probe into every wounding and serious assault case in a meticulous and professional manner, regardless of the identity and personal background of the victims, with a view to expeditiously bringing the assailants to justice. In the course of investigation, the Police will search for witnesses and collect exhibits at the crime scene and in the nearby areas, and will take an all-out, all-direction approach to figure out the motive and the *modus operandi* of the case.

*The incident of attack on Mr Kevin LAU Chun-to*

The Government and the community are gravely concerned for the incident of attack on Mr Lau. Again, the Administration strongly condemns the violent acts of the assailants. Since the occurrence of the incident, the Police have been deploying substantial manpower to press on with the investigations around the clock.

Upon thorough collation and analysis of the facts of the case, the Police got hold of the information about the two suspected assailants and were certain that they had fled to the Mainland. The Police requested the Ministry of Public Security and the Public Security Department of Guangdong Province for assistance in order to trace their whereabouts. The SAR Government is particularly grateful to the two authorities concerned as they attached great importance to the case by arresting the suspects within a short period of time and promptly turning them over to the Hong Kong Police at the boundary crossing. Following investigation, the Police charged the two suspects with wounding and theft. The case was brought before the Eastern Magistracy on 20 and 25 March 2014 and was adjourned to 20 May 2014 for mention before the same Magistracy. The two persons are now under detention. The other nine persons who were arrested by the Police on 12 and 13 March 2014 have been released on bail pending investigation and are required to report back to the Police in mid-June. As regards the case of Mr Lau, the Police will continue with the investigation and spare no effort in bringing the assailants to justice.

**Security Bureau  
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
May 2014**

**Motion on  
“The incident of attack on Mr Kevin LAU Chun-to,  
the former chief editor of Ming Pao Daily News”  
moved by Hon Andrew LEUNG  
at the Council meeting of 19 March 2014**

**Motion as amended by Hon Claudia MO and Hon Cyd HO**

That acts of violence targeted on journalists and media organizations have been increasingly serious in recent years; this Council is deeply shocked and outraged about the incident of attack on Mr Kevin LAU Chun-to, the former chief editor of Ming Pao Daily News, strongly condemns the violent acts of the assailants, undertakes to make every endeavour to help safeguard freedom of the press and protect the personal safety of journalists and members of the industry, and requests the Police to spare no effort to arrest the assailants so as to expeditiously bring them to justice, and demonstrate the authorities' determination to protect the personal safety of journalists.