

## ***Press release***

### **IPCC releases the interim report on complaint cases arising from the visit by the Vice Premier Mr. Li Keqiang**

*9 reportable complaint cases were endorsed with the remaining cases and issues to be addressed in the final report to be released later this year*

(HONG KONG – 3 May 2012) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) today released its interim report on complaint cases arising from the visit by the Vice Premier Mr. Li Keqiang. Among the 16 reportable complaints received by the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO), 9 of them were endorsed by the IPCC which also raised further queries on a number of issues arising from CAPO's findings on the other 6 cases. CAPO investigation on the remaining case is held in abeyance on the grounds of sub-judice.

Mr Jat Sew-tong, Chairman of the IPCC, said: "After the Vice Premier's visit last August, there have been widespread public concerns over the magnitude and latitude of the security arrangements adopted by the Police in the VIP protection operations in connection with the Vice Premier's visit. As a result, CAPO has received 16 Reportable Complaints and 6 Notifiable Complaints. A quick glance through these complaints reveals that the complainants were in general unaware of, or in disagreement with, the reasons why the Police needed to adopt the security measures that they had actually implemented at various scenes, including closing footbridges, setting up the Designated Press Areas, Designated Public Activity Areas, and Designated Public Activity Areas at far away locations, clearing pedestrians present at the scenes, as well as exercising police powers in handling reporters and protestors."

Mr Jat further explained that: "The IPCC therefore takes a holistic approach in the monitoring, review, and examination of CAPO's investigations into the 16 Reportable Complaints. Not only has the IPCC closely and critically scrutinized the findings of these complaints on a case-by-case basis, the IPCC also attempts to identify the causes leading to these complaints, and to find out if the actions taken by the Police in the security operations were proper and justified. In the event that any fault or deficiency in the relevant police practices or procedures is identified, IPCC will make recommendations to the Commissioner of Police and / or the Chief Executive where appropriate so that the IPCC can discharge its statutory functions in full as stipulated in S.8 of Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO). To this end,

the IPCC also decides to report its findings to the Chief Executive, and forward the same to the Legislative Council for their information.”

Since September last year, CAPO has conducted 109 investigative actions including interviews and evidence collections, 97% of which were monitored by the IPCC Observers. Upon scrutiny of these cases, IPCC raised queries which focused on 3 areas:

- I. IPCC is of the view that in many of the complaints, the complainants were not satisfied with the police actions in question rather than the way the police officer(s) at scene handled the situation(s), hence the complainees of these complaints should be the senior police officer(s) responsible for the police actions instead of the frontline police officer(s);
- II. IPCC is also of the view that in some of the complaints where the complainants have not provided statements to CAPO, full investigation should still be conducted having regard to the details of information provided by the complainants and his / her willingness of maintaining contact with CAPO;
- III. In order to identify the causes leading to these complaints, and to find out if the actions taken by the Police in the security operations were proper and justified, IPCC has requested CAPO to provide all relevant operational orders and other related documents so as to allow the IPCC to have a thorough and comprehensive assessment of the rationale behind the police actions in question.”

Mr Jat concluded that: “As the IPCC foresees that more time and efforts will be required for the above queries to be fully resolved, it is decided that an Interim Report should be released so that the public can be updated on the progress of our handling of these cases. We expect that CAPO would be able to respond to our queries in the near future, and that once we have all the relevant information in hand, we will compile the Final Report in which all outstanding issues including the classifications of allegations in the 6 yet-to-be endorsed cases would be addressed. Whether or not the investigation into the sub-judice case could be completed would depend on the outcome of the trial. ”

The interim report is now available on the IPCC’s website at:  
[http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/public\\_communications/special\\_reports.html](http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/public_communications/special_reports.html)

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**Notes to editor:**

### **About the Independent Police Complaints Council**

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is an independent body established under the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO) (Cap. 604) to observe, monitor and review the handling and investigation of reportable complaints (RCs) against the Police by the Commissioner of Police (CP). The IPCC has become a statutory body since the commencement of IPCCO on 1 June 2009.