





## Chapter II

# Upholding and Improving the “One Country, Two Systems” Practice

# From Belief to Implementation

**“... Hong Kong will emerge stronger as a result of two important decisions made by the National People’s Congress over the past year to safeguard implementation of the “One Country, Two Systems” principle in Hong Kong, namely the enactment of the National Security Law and its promulgation for implementation in Hong Kong and amendments to Annex I and Annex II to the Basic Law on Hong Kong’s electoral arrangements.”**

“One Country, Two Systems” is the best institutional arrangement to ensure Hong Kong’s long-term prosperity and stability after our return to the Motherland. It embodies the Chinese vision which values openness and inclusiveness and meets the interest of the people of Hong Kong. Being a pioneering initiative, its application encounters problems, some of which have severely disrupted our society and weakened the national identity of some Hong Kong people. Thanks to resolute actions taken by the Central Authorities, Hong Kong is back on the right track. To ensure the full and faithful implementation of “One Country, Two Systems”, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) is duty bound to safeguard national security, uphold the constitutional relationship between the Central Authorities and the HKSAR, and instil a strong sense of national identity among Hong Kong people.

Implementation of the National Security Law has restored stability in the city. People can once again enjoy their legitimate rights and freedoms. The Police and Government prosecutors are enforcing the law vigilantly and our courts are adjudicating national security cases without any interference. With Government’s stepped up publicity and education, people have a better understanding of national security and law-abiding awareness. However, there remains a lot to be done by the Government and various sectors in society to prevent and suppress acts and activities undermining national security. These include enhancing existing legislation, raising institutional awareness, promoting national security education, building stronger anti-terrorism capacity, and strengthening public communication and supervision over matters concerning national security. The National Security Committee chaired by the Chief Executive will continue to provide the necessary leadership and guidance.

With the enactment of the Improving Electoral System (Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance in May 2021, elections to the expanded Election Committee took place smoothly on 19 September; preparations are underway to ensure that the General Election of the Seventh Term Legislative Council and the Sixth Term Chief Executive Election respectively on 19 December 2021 and 27 March 2022 will be conducted in a fair and open manner. These elections will put in practice the important principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong” and facilitate executive-led government. Hong Kong can look forward to significantly enhancing effective governance under the improved political structure.

At the same time, Hong Kong has to maintain the robust institutions underpinning the unique system under “One Country, Two Systems”. They include the rule of law, judicial independence, an anti-corruption regime, a clean and efficient civil service, a stable monetary system, and international connectivity. We have to effectively counter misrepresentations of Hong Kong overseas and unfounded attacks on our systems. We have to tell the Hong Kong story with pride and confidence: the practice of “One Country, Two Systems” is a success bringing long-term prosperity and stability to Hong Kong.

# Restoring Public and Constitutional Order



30<sup>th</sup> June

The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region was listed in Annex III to the Basic Law, and took effect at 11pm the same day.

JUN

11<sup>th</sup> August

The NPCSC decided that the 6<sup>th</sup> term LegCo would continue to discharge duties for not less than one year until the commencement of the 7<sup>th</sup> term LegCo to address the lacuna in the legislature arising from the postponement of 2020 LegCo General Election due to the severe COVID-19 epidemic situation.

AUG

11<sup>th</sup> November

Four legislators were disqualified by decision of the NPCSC, which states that a LegCo Member must fulfil the legal requirements and conditions on upholding the Basic Law and swearing allegiance to the HKSAR of the People's Republic of China.

NOV

JUL



3<sup>rd</sup> July

Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR was established.

8<sup>th</sup> July

Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR was established.

1<sup>st</sup> July

The National Security Department of the Hong Kong Police Force was established.

6<sup>th</sup> July

The Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR, made the Implementation Rules pursuant to Article 43 of the Hong Kong National Security Law, which came into operation on 7 July 2020.

DEC

16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> December

Oaths taken by Undersecretaries, Political Assistants, Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments and senior directorate civil servants.



11<sup>th</sup> March

Decision on improving the electoral system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region passed at the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the 13<sup>th</sup> NPC.



30<sup>th</sup> March

Amendments to Annex I and Annex II to the Basic Law for improving the electoral system of the HKSAR passed by the NPCSC.



MAR

2021

FEB



4<sup>th</sup> February

Guidelines on school administration for safeguarding national security and the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education issued to schools in Hong Kong.

MAY

21<sup>st</sup> May

Public Offices (Candidacy and Taking Up Offices) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2021 came into force.



31<sup>st</sup> May

Improving Electoral System (Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance 2021 came into force.

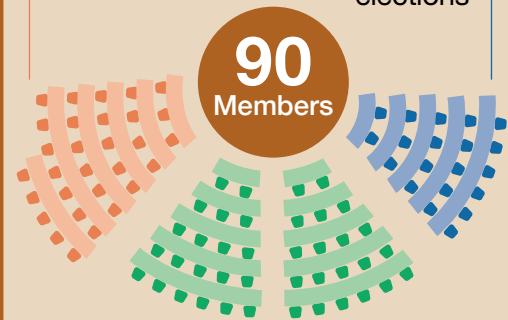
## Reconstituted composition of LegCo

30

Members returned by functional constituencies

20

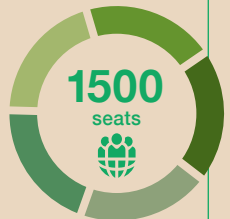
Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections



40

Members returned by the Election Committee

Reconstituted Election Committee



1<sup>st</sup> Sector - 300 seats

Industrial, commercial and financial sectors

2<sup>nd</sup> Sector - 300 seats

The professions

3<sup>rd</sup> Sector - 300 seats

Grassroots, labour, religious and other sectors

4<sup>th</sup> Sector - 300 seats

LegCo Members, representatives of district organisations and other organisations

5<sup>th</sup> Sector - 300 seats

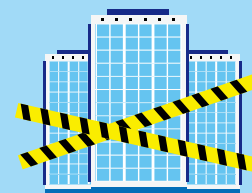
HKSAR deputies to the NPC, HKSAR members of the National Committee of the CPPCC and representatives of Hong Kong members of relevant national organisations

# Implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law



## 143 persons arrested

- **85** persons and **3** companies charged for suspected violation of the National Security Law (NSL) and other offences
- **1** person convicted and sentenced by the court (as at 31 August 2021)



## Civil Service

- **170 000+** civil servants took oath or signed declaration
- **120+** training sessions, talks and seminars organised



## Violent Crime Situation

(year-on-year reduction in the second half of 2020 since NSL coming into effect)

- Offences against public order: **↓93%**
- Arson cases: **↓76%**
- Robbery cases: **↓52%**
- Criminal damage cases: **↓39%**

## Public Education on National Security, the Constitution and the Basic Law

- **450+** talks, training sessions and events organised and **860 000+** persons attended
- **170 000+** views for online Constitution Day Seminar
- **78 000+** persons attended 2021 National Security Education Day events; **348 000+** views for thematic websites (as at 31 August 2021)



# More Effective Executive-Legislative Relationship



Legislative Year	Bill passed	Funding approved for works and non-works (HK\$ billion)
2017-2018	27	251
2018-2019	17	122
2019-2020	22	279*
2020-2021	46 <sup>#</sup>	322* <sup>^</sup>

\* Not including the Anti-epidemic Fund and other epidemic-related measures

<sup>#</sup> Including bills pending resumption of Second Reading debate by end of the legislative session

<sup>^</sup> Including funding expected to be approved by end of the legislative session



# Achievements

## Safeguarding National Security

- Restored stability in Hong Kong after implementation of the National Security Law (NSL) on 30 June 2020. Offences against public order, arson cases, robbery cases and criminal damage cases dropped by 93%, 76%, 52% and 39% year-on-year in the second half of 2020 respectively. (SB)
- Assisted the Court to give a clear ruling on the construction of the NSL provisions concerning designated judges, granting of bail and trial by a panel of three judges in lieu of a jury; and convicted an offender under the NSL by the Court of First Instance for the first time. (DoJ)
- Raised public awareness and understanding of the NSL and significance of national security through multiple channels including the National Security Education Day on 15 April 2021, the Hong Kong National Security Law 1st Anniversary Legal Forum, etc. (NSC, SB, DoJ)
- Strengthened national security education in schools by providing multifarious training to teachers including on-site teacher workshops, and promulgating the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong and 15 subject frameworks on national security education. (EDB)

## Improving Electoral System

- Enacted local legislation which came into effect on 31 May 2021 to implement the amended Annexes I and II to the Basic Law approved by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on 30 March 2021. (CMAB)

- Set up the Candidate Eligibility Review Committee to ensure candidates for members of the Election Committee (EC), office of the Chief Executive and members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) fulfil the requirements and conditions of upholding the Basic Law and bearing allegiance to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China. (CSO)
- Successfully conducted the EC Subsector Ordinary Elections on 19 September 2021, leading to formation of an expanded EC of 1 500 seats from 22 October 2021. (CMAB)
- Implemented measures to enhance the electoral arrangements, including the implementation of electronic poll register on the polling day and the setting up of a special queue for electors in need. (CMAB)

## National Anthem, National Flag and National Emblem

- Enacted the National Anthem Ordinance on 12 June 2020 to implement the National Anthem Law locally in accordance with Article 18 of the Basic Law. (CMAB)
- Passed the National Flag and National Emblem (Amendment) Bill 2021 by the LegCo on 29 September 2021 to implement the amended National Flag Law and the amended National Emblem Law locally in accordance with Article 18 of the Basic Law. (CMAB)

## The Central Military Dock

- Handed over the Central Military Dock to the Hong Kong Garrison on 29 September 2020 to mark the completion of responsibilities according to the arrangements for the use of military sites in Hong Kong. (SB)



## Rule of Law

### Vision 2030 for Rule of Law

- Launched the 10-year initiative "Vision 2030 for Rule of Law" to enhance the community's understanding and practice of the rule of law through public education and strengthening capacity building for legal professionals. (DoJ)

### The Legal Hub

- Opened the Hong Kong Legal Hub on 2 November 2020. Around 20 selected local, regional and international law-related organisations are gradually moving in and commencing operations. (DoJ)

### Court Facilities

- Took forward the new High Court and District Court projects under the oversight of the central steering committee established under the Judiciary. Tendering for the new District Court project at Caroline Hill Road commenced in August 2021 and subject to the LegCo's funding approval, construction to start in mid-2022. (CSO, DEVB)
- Supported the Judiciary on initiatives to increase short- to medium-term court facilities for coping with the upsurge in court cases, particularly those relating to social events. These include expanding the capacity of some existing courtrooms at the District Court in Wan Chai and West Kowloon Law Courts Building, as well as re-commissioning the Tsuen Wan Law Courts Building to provide additional court facilities. The relevant works projects were completed in 2021. (CSO)

## Promotion of the Constitution, the Basic Law and the NSL

- Carried out promotion and publicity work on the Constitution, the Basic Law and the NSL in a more diversified and comprehensive manner. (CMAB, SB)
- Arranged since 2017 seminars, exhibitions and publicity on the Constitution Day which falls on 4 December; organised activities on the National Security Education Day on 15 April 2021 by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR; and organised open day on the National Security Education Day by the five training schools of the disciplinary forces of the HKSAR Government to enhance the public understanding of the forces' work in safeguarding national security. (CMAB, SB)
- Hosted the Basic Law Legal Summit – "Back to Basics" on 17 November 2020 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. (DoJ)
- Hosted the NSL Legal Forum – "Security Brings Prosperity" on 5 July 2021 to commemorate the 1st Anniversary of the NSL. (DoJ)

## Strengthening National and Chinese History Education

- Implemented Chinese History as an independent compulsory subject for the junior secondary level since the 2018/19 school year. (EDB)
- Improved school curriculum and organised life-wide learning activities to help students understand our country and the constitutional order established under the Constitution and the Basic Law, and the importance of national security. (EDB)

- Reformed “Liberal Studies” as “Citizenship and Social Development” in the 2021/22 school year to cultivate students’ positive values and attitudes, sense of national identity and their learning about national and global development, the Constitution, the Basic Law and the rule of law. (EDB)
- Put in place oath-taking/declaration requirement for civil servants. All newly appointed civil servants and the vast majority of serving civil servants have signed the declaration. Civil servants appointed to senior positions have also taken an oath. For 129 officers who neglected or refused to duly sign and return the declaration without any reasonable explanation, the Government has put them under interdiction and taken actions under the relevant procedures to terminate their service. The declaration requirement was also extended to Government staff appointed on non-civil service terms on or after 1 July 2020. Among them, the 149 full-time and 386 part-time non-civil service Government staff who neglected or refused to duly sign and return the declaration without reasonable explanation have all left the Government already. (CSB)

## Oath-taking by Public Officers

- Enacted the Public Offices (Candidacy and Taking Up Offices) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2021 which came into effect on 21 May 2021 to implement the oath-taking requirements for public officers as stipulated in the Interpretation of Article 104 of the Basic Law by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress and Article 6 of the NSL. (CMAB)
- Imposed oath-taking requirement on members of the EC through the Improving Electoral System (Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance 2021. (CMAB)
- Implemented by phases starting on 10 September 2021 the oath-taking requirements for members of the District Councils (DCs) in accordance with the Public Offices (Candidacy and Taking Up Offices) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2021. (HAB)

## Integrity

### Corruption Prevention

- Completed a review of works supervision system of the Development Bureau and works departments and implemented relevant corruption prevention measures. (DEVB, ICAC)
- Incorporated integrity management as the listing requirement for over 800 approved public works contractors, materials suppliers and specialist contractors of the Government with effect from March 2021. (DEVB, ICAC)

- Assisted the Development Bureau in drawing up a set of New Engineering Contract (NEC) practice notes, and completed 13 assignment studies for the Development Bureau and works departments on the implementation of NEC projects. (ICAC)
- Developed practical guides and organised training on ethical governance under the three-year Ethics Promotion Programme for Listed Companies (2015–2018). (ICAC)
- Provided corruption prevention advice related to various public elections; completed a quick review on the polling and vote counting processes and completed a visit programme for 96 Specified Bodies under various Functional Constituencies of the LegCo from 2019–2021 to mitigate the risk of vote-rigging. (ICAC)
- Launched an e-learning platform in 2020 to enhance the integrity training in the government sector with over 16 000 participants. (ICAC)

### Local Promotion

- Produced a set of four “Reading for Integrity” picture books in 2020. (ICAC)
- Launched the “Youth-for-Youth” Co-creation Project in 2019, partnering with young people to produce multi-media programmes, resulting 800 000 online views. (ICAC)
- Organised commemorative events for the 45th anniversary of the Independent Commission Against Corruption in 2019. (ICAC)
- Launched in 2019 an Ethics Promotion Campaign for the insurance industry with over 12 000 insurance intermediaries and practitioners reached. (ICAC)

### Co-operation with the International Community and the Mainland

- Stepped up international efforts to promote Hong Kong’s robust anti-corruption regime and probity environment with close ties established with 59 countries. Provided capacity building programmes to about 1 000 graft fighters of different jurisdictions in the past five years. (ICAC)
- Enhanced collaboration with international organisations, including partnering with the Asian Development Bank/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific to deliver a capacity development programme series, and heading the Training Committee of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities to co-ordinate its training initiatives. (ICAC)
- Jointly hosted the 7th ICAC Symposium with the World Justice Project with more than 500 participants from over 50 jurisdictions. (ICAC)
- Reached an agreement with counterparts in Guangdong and Macao in May 2019 to foster a probity culture, strengthen exchanges, consolidate anti-corruption collaboration mechanism, and step up capacity building and experience sharing. (ICAC)

### Boosting Implementation Capabilities of the Civil Service

- Increased the civil service establishment by about 19 500 posts (11%) between 2017–18 and 2021–22 to implement new initiatives and enhance existing services. (CSB)

- Invited in July 2018 all serving civil servants joining the service between 1 June 2000 and 31 May 2015 to choose to retire at 65 (for civilian grades) or 60 (for disciplined services grades). Some 47 000 civil servants, representing about 83% of those eligible, have opted to retire later. (CSB)
- Launched the Continued Service of Police Officers Beyond Prescribed Retirement Age Scheme on 1 April 2021 to extend the service of non-directorate police officers who joined the Government before 1 June 2000 up to the age of 60 to address operational requirements and long-term manpower needs. (SB)
- Tightened the scrutiny of probationary civil servants to instil a stronger sense of discipline and integrity among civil servants. (CSB)
- Implemented in September 2021 the recommendations on salary and increments in the grade structure review for the disciplined services grades. (CSB, SB)
- Set up the Civil Service College in 2021 by upgrading the existing facilities of the Civil Service Training and Development Institute as the College's interim accommodation. Aimed to commence construction of long-term accommodation on a composite development site in Kwun Tong in 2022. (CSB)
- Set up in November 2019 the Civil Service Training Advisory Board to guide the development of training strategy and content and secured Finance Committee's approval for creating the position of Head of the College. (CSB)
- Enhanced national studies training for civil servants and worked with the Mainland authorities and relevant institutions to increase training places. Since July 2017, arranged 2 300 civil servants to take part in National Studies programmes in Mainland institutions. Launched in 2019 thematic visits to the Mainland municipalities of the Greater Bay Area. (CSB)
- Provided about 3 500 short-term internship placements in 2021 to expose more post-secondary students to the work of the Government and public organisations. (CSB)
- Completed six projects to provide staff quarters for eligible disciplinary staff. Another two projects are under construction. Increased car parking spaces in these quarters to meet operational needs. (SB)
- Expanded and retitled the Local Education Allowance scheme to Mainland and Local Education Allowance scheme, under which eligible civil servants can apply for education allowances in respect of their children's primary and secondary education in the Mainland and Hong Kong. (CSB)

## Public Sector Reform

- Carried out service reforms through adopting innovation and technology and streamlining business processes. Measures include:
  - transferred the Efficiency Unit previously under the Chief Secretary for Administration's Office to the Innovation and Technology Bureau on 1 April 2018 and renamed it as the Efficiency Office to build a stronger team to further promote innovation and technology development within the Government; (EffO/ITB)

- under the “Be the Smart Regulator” Programme, completed over 75% of the 398 business facilitation measures committed from 2018–19 to 2020–21, covering about 270 licences with a total annual transaction volume of 2.4 million. Implementing plans to enable e-licensing for all applications by mid-2022; (EffO/ITB and relevant bureaux)
- under the “Streamlining of Government Services” Programme, some 900 government services involving application and approval are being reformed on a continuous basis. 38 bureaux and departments proposed 154 streamlining measures in 2019–20 and 2020–21, covering about 200 government services with a total annual transaction volume of 37 million; (EffO/ITB and relevant bureaux) and
- approved 99 projects under TechConnect (block vote) to support Government departments to apply technology. (ITB)

## The Judiciary

- Continued to appoint eminent judges from other common law jurisdictions as non-Permanent Judges (CLNPs) of the Court of Final Appeal in accordance with the Basic Law. Since July 2017, four new CLNPs have been appointed by the Chief Executive. (CSO)
- Extended the retirement age of Judges at the High Court and above as well as Magistrates generally by five years. (CSO)

## Executive-Legislative Relationship

- A total of 46 bills enacted (or awaiting resumption of second reading debate) by the LegCo in the 2020-21 legislative year, a record high in the past 20 years. (CSO)

- A total of \$328 billion approved (or to be approved) by the LegCo in the 2020-21 legislative year (involving 62 works items and 29 non-works items). (CSO)
- The Chief Executive attended 14 Question and Answer Sessions and 18 Question Times in the LegCo as at 30 September 2021. (CSO)

## Public Participation

- Hosted six summits chaired by the Chief Executive on different policy areas since 2017, including new directions of taxation, poverty alleviation, disability inclusion and quality education, to exchange views with stakeholders directly. (Relevant bureaux)
- Increased the proportion of female non-official members in advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs) from 31% in 2015 to 35.2% as at end-June 2021, meeting the target of 35%. (LWB)
- Appointed ethnic minority members to 43 ASBs. (All bureaux)
- Regularised the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY). So far, 50 ASBs have joined the MSSY providing a total of 101 seats. At present, around 440 posts are held by young people who have been appointed to ASBs directly or indirectly through MSSY. The overall ratio of youth members in ASBs has increased from 7.8% in 2017 to 14.8% as at mid-2021 and is gradually moving towards the target of 15% set by the current-term Government. (HAB)

## District Administration

- Conducted a total of 276 district visits by Secretaries of Department and Directors of Bureau. (HAB)

- Implemented 27 projects under the Signature Project Scheme spearheaded by the respective DCs with 25 of them in operation. (HAB)
- Regularised the additional allocation of \$20.8 million for the promotion of arts and cultural activities under the community involvement programme and provided additional resources to enhance the manpower support for DCs. (HAB)
- Increased the annual recurrent provision for District-led Actions Scheme from \$63 million to \$80 million from 2020–21 onwards. (HAB)

## Non-refoulement Claims

- Took forward the comprehensive review of the strategy of handling non-refoulement claims, and implemented measures to combat illegal immigration and overstaying at source; expedited screening of claims and appeals and removal of unsuccessful claimants, and stepped up law enforcement against unlawful employment. As a result, time for screening a claim was shortened by 60% and the once over 11 000 pending claims were completed in early 2019. As at 31 August 2021, number of non-ethnic Chinese illegal immigrants dropped by over 70% from the peak, and number of appeals pending the handling by the Torture Claims Appeal Board dropped from the peak of 6 500 to around 1 800. (SB)
- Increased detention capacity for claimants by one-third by recommissioning the Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution in May 2021. (SB)
- Amended the Immigration Ordinance to provide solid legal backing for measures in respect of removal, detention, interception at source and law enforcement, etc. The amended ordinance came into effect on 1 August 2021. (SB)

## Crimes Ordinance

- Passed the Crimes (Amendment) Bill 2021 at the LegCo sitting of 29 September 2021 to introduce specific offences against voyeurism, unlawful recording or observation of intimate parts, and publication or threatened publication of intimate images without consent. (SB)

## Protecting Privacy

- Passed the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Bill 2021 by the LegCo on 29 September 2021, which criminalises doxxing acts that intrude into personal data privacy, confers on the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data powers of criminal investigation and prosecution, and empowers the Commissioner statutory powers to demand the cessation or restriction of doxxing content. (CMAB)

## Public Finance

- Increased recurrent government expenditure from \$361.8 billion to \$517.6 billion between 2017–18 and 2021–22, representing an average annual growth of 9.4%. Education, health and social welfare consistently take up about 60% of the expenditure. As at end-August 2021, the fiscal reserves stood at \$851.8 billion. (FSTB)
- Invested heavily in infrastructure to meet Hong Kong’s needs and create jobs. From 2017–18 to 2021–22, the average capital works expenditure per year amounted to more than \$75 billion. (FSTB, DEVB)
- Ensured steady development of the civil service while maintaining the sustainability of public finance by imposing a zero growth in civil service establishment in 2021–22. The projected establishment by end-March 2022 will be 197 646 posts. (CSB)

- Rolled out four rounds of measures under the Anti-epidemic Fund and measures in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Budget totalling over \$437 billion to provide relief to businesses and individuals hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. (FSTB)
- Established the Hong Kong Growth Portfolio under the Future Fund to make strategic investments in projects with “a Hong Kong nexus”, with a view to on the one hand reinforcing Hong Kong’s status as a financial, commercial and innovation centre, thereby raising Hong Kong’s productivity and competitiveness in the long run to foster economic growth, and on the other hand seeking reasonable risk-adjusted returns to safeguard the Government’s investment interest. (FSTB)

## Legal Aid

- Raised the financial eligibility limits for legal aid applicants for Ordinary Legal Aid Scheme and Supplementary Legal Aid Scheme cumulatively by 45% since 2017. (CSO)

## Records Keeping and Archives

- The Law Reform Commission (LRC) completed in March 2019 a public consultation on archives law and is finalising a report. The Government will examine in detail the recommendations after receiving the report. (CSO)
- Provided records management training to 6 890 government officers in 2020. From January to August 2021, over 9 000 officers were trained, with the target of training 10 000 in 2021. (CSO)
- Preparatory work and the tendering exercise in progress for rolling out the electronic record-keeping system by end-2025. (CSO)

## Access to Information

- The LRC completed a public consultation on access to information. The Government will examine in detail the recommendations and consider relevant follow-up actions after receiving the report. (CMAB)

## The Hong Kong Chronicles Project

- Supported the Hong Kong Chronicles Project undertaken by the Hong Kong Chronicles Institute to record the development of Hong Kong and to promote the community’s understanding of the history, culture and tradition of the city. The first volume of Hong Kong Chronicles, “Overview & Chronology” was published in December 2020, while the second volume on “Hong Kong’s Participation in National Reform & Opening-Up” is scheduled for release in December 2021. (HAB)

# New Initiatives

## National Security

### Legislation on Article 23 of the Basic Law

- Actively press ahead the enactment of legislation to implement Article 23 of the Basic Law in Hong Kong by making reference to past studies and information, the implementation experience of the NSL and relevant court verdicts, and the relevant laws of our country and other jurisdictions and their experience in implementing such laws, as well as taking into account the situation of Hong Kong in recent years. Draw up effective and pragmatic proposals and provisions, as well as formulate appropriate publicity programmes. (SB)

### Other Legislative Work Relating to National Security

- Introduce amendments to the Regional Flag and Regional Emblem Ordinance for better alignment with the newly amended National Flag and National Emblem Ordinance as well as with the National Anthem Ordinance. (CMAB)
- Take forward the Film Censorship (Amendment) Bill 2021 to ensure more effective fulfilment of the duty to safeguard national security as required by the NSL. (CEDB)
- Study and examine whether legislation should be amended or enacted to tackle the spreading of fake news and hate speech on social media and insulting public officers. (HAB)

## Combating Local Terrorism

- Step up the intelligence collection and enforcement work of the Police, with a view to bringing extremists to justice; and take enforcement actions against contents and messages that spread hatred, advocate violence, and incite and encourage terrorism. (SB)
- Strengthen counter-terrorism preparedness and response capability by conducting training and exercises, enhancing protection of critical infrastructure, and leveraging new technologies such as artificial intelligence and big data; and continue to improve the legal framework, and step up public education and publicity on counter-terrorism. (SB)

## Strengthening Cyber and Data Security

- Formulate comprehensive guidelines to support policy bureaux and departments in assessing and controlling cyber security, data security and supply chain security risks within their respective portfolios. Policy bureaux and departments should formulate measures in accordance with the aforementioned guidelines for controlling risks in relevant areas. (SB and all bureaux)
- Promote the development of a robust preventive management system for critical information infrastructure to ensure the safe operation of relevant systems and networks to safeguard public safety and national security. (SB, ITB)
- Make preparatory work for the enactment of cybersecurity legislation. Through imposing network security obligations on operators of critical information infrastructure, strengthen the cybersecurity of critical information infrastructure in Hong Kong. (SB, ITB)



## Vision 2030 for Rule of Law

- Strengthen local rule of law education and step up efforts in capacity building by encouraging local legal talents to seize overseas secondment/internship opportunities. (DoJ)
- Establish a rule of law database to assist in assessing rule of law and facilitate research and capacity building. (DoJ)
- Share the work experience in Vision 2030 for Rule of Law with other jurisdictions with a view to jointly promoting the rule of law for sustainable development. (DoJ)

## Enhancing the Law-abiding Awareness of Young People

- Enhance youth development work by the six disciplined services and the two auxiliary services and establish or expand their work in youth uniformed groups to help young people develop positive thinking, law-abiding awareness, a sense of discipline and team spirit. (SB)

## Court Facilities

- Support the Judiciary in providing one mega courtroom and supporting facilities in Wanchai Tower for handling cases involving multiple defendants during the interim years before the commissioning of the proposed new District Court building at Caroline Hill Road. Renovation works are expected to start in May 2022 for completion in 2023. (CSO)

## Strengthening Education on the Constitution, the Basic Law and National Security

- Adopt a “multi-pronged and co-ordinated” approach to promote the Constitution, the Basic Law and national security education to various targeted groups, including the general public, students and civil servants, through different activities and approaches. (CSPO, CMAB, EDB, CSB)
- Host a Basic Law conference and publish the “Basic Law: Selected Drafting Materials and Significant Cases” in April 2022 to promote and instil a correct understanding of the Constitution and the Basic Law. (DoJ)
- Host the Legal Summit on the NSL in 2022 to enhance the understanding and awareness of the NSL. (DoJ)
- Implement recommendations of the Review Report on the Governance and Management of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), including the introduction of a new editorial management mechanism to ensure that the programmes comply with the requirements of the Charter of RTHK (Charter), as well as strengthening the delivery of public purposes and mission under the Charter by introducing more programmes covering national security education, the Greater Bay Area and the National 14th Five-Year Plan and other important topics to engender a sense of citizenship and national identity. RTHK will also seek to establish partnership with the China Media Group and other programme providers, with a view to deepening Hong Kong audiences’ understanding of our country. (CEDB)

## School Education

- Request schools to devise plans and put in place measures related to safeguarding national security and national security education as early as possible. The Education Bureau will scrutinise the reports and plans submitted by schools, monitor and provide support in relation to the implementation of relevant work in schools. (EDB)
- Arrange for professionals to hold onsite workshops for schools from the 2021/22 to 2022/23 school years, enabling teachers to better understand how to co-ordinate and plan national security education holistically at the school level. (EDB)
- Develop more learning and teaching resources and organise diversified student activities, and provide enhanced training on the Constitution, the Basic Law and national security education for newly-appointed teachers, serving teachers and teachers aspiring for promotion, as well as for principals, school supervisors and school managers. (EDB)
- Support post-secondary institutions in fulfilling their legal obligations to safeguard national security, including implementing national security education in their curriculum and introducing enhanced measures in campus management. (EDB)
- Step up support for schools in promoting national education (including the Constitution, the Basic Law and national security education) within and beyond the classroom through measures such as updating the curriculum, developing learning and teaching resources, providing training for teachers, and organising student activities and Mainland exchange. (EDB)

## Enhance Training on Constitutional Order and National Studies Training for Civil Servants

- Strengthen training on the country's Constitution, the Basic Law and the NSL for civil servants. Establish a more systematic training framework and designate training programmes for mandatory attendance, so as to enhance the understanding of civil servants on our country's development and the HKSAR's constitutional order. (CSB)
- Arrange more middle and senior-level civil servants to take part in national studies programmes or thematic visits in the Mainland that suit their ranks as they advance in their career, so that they will have appropriate opportunities to deepen their understanding of the country at different career stages. (CSB)
- Enhance training for civil servants in learning more about the country's foreign affairs, through close collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR, so as to deepen civil servants' understanding of the international scene and the country's positioning which in turn enables them to act in concert with the country's foreign affairs policy in handling the relevant areas of work. (CSB)
- Jointly design and organise a Master Programme in Public Policy with the Peking University and arrange senior civil servants nominated by their departments to attend this programme. Continue sponsoring senior civil servants nominated by their departments to attend the Project of Hong Kong Public Administrative Talents, Executive Master of Public Administration Programme, Tsinghua University. (CSB)

## Basic Law Test in Civil Service Recruitment

- Review the assessment content of the Basic Law Test in civil service recruitment and include the NSL in the scope of assessment to render the test better-suited to the requirements of the relevant civil service posts. (CSB)

## Oath-taking by Public Officers

- Take forward oath-taking for public officers of other sectors after implementation of the arrangement for civil servants and government employees to take oath to uphold the Basic Law. (CSO)

## Public Sector Reform and Technology Adoption in the Public Sector

- Conduct a new round of public sector reform in three aspects, i.e. improving service efficiency, enhancing digitalisation of public services, and consolidating government services. Policy bureaux and departments will examine, from the users' point of view, their operation and service provision so as to improve efficiency, which includes simplifying approval procedures and allowing more flexibility when providing services; and promote the wider use of data and technology, as well as speed up the digitalisation of public services, so that the public may use our services more conveniently and be informed of Government information swiftly. (FSTB and all bureaux)
- Introduce legislation to enable courts to conduct remote hearing. (CSO)
- Amend the Electronic Transactions Ordinance (Cap. 553) to provide legal backing to the digitalisation of government services. (ITB)

- Amend relevant legislation to enable the serving of electronic fixed penalty notices against traffic offences to enhance efficiency of traffic enforcement. (THB)
- Amend the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) to accept electronic driving licences presented by mobile applications to bring greater convenience to driving licence holders. (THB)
- Introduce legislation to facilitate the use of electronic certificates for Hong Kong registered ships. (THB)
- Amend the corporate insolvency and individual bankruptcy legislation to implement the electronic submission system of the Official Receiver's Office and streamline requirements, for providing a one-stop portal to receive and handle voluminous documents and forms submitted to the Office with a view to enhancing service efficiency and quality. (FSTB)

## Public Finance

- Continue to uphold Article 107 of the Basic Law by following the principle of keeping expenditure within the limits of revenue in order to maintain fiscal sustainability. On controlling government expenditure, the Government will trim the recurrent expenditure allocations to all policy bureaux by one per cent in 2022-23 without affecting livelihood-related spending, and continue to exercise strict control over the growth of the civil service establishment. We will also maintain the vibrancy of and grow our economy to continuously achieve revenue sustainability for Hong Kong. (FSTB)

## Civil Service

- Regularise the Pilot Scheme on Civil Service Chinese Medicine Clinics and increase the annual service capacity from about 63 000 discs in 2020-21 to about 100 000 discs in 2022-23. (CSB)
- Put in place a mobile application within 2022 to facilitate making appointments for Chinese medicine services. (CSB)

## Enhance Governance

- Review the organisation of government business at the policy bureaux level taking account of public views with a view to drawing up proposals for discussion with the Seventh Term LegCo and for the reference of the Sixth Term Chief Executive. (PICO/CSO)
- Review the existing mechanism for the promotion and appointment of senior civil service positions on the principle of meritocracy, so that the posts will be filled by the best suited persons. (CSB)

## Integrity

- Step up education and promotion by launching the "Support Clean Elections Programme", the "All for Integrity" public engagement initiative and the "i Junior Programme for Primary Schools"; and producing a new Drama Series "ICAC Investigators 2022" and a new Announcement in the Public Interest. (ICAC)
- Enhance the corruption prevention capabilities and awareness of construction companies through the implementation of the Integrity Charter; and assist the MTR Corporation Limited to strengthen corruption prevention measures in the implementation of new railway projects. (ICAC)

- Enhance the professional ethics of banking practitioners and the integrity culture of the industry through a new online practical guide and other training resources, as well as reinvigorating the exchanges with members of the Corruption Prevention Network for Banks. (ICAC)
- Strengthen ICAC's role on the Executive Committee of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities; and take forward anti-corruption collaboration with the anti-corruption agencies in Guangdong and Macao, including jointly organising corruption prevention initiatives with the Qianhai Anti-Corruption Bureau. (ICAC)

## Public Elections

- Work closely with the Electoral Affairs Commission to ensure that the 2021 LegCo General Election and the 2022 Chief Executive Election will be conducted in a fair, open and honest manner in accordance with the improved electoral system and relevant legislation, with a view to fully implementing "patriots administering Hong Kong" and facilitating executive-led governance. (CMAB)
- Implement various improvement measures in the upcoming public elections, such as special queues for electors in need, electronic poll register to enhance the accuracy and efficiency in the issuance of ballot papers and, subject to agreement with Mainland authorities, special voting arrangements for registered voters living in the Mainland who could not return to Hong Kong because of COVID-19. (CMAB)

## Mainland Co-operation

- Introduce a bill to implement co-location arrangement at the new Huanggang Port. (SB)

- Actively participate in Pan-Pearl River Delta regional co-operation, and establish the new Hubei-Hong Kong high-level co-operation mechanism. (CMAB)
- Explore the re-titling of the Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland to better reflect their extensive roles and functions to promote Hong Kong's integration into the Mainland development. (CMAB)
- Build an information sharing platform with the relevant units of the governments of nine municipalities in Guangdong Province and Macao, with a view to facilitating the exchange of information including intelligence and crime trends; establishing a system that allows shared and complementary use of resources; and enhancing the scope and level of personnel exchange and interaction through visits and drills to create a quality and safe Greater Bay Area. (SB)

### **Advance Passenger Information System**

- Take forward the development of the Advance Passenger Information system to enhance aviation security and immigration control on visitors and submit the relevant subsidiary legislation to the LegCo for scrutiny. (SB)

### **Rehabilitation of Persons in Custody**

- Formulate targeted rehabilitation programmes, including implementing the “Walk with YOUth Programme” to enhance the law-abiding awareness of young persons in custody (PICs); planning to establish a Youth Lab and implementing educational initiatives such as “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” to strengthen values, moral and civic education for young offenders, and enable them to have a better understanding of the Basic Law and the NSL; and setting up the Change Lab to provide psychological counselling for young rehabilitated offenders under supervision after release. (SB)
- Step up efforts to unite all sectors of the community to provide suitable support to PICs on various rehabilitation fronts through inter-departmental and cross-sectoral collaboration, including inviting the business sector and training bodies to provide job matching service, suitable job openings, and opportunities for vocational training and internship. (SB)

## **Rationalise Requirement Relating to Death Registration**

- Amend the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance (Cap. 174) to rationalise the legal requirement relating to death registration. (SB)