



司法機構政務處

Judiciary Administration

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16 July 2020

Ms Anita SIT
Clerk to the Finance Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Sit,

Legislative Council Finance Committee
Follow-up to the Meeting held on 24 April 2020

At the meeting of the Finance Committee on 24 April 2020, Members requested the Judiciary Administration to provide supplementary information related to the proposed creation of three permanent judicial posts and two permanent directorate civil service posts in the Judiciary. The relevant information is enclosed for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,



(Jock Tam)
for Judiciary Administrator

Encls.

c.c. Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau

**Legislative Council Finance Committee
Follow-up to the Meeting on 24 April 2020**

FCR(2019-20)25

Question 1

According to paragraph 15 of the paper, the work of Administrative Assistant to Chief Justice (AA/CJ) is currently assisted by one Senior Executive Officer (SEO). Did the government examine the option of increasing the manpower at non-directorate level instead of creating the proposed permanent post of Deputy Administrative Assistant (Deputy AA)?

Reply to Question 1

To cater for operational needs, the proposed post of Deputy Administrative Assistant to Chief Justice (Deputy AA/CJ) is to liaise with the senior judges and senior personnel of the judiciaries in Hong Kong and other jurisdictions, assist in the planning of the CJ's exchange activities, and provide strategic advice to the CJ. For these reasons, it is not appropriate for the post to be held by a non-directorate officer.

Question 2(a) to (c)

Paragraph 2 of Enclosure 4 stated that the duties and responsibilities of the proposed post of Deputy AA include assisting the Chief Justice's Private Office (CJ's Private Office) in handling the exchange activities between the Chief Justice (CJ) and other jurisdictions, organising major events and conferences, and planning the CJ's official functions within and outside Hong Kong. In this regard,

- (a) What are the numbers of various exchange activities, major events and conferences between the CJ and other jurisdictions in each of the past five years? In the form of a table, please provide details of each activity, such as the date on which each activity was held, the names of other jurisdictions as well as the nature and contents of the exchange activities;
- (b) What are the numbers of the CJ's official activities, within and outside Hong Kong respectively, in each of the past five years? In the form of a table, please provide details of each official activity, such as the date, place, nature and contents of each activity;
- (c) Is the work in the above two areas, in the Government's anticipation, likely to increase in the coming five years? If so, what will be the extent? What are the details and reasons?

Reply to Question 2(a)-(b)

The exchange activities within and outside Hong Kong between the CJ and other jurisdictions mainly include substantial speaking engagements, courtesy meetings with judicial officers, and exchanges with other attending judicial officers during his attendance at conferences/seminars on judicial-related topics. The figures for the CJ's exchange activities with other jurisdiction within and outside Hong Kong in the past five years are as follows:

Location of the exchange activities	Year				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Within Hong Kong	5	4	2	4	4
Outside Hong Kong	6	4	5	3	4
Total:	11	8	7	7	8

(Note: For details, please see **Annex A**)

Apart from the exchange activities with other jurisdictions, the CJ also attended other official activities including speaking engagements about 40 to 50 times each year in connection with various sectors of the community (mainly the legal sector and the education sector). The figures for official activities which are relatively more important and larger in scale are as follows:

Location of the major official activities	Year				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Within Hong Kong	27	22	21	21	14
Outside Hong Kong	1	1	1	1	3
Total:	28	23	22	22	17

(Note: For details, please see [Annex B](#))

Reply to Question 2(c)

Over the past few years, the Judiciary has maintained regular exchanges with other jurisdictions. The scale and the depth of the exchange activities between the Judiciary and other jurisdictions have also increased. For example, there have been more thematic seminars, international conferences and so on.

Deputy AA/CJ is required to provide strategic input on the development of such exchange activities, and to provide strategic support to the CJ and other Judges and Judicial Officers.

Question 3

Paragraph 3 of Enclosure 4 stated that the proposed post is to assist the AA in overseeing the strategic development of public communication activities within the Judiciary. What are the details of the relevant communication activities and the workload? Is it necessary for the Judiciary to formulate or to significantly alter the strategic development of its communication activities on a yearly basis?

Reply to Question 3

The Judiciary continuously reviews its work relating to public communication, and promotes public understanding of the Judiciary's role and work through webpages and visits. New measures implemented over the past few years include revamping the website of the Court of Final Appeal (CFA) in 2015 to give a detailed account of the work of the CFA, the history, as well as architectural characteristics of the current and the former CFA Buildings. In the same year, the scope of school visit activities was expanded to include the CFA Building in addition to the High Court (HC) Building. In 2018, new panels were added to the Exhibition Gallery of the CFA to cover wider topics.

Currently, the Judiciary is contemplating the production of more informative materials in the form of text or multimedia for distribution through printed matters or webpages, and the expansion of the scope of school visit activities to include Magistrates' Courts (Mag Cts), etc. We are also collecting information on the public communication activities of the judicial organs in other places to facilitate the formulation of long-term development strategies.

Deputy AA/CJ will assist in planning and overseeing the above related tasks.

Question 4

Please provide figures in a table, with breakdown by levels of court, on the establishment and number of vacancies of (i) Judges and (ii) Judicial Officers and the relevant information (number of substantive, acting and deputy Judges and Judicial Officers).

Reply to Question 4

The relevant information is at **Annex C**.

Question 5

Please set out information as at 24 April 2020 about respective projects that the Judiciary has planned to implement in the next five years, including the nature of the plans, the implementation timetables, the ranks of the responsible officers, the Key Performance Indicators, and the current performance of the Judiciary under those Indicators for comparison purpose.

Reply to Question 5

Having regard to the proposed creation of posts in the paper FCR(2019-20)25, there are a number of projects in the next five years to be overseen by the permanent post of Deputy Judiciary Administrator (Planning and Quality) (DJA(PQ)) at Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 (D4).

2. DJA(PQ) will oversee the long-term strategic planning of the Judiciary's use of information technology (IT) having regard to the rapid development in the area and the unique operating environment of the Judiciary. The post will also steer quality enhancement in the Judiciary Administration (Jud Adm) to maintain quality support services to courts and tribunal. DJA(PQ) will also be responsible for the on-going pursuit of the Judiciary's long-term accommodation strategy and formulation of a comprehensive strategic plan to meet future demands, including the two new mega accommodation projects, namely, the reprovisioning of the HC, and the reprovisioning of the District Court (DC) and the Family Court (which will be co-located with the Lands Tribunal (LandsT)).

IT Projects

3. Assistant Judiciary Administrator (Quality and Information Technology) (AJA(Q&IT)) at Principal Executive Officer (PEO) (D1) level and Chief Systems Manager (Information Technology) at Chief Systems Manager (D1) level assist DJA(PQ) in the long-term strategic planning of the Judiciary's use of IT. These include the following:

- (a) planning, development and implementation of Information Technology Strategy Plan ("ITSP") Phase I Stage 2 and ITSP Phase II; and
- (b) wider use of IT in the operation of the Judiciary.

ITSP

4. The ITSP of the Judiciary is a long-term IT project seeking to enable the Judiciary to meet its operational requirements. Among others, the ITSP covers the development of an integrated court case management system (iCMS) across all court levels and tribunals of the Judiciary, and non-court systems such as human resources management system and electronic information management system. The implementation of the ITSP is divided into two phases. Phase I of the ITSP is further divided into two stages:

- (a) Stage 1 mainly covers the IT infrastructure foundation and the development of iCMS of the DC, the Summons Courts of the Mag Cts and the related court offices; and
- (b) Stage 2 mainly covers the iCMS for the CFA, the HC, the remaining part of the Mag Cts and the Small Claims Tribunal.

5. The implementation of Phase I Stage 1 has reached an advanced stage. All activities relating to the building and set-up of IT infrastructure foundation have been completed. Components under Phase I Stage 1 that do not require legislative backing are being progressively rolled out to the Stage 1 courts. Subject to the enactment of the legislative amendments, namely the Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Bill which seeks to enable the use of an electronic mode for court documents, electronic services would be launched as an additional option for court users to interface with the Judiciary.

6. In parallel, with the experience of the Phase I Stage 1 implementation, the Judiciary is planning for the Phase I Stage 2 implementation.

7. Phase II of ITSP covers the Family Court, Labour Tribunal, LandsT, Obscene Article Tribunal and the Coroner's Court. While implementation of ITSP Phase I is in progress, we aim to start the preliminary planning work for the development and implementation of ITSP Phase II in the coming five years. After formulating the strategy and a more concrete scoping, we will prepare the financial requirements for the development and implementation of ITSP Phase II.

Wider Use of IT in Courts

8. The Judiciary has been actively using audiovisual and information technology (AV/IT) facilities to support and facilitate the court operations. Having regard to the rapid developments in the AV/IT, it is essential to have continual reviews, and upgrades as appropriate, of the AV/IT facilities deployed in courtrooms and court buildings. In view of the public health considerations, hearings of the courts and tribunals have been generally adjourned and court/tribunal registries and offices were also closed between 29 January 2020 and 3 May 2020 (“General Adjourned Period (GAP)”). There was an upsurge in the demand for alternative modes of handling court business. On 2 April 2020, the Judiciary promulgated the arrangements for using video-conferencing facilities (VCF) for hearing suitable civil cases in the HC. A number of VCF hearings have been held since then. The response has so far been positive.

9. Notwithstanding the end of GAP from 3 May 2020, it remains of paramount importance that justice is duly administered continuously and effectively without compromising public health and safety. As the public health situation remains fluid and may change rapidly, the courts will exercise flexibility to cater for any exigency. It is also recognised that the public health situation in places other than Hong Kong may impact the ability of witnesses to travel to and appear in Hong Kong courts. Under these considerations, the Judiciary has issued Guidance Notes on Remote Hearings for Civil Business in the HC and the Civil Courts on 2 April 2020 and 8 June 2020 respectively. Remote hearings cover civil cases in all of the following civil courts: (1) the Court of First Instance of the HC (Masters and Judges); (2) the Court of Appeal of the HC; (3) the DC; including (4) the Family Court. Some trials or parts of trials may also be considered for remote hearings.

10. To meet the rising expectations of the community and court users for greater use of AV/IT in court proceedings, the Judiciary plans to continue to proactively explore all possible alternative means and measures, including implementation of more user-friendly solution to facilitate remote hearings.

Quality Management

11. AJA(Q&IT) at PEO (D1) level assists DJA(PQ) in overseeing the quality management of the Judiciary. The Jud Adm has been conducting management reviews and process re-engineering as and when required to meet latest operational requirements. Performance pledges for various services have been set and quality management tools have been introduced to monitor the compliance. In pursuit of continual improvements in the delivery of service, the Jud Adm will continue to maintain quality support services to courts and tribunals through adoption of quality management tools and conducting of management reviews to achieve service enhancement.

12. The Jud Adm will be implementing various organization-wide projects, including those initiatives under the ITSP and the mega re-provisioning projects. The new DJA(PQ) will steer the overall project implementation to ensure that a holistic approach be adopted amongst the various initiatives. Corresponding process re-engineering and service improvements will be considered and introduced to tie-in with those upcoming projects.

Mega Re-provisioning Projects

13. Assistant Judiciary Administrator (Accommodation) at PEO (D1) level assists DJA(PQ) in formulating the long-term accommodation strategy of various mega accommodation projects. The Judiciary intends to implement the following major projects in the next five years:

- (a) Construction of additional courtrooms and associated facilities at lower ground fourth floor in the HC Building

Over the years, there is a shortage of courtrooms in the HC. The project is to construct six additional courtrooms and associated facilities at lower ground fourth floor in the HC Building to address the medium-term accommodation requirements of the Judiciary.

Under the current project timetable and subject to Finance Committee's approval, the construction works are expected to commence in late 2020 for completion by phases in the third quarter of 2023.

(b) Construction of the DC at Caroline Hill Road

The project is to construct a new standalone law courts building (LCB) with sufficient courtrooms, chambers and supporting facilities at the DC level to address the long-term accommodation requirements of the Judiciary in the next few decades or so. It is to re-provision the existing DC and the Family Court now accommodated in the Wanchai LCB, as well as to co-locate the LandsT now located in Yau Ma Tei.

Under the current project timetable, it is expected that construction works will be completed by mid-2027. Subject to works completion and handing over of the new building to the Judiciary, full commissioning of facilities will be completed in 12 months.

(c) Construction of the HC at New Central Harbourfront

The project is to construct a new LCB to address the long-term accommodation requirements of the HC now situated in Queensway. The project is at a preliminary planning stage.

**Details of the Chief Justice's exchange activities with other jurisdictions
within and outside Hong Kong in the past 5 years (2015 to 2019)**

(a) Exchange Activities in Hong Kong

Year of 2015				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction / organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	22.1.2015	Macao	Visit	President of the Court of Final Appeal of Macao visited the Judiciary
2.	5.5.2015	Canada	Visit	A Judge of the Ontario Court of Appeal of Canada visited the Judiciary
3.	22-24.9.2015	Australia New Zealand Canada	Seminar	The Court of Final Appeal of Hong Kong hosted the Asia-Pacific Judicial Colloquium
4.	29.10.2015	A number of jurisdictions from Asia and the Pacific region	Visit	A group of judges participating in United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL") Asia-Pacific Judicial Summit visited the Judiciary
5.	25-6.11.2015	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary

Year of 2016				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/ organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	23.3.2016	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary
2.	18-19.4.2016	Singapore	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme Court of Singapore visited the Judiciary
3.	28.7.2016	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary
4.	20-22.10.2016	A number of jurisdictions from Asia and the Pacific Region	Seminar	The Judiciary, together with the Supreme Court of New South Wales and the Supreme Court of Singapore, organised in Hong Kong the Fifth Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation

Year of 2017				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/ organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	14-15.9.2017	Mainland Taiwan Macao	Seminar	The Judiciary organised the Fourth Seminar of Senior Judges of Cross-Strait and Hong Kong and Macao

2.	19.10.2017	A number of jurisdictions from Asia and the Pacific region	Visit	A group of judges participating in the Second UNCITRAL Asia-Pacific Judicial Summit visited the Court of Final Appeal
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Year of 2018				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	9-10.8.2018	United States Pakistan	Visit	A delegation comprising judges from the United States and Pakistan visited the Judiciary
2.	10.8.2018	Dubai	Visit	Chief Justice of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts and Chief Executive & Registrar of the DIFC Courts visited the Judiciary
3.	9-10.10.2018	Mainland	Visit /Seminar	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary and participated in seminar organised by the Judiciary
4.	6.12.2018	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary

Year of 2019				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	29.1.2019	United Nations	Visit	Judge of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, the United Nations, visited the Judiciary
2.	22.2.2019	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court and the Higher People's Court of Guangdong Province visited the Judiciary
3.	2.4.2019	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Supreme People's Court visited the Judiciary
4.	16.7.2019	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Higher People's Court of Guizhou Province visited the Judiciary

(b) Exchange Activities outside Hong Kong

Year of 2015				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	22-25.2.2015	United Kingdom	Conference / Speaking engagement / Courtesy Calls	Spoke at a plenary session at the Global Law Summit held in the United Kingdom; delivered speeches at the University of Cambridge, and the lunch organised by the Hong Kong Association respectively; and called on a few very senior judges in England and Wales
2.	26-27.2.2015	Netherlands	Visit	Visited the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands and called on its judges
3.	11-12.5.2015	United Kingdom	Speaking engagement / Courtesy Calls	Delivered a lecture at the 9th Annual International Rule of Law Lecture in London, and met with senior members of the Oxford Commercial Law Centre and a few judges in England and Wales
4.	26-28.7.2015	Macao	Seminar	Attended the Third Seminar of Senior Judges of Cross-Strait and Hong Kong and Macao held in Macao
5.	6-9.11.2015	Australia	Conference	Attended the 16th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific held in Australia
6.	1.12.2015	Mainland	Visit	Visited the First Circuit Court of the Supreme People's Court and the Qianhai Court in Shenzhen, and met with judges and officials from the Supreme People's Court

Year of 2016				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	21-22.1.2016	Singapore	Conference	Attended an International Conference hosted by the Singapore Supreme Court in Singapore
2.	14-17.3.2016	United Kingdom	Speaking engagement / Courtesy Calls	Spoke at the University College London and met with senior members of the Advisory Board of the Oxford Commercial Law Centre and a few very senior judges in London, the United Kingdom
3.	27.6-1.7.2016	Mainland	Visit	Visited the courts in Beijing, Shenyang and Dalian

4.	9-10.9.2016	Mainland	Conference	Attended the Second Summit on Chinese Judicial Studies in Chongqing
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Year of 2017				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	1-5.5.2017	United Kingdom	Conference / Speaking engagement	Attended the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts hosted by the Judiciary of England and Wales and spoke at Chatham House in London
2.	29.5-4.6.2017	Canada	Seminar	Attended the 4th Asia-Pacific Judicial Colloquium in Vancouver, Canada
3.	18-21.9.2017	Japan	Conference / Speaking engagement	Attended the 17th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific and delivered a speech at the plenary session at the 30th LAWASIA Conference in Tokyo, Japan
4.	14-17.11.2017	Singapore	Speaking engagement	Delivered a lecture at the Singapore Academy of Law Annual Lecture 2017 and a keynote address at the Singapore Trustees Association Conference 2017
5.	4-5.12.2017	Mainland	Visit	Visited the Higher People's Court of Guangdong Province, the People's Court of Tianhe District, Guangzhou, and the People's Court of Nansha District, Guangzhou.

Year of 2018				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	21-25.5.2018	Australia	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech in the 2018 Oration of the Supreme Court of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia and gave lectures at the University of Melbourne and the University of New South Wales.
2.	12-14.9.2018	Mainland	Visit	Visited various courts in Zhejiang Province
3.	27-28.9.2018	United States	Conference	Attended the second meeting of the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts in New York

Year of 2019				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	14-16.2.2019	Australia	Seminar	Attended the Sixth Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation held in Sydney, Australia
2.	27-30.5.2019	Singapore	Seminar	Attended the Asia-Pacific Judicial Colloquium 2019 held in Singapore
3.	9-11.9.2019	Mainland	Seminar	Attended the Fifth Seminar of Senior Judges of Cross-Strait and Hong Kong and Macao in Zhanjiang
4.	23-26.9.2019	Korea	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Asia-Pacific Regional Forum Lunch in the International Bar Association Annual Conference 2019 in Seoul, Korea and gave a lecture at the Seoul National University.

**Judiciary Administration
July 2020**

**Details of the Chief Justice's various major official activities
within and outside Hong Kong
in the past 5 years (2015 to 2019)**

(a) Major official activities in Hong Kong

Year of 2015				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/ organization of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	12.1.2015	-	Ceremony	Officiated at the ceremonial opening of the 2015 Legal Year
2.	11.2.2015	Netherlands	Visit	Secretary General, Hague Conference on Private International Law, visited the Judiciary
3.	14.3.2015	-	Adjudicator	Attended the 13th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot
4.	20.3.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Spoke at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators - Centennial in 2015
5.	11.4.2015	-	Adjudicator / Ceremony	Attended the Grand Finals and Closing Ceremony of the World Championship Speaking Competition
6.	25.4.2015	-	Adjudicator	Attended the Bar Association Debating Competition 2015
7.	2.5.2015	-	Ceremony	Presided over the 2015 Senior Counsel Admission Ceremony
8.	28.5.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Spoke at the Annual Dinner of the Hong Kong Insurance Law Association
9.	15.6.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Law Reform Essay Competition 2015 Certificate Award Ceremony
10.	18.6.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered speech on Magna Carta for The Royal Geographical Society
11.	22.6.2015	United States	Visit	A delegation from the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on US-China Relations visited the Judiciary
12.	24.7.2015	-	Meeting	Attended the 39th Annual General Meeting of Scout Association of Hong Kong
13.	3.9.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Ceremony to Commemorate 70th Anniversary Day of Victory of Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression
14.	25.9.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Gave an opening remarks at a seminar hosted by Middle Temple
15.	25.9.2015	Mainland, Macao and a number of	Ceremony / Dinner	Ceremonial Opening of the Court of Final Appeal Building and Grand Dinner

		other common law jurisdictions		
16.	15.10.2015	-	Dinner	Attended Multilaw 25th Anniversary Dinner
17.	28.10.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Gave opening remarks at UNCITRAL Asia-Pacific Judicial Summit
18.	31.10.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Honours and Awards Presentation Ceremony
19.	10.11.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Spoke at the official opening of Magna Carta 800 Global Tour – Hong Kong
20.	13.11.2015	-	Speaking engagement	Spoke at The Third Children’s Issues Forum
21.	14.11.2015	-	Dinner	Attended the 10th Law Society Recreation and Sports Night
22.	18.11.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Bar Scholarship 2015 Presentation Ceremony
23.	23.11.2015	-	Conference	Attended the Third Rule of Law, HK Conference
24.	23.11.2015	-	Drinks reception	Attended the Law Society Annual Cocktail Reception
25.	28.11.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Law Week 2015 Opening Ceremony
26.	4.12.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the 2015 Law Society Pro Bono and Community Service Award Presentation Ceremony
27.	13.12.2015	-	Ceremony	Attended the Ceremony on the Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day

Year of 2016				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	11.1.2016	-	Ceremony	Officiated at the ceremonial opening of the 2016 Legal Year
2.	15.1.2016	United Kingdom	Visit	President of the Law Society, United Kingdom and Head of City and Engagement, Law Society, United Kingdom visited the Judiciary
3.	20.2.2016	-	Adjudicator	Attended the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Standard Chartered Hong Kong English Public Speaking Contest 2016
4.	8.4.2016	United Kingdom	Visit	The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom visited the Judiciary
5.	18.4.2016	-	Dinner / Speaking engagement	Spoke at a dinner organised by the Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association
6.	21.5.2016	-	Adjudicator	Attended the Bar Association Debating Competition 2016

7.	10.6.2016	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered the opening remarks at the 6th LAWASIA Family Law & Children's Rights Conference
8.	11.6.2016	-	Ceremony	Presided over the 2016 Senior Counsel Admission Ceremony
9.	17.6.2016	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered the Reviewing Officer's speech at the Correctional Services Department's Passing-Out Parade
10.	23.6.2016	Mainland	Visit	Vice Minister of the Ministry of Justice visited the Judiciary
11.	7.7.2016	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the 9th Humanities Research Symposium for Youth
12.	7.9.2016	-	Drinks reception	Attended the University of Birmingham reception in Hong Kong
13.	17.10.2016	-	Conference	Attended the Symposium organised by Hong Kong Academy of Law
14.	30.10.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the Hong Kong Scout Rally 2016
15.	21.11.2016	-	Drinks reception	Attended the Annual Cocktail Reception of The Law Society of Hong Kong
16.	1.12.2016	-	Ceremony / Speaking engagement	Attended the 82nd Congregation for the Conferment of Degrees of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and delivered a speech at the Congregation
17.	10.12.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the Hong Kong Scout Centennial Building Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of the Scout Association of Hong Kong
18.	12.12.2016	-	Ceremony / Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the School of Law Graduation Ceremony of the City University of Hong Kong
19.	13.12.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the ceremony for the Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day
20.	14.12.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the Bar Scholarship Presentation Ceremony
21.	16.12.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the 2016 Law Society Pro Bono and Community Service Award Presentation Ceremony
22.	17.12.2016	-	Ceremony	Attended the Law Week and Teen Talk 2016 Opening Ceremony

Year of 2017

S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	9.1.2017	-	Ceremony	Officiated at the ceremonial opening of the 2017 Legal Year
2.	23.2.2017	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered the Closing Address at the Global Pound Conference, Hong Kong

3.	11.3.2017	-	Adjudicator	Attended the 15th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot
4.	20.4.2017	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Speaker Luncheon Meeting of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors
5.	24.4.2017	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Pacific Rim Advisory Council 61st International Conference Hong Kong
6.	13.5.2017	-	Speaking engagement	Attended the Department of Medicine, Hong Kong University's 22nd Hong Kong Medical Forum - Richard Yu Lecture and delivered a speech
7.	13.5.2017	-	Adjudicator	Attended the Bar Association Debating Competition 2017
8.	13.5.2017	-	Dinner	Attended the 110th Law Society of Hong Kong Jubilee Celebration Dinner
9.	23.5.2017	-	Ceremony / Dinner / Speaking engagement	Attended the Hong Kong Jockey Club's Charities Trust Annual Scholarship Presentation Ceremony cum 16th Graduation Dinner and delivered a speech
10.	9.6.2017	-	Dinner / Ceremony	Attended the Law Reform Commission Dinner and Essay Competition Award Ceremony 2017
11.	10.6.2017	-	Ceremony	Presided over the 2017 Senior Counsel Admission Ceremony
12.	4.7.2017	-	Drinks reception / Speaking engagement	Attended the Law Council of Australia International Law Section Hong Kong Chapter's Cocktail and Talk
13.	28.7.2017	-	Meeting	Attended the Annual General Meeting of Scout Association of Hong Kong
14.	26.8.2017	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Distinguished Speaker's Luncheon organised by Young Solicitors' Group, the Law Society of Hong Kong
15.	26.9.2017	-	Adjudicator	Attended the 14th Senior World Schools Debating Championship Tournament - Grand Final
16.	29.10.2017	-	Ceremony	Attended the Hong Kong Scout Rally 2017
17.	25.11.2017	-	Ceremony	Attended the Opening Ceremony of Law Week and Teen Talk 2017
18.	27.11.2017	-	Drinks reception	Attended the Annual Cocktail Reception of The Law Society of Hong Kong
19.	1.12.2017	-	Meeting / Dinner	Attended the 60th Annual General Meeting and the 60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Gala Dinner of the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong

20.	13.12.2017	-	Ceremony	Attended the Ceremony on the Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day
21.	13.12.2017	-	Ceremony	Attended the 2017 Law Society Pro Bono and Community Service Award Presentation Ceremony

Year of 2018				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	8.1.2018	-	Ceremony	Officiated at the ceremonial opening of the 2018 Legal Year
2.	10.3.2018	-	Adjudicator	Attended the 16th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot
3.	18.4.2018	-	Ceremony	Attended the Opening of the Conference “The HCCH 125 – Ways Forward: Challenges and Opportunities in an Increasingly Connected World” organised by the Hague Conference on Private International Law
4.	27.4.2018	Mainland	Visit	Chairman of the Law Committee of the 12th National People’s Congress visited the Judiciary
5.	8.5.2018	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the invitation of the Hong Kong Chapter of the International Law Section of the Law Council of Australia
6.	2.6.2018	-	Adjudicator	Attended the Hong Kong Bar Association Debating Competition 2018
7.	9.6.2018	-	Ceremony	Presided over the 2018 Senior Counsel Admission Ceremony
8.	25.6.2018	-	Ceremony / Speaking engagement	Attended the 5th Annual Conference of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S) and delivered an opening address, as well as attended the 50th Anniversary Kick-off Ceremony of the Faculty of Law of the University of Hong Kong and delivered an address
9.	26.7.2018	-	Ceremony	Attended the Law Reform Commission Dinner and Essay Competition Award Ceremony 2018
10.	27.7.2018	-	Meeting	Attended the Annual General Meeting of Scout Association of Hong Kong
11.	20.9.2018	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Hong Kong Forum: 60th Anniversary of the New York Convention jointly organised by the Department of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the Asian Academy of International Law

12.	21.9.2018	-	Ceremony	Opened the Hong Kong 2018 International Commercial Law Conference organised by the Victorian Bar and the Commercial Bar Association, Australia
13.	21.9.2018	United Kingdom	Visit / Adjudicator	A delegation from the Middle Temple, UK, visited the Judiciary; and acted as judge of the Moot held by the Middle Temple
14.	23.10.2018	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Chinese Association of Case Study visited the Judiciary
15.	25.10.2018	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered opening remarks at the 7th Asia Pro Bono Conference in Hong Kong
16.	16.11.2018	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered opening remarks at the Training Course on Private Financial Adjudication organised by the Committee on Family Law of the Hong Kong Bar Association
17.	17.11.2018	-	Ceremony	Attended the Opening Ceremony of Law Week and Teen Talk 2018
18.	3.12.2018	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Legislative Affairs Commission, Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, visited the Judiciary
19.	5.12.2018	-	Meeting	Attended the 61th Annual General Meeting of the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong
20.	12.12.2018	-	Ceremony	Attended the 2018 Law Society Pro Bono and Community Service Award Presentation Ceremony
21.	13.12.2018	-	Ceremony	Attended the Ceremony on the Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day

Year of 2019				
S/N	Event date	Jurisdiction/organisation of the visitors	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	8.1.2019	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Ministry of Justice visited the Judiciary
2.	14.1.2019	-	Ceremony	Officiated at the ceremonial opening of the 2019 Legal Year
3.	24.2.2019	-	Adjudicator	Acted as a judge for the JESSUP International Law Moot Court Competition 2019 (the Hong Kong Rounds)
4.	20.3.2019	United States	Visit	A delegation from the Harvard Asia Law Society visited the Judiciary
5.	2.4.2019	-	Ceremony / Speaking	Attended the 201st Congregation of the University of Hong Kong; and

			engagement	delivered speech at the congregation
6.	17.4.2019	Mainland	Visit	A delegation from the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council visited the Judiciary
7.	22.5.2019	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the 7th ICAC Symposium
8.	22.6.2019	-	Ceremony	Presided over the 2019 Senior Counsel Admission Ceremony
9.	22.7.2019	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered closing remarks at the inaugural seminar jointly organised by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law and the Chinese University of Hong Kong
10.	22.10.2019	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered closing remarks at the ADR in Asia Conference: Arbitrating for Settlement
11.	30.10.2019	-	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the Hong Kong Association of the Heads of Secondary Schools 55th Anniversary Education Colloquium 2019
12.	6.11.2019	-	Speaking engagement	Gave a speech at the Opening Ceremony of the 32nd LAWASIA Conference
13.	13.12.2019	-	Ceremony	Attended the Ceremony on the Nanjing Massacre National Memorial Day
14.	19.12.2019	-	Ceremony	Attended the 2019 Law Society Pro Bono and Community Service Award Presentation Ceremony

(b) Major official activities outside Hong Kong

Year of 2015				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	2-4.9.2015	Mainland	Ceremony	Attended the Commemorative Activities for the 70th Anniversary of the Victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression held in Beijing

Year of 2016				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	13-20.11.2016	United Kingdom	Speaking engagement	Spoke at Gray's Inn, University of Cambridge, University of Birmingham, University College London and at the lunch organised by the Hong Kong Association.

Year of 2017				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	11-12.11.2017	Qatar	Conference	Attended the Third Qatar Law Forum in Doha, Qatar

Year of 2018				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	7.11.2018	United Kingdom	Speaking engagement	Spoke at the Bapsybanoo Marchioness of Winchester Lecture 2018 at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Year of 2019				
S/N	Event date	Place of outbound visit	Nature	Details of the activity
1.	14.3.2019	Switzerland	Speaking engagement	Delivered a speech at the University of Zurich, Switzerland
2.	23-26.4.2019	United Kingdom	Speaking engagement	Spoke at the University of Cambridge and at the lunch organised by the Hong Kong Association in London, the United Kingdom respectively
3.	30.9-2.10.2019	Mainland	Ceremony	Attended the celebrations of the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China in Beijing

Establishment, Strength and Vacancy of Judges and Judicial Officers (“JJOs”) and Number of External Deputy JJOs (Position as at 1 May 2020)

Level of Court	Establishment	Strength	Vacancy	Number of Deputy JJOs Appointed from <u>outside</u> the Judiciary
Court of Final Appeal	4*	4	0	-
Court of Appeal of the High Court	14 } 48	13 } 42	1 } 6	-
Court of First Instance of the High Court	34 }	29 }	5 }	7
High Court Masters’ Office	15 } 61	2 } 49	13# } 12	0
District Court (including the Family Court and Lands Tribunal)	46 }	47 }	-1 }	1
District Court Masters’ Office	9 } 108	0 } 70	9^ } 38	0
Magistrates’ Courts/ Specialised Court/ Other Tribunals	99 }	70 }	29 }	25
Total	221*	165	56	33

- Notes:**
- * Excluding one Permanent Judge post created for a Non-Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal.
 - # Duties of the High Court Masters’ Office are mostly taken up by District Judges deployed under the cross-posting policy.
 - ^ Duties of the District Court Masters’ Office are mostly taken up by Principal Magistrates/Permanent Magistrates deployed under the cross-posting policy.