

## **Complaints against broadcasting materials concerning social unrest since mid-2019 dealt with by the Communications Authority (“CA”)**

From mid-June 2019 to mid-July 2021, the CA received more than 35 200 complaints against broadcasting materials concerning social unrest.

- The CA considered the following 18 cases concerning social unrest (involving a total of 25 233 complaints) which had been deliberated by the Broadcast Complaints Committee (“BCC”): –

[Case 1 – News Reports on recent social events broadcast by Television Broadcasts Limited \(“TVB”\) on 12 June 2019](#)

[Case 2 – News Reports on recent social events broadcast by TVB on 15 June 2019](#)

[Case 3 – Television Programme “News Roundup” \(晚間新聞\) broadcast by TVB on 12 August 2019](#)

[Case 4 – Radio Programme “C Hing Temple” \(C Hing 祠堂\) broadcast by Radio Television Hong Kong \(“RTHK”\) on 22 June 2019](#)

[Case 5 – Radio Programme “On A Clear Day” \(在晴朗的一天出發\) broadcast by Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited \(“CRHK”\) on 10 September 2019](#)

[Case 6 – News Reports on the remarks of a student in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination broadcast by TVB on 10 July 2019](#)

[Case 7 – News Reports on the incident occurred in Taikoo Shing in the evening of 3 November 2019 broadcast by TVB on 3, 4 & 5 November 2019](#)

[Case 8 – News Reports on the remarks made by a British official concerning Hong Kong broadcast by TVB on 23 July 2019](#)

[Case 9 – Television Programme “News Roundup” \(晚間新聞\) broadcast by TVB on 4 July 2019](#)

[Case 10 – Television Programme “Pentaprim” \(左右紅藍綠\) broadcast by RTHK on 20 November 2019](#)

[Case 11 – News Reports on the incident occurred in Sham Shui Po on 6 October 2019 broadcast by TVB on 6 & 7 October 2019](#)

[Case 12 – Radio Programme “Open Line Open View” \(自由風自由 Phone\) broadcast by RTHK on 24 October 2019](#)

[Case 13 – Radio Programmes “Hong Kong Today” \(晨早新聞天地\) broadcast by RTHK on 17 and 18 December 2019 and “News Bulletin” \(午間新聞天地\) broadcast by RTHK on 18 December 2019](#)

[Case 14 – Television Programme “Hong Kong Connection” \(鏗鏘集\) broadcast by RTHK on 23 December 2019](#)

[Case 15 – Television Programmes “Pentaprism” \(左右紅藍綠\) broadcast by RTHK on 4 September, 7 & 15 October and 13 November 2019](#)

[Case 16 – Radio Programmes “Clearday Breakfast” \(晴朗早晨全餐\) broadcast by CRHK on 8 July 2019 and “On a Clear Day” \(在晴朗的一天出發\) broadcast by CRHK on 8 July and 12 August 2019](#)

[Case 17 – Television Programme “Another Hong Kong” \(另一個香港\) broadcast by TVB on 23 May 2020, PCCW Media Limited \(“now TV”\) on 23 and 24 May 2020, Hong Kong Cable Television Limited \(“HKCTV”\) on 30 and 31 May 2020 and RTHK on 15 and 16 June 2020](#)

[Case 18 – Television Programme “感動中國 情滿香江” broadcast by RTHK on 5 July 2020](#)

As there are several thousand complaints under Case 1, Case 2 and Case 7 respectively, the CA would not issue individual replies for these cases. The complainants concerned may refer to the above case summaries and the CA’s decisions.

- The Director-General of Communications (“DG Com”) dealt with 969 cases concerning social unrest (involving 6 652 complaints) under the delegated authority of the CA<sup>Note 1</sup>, of which 22 cases (48 complaints) were classified as [minor breaches](#), 784 cases (6 349 complaints) as unsubstantiated and 163 cases (255 complaints) were outside the ambit of the Broadcasting (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 391) (“B(MP)O”). The broadcasters concerned were RTHK (384 cases), TVB (351 cases), CRHK (169 cases), HKCTV (43 cases), now TV (39 cases), Fantastic Television Limited (21 cases), HK Television Entertainment Company Limited (20 cases) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (8 cases)<sup>Note 2</sup>. 86% of such cases involved one to three complaints. The majority of complaints concerned news programmes, followed by personal view programmes, talk shows and public affairs programmes, with allegations of inaccurate factual material, instigating and/or irresponsible remarks, promotion of illegal act/violence, partial or unfair contents,

denigration or incitement of hatred and use of crude language, etc. The CA would issue individual replies to the complainants.

- The investigation of the outstanding complaints against broadcasting materials concerning social unrest is in progress.

*Note 1: The CA has delegated to DG Com its statutory powers to investigate broadcast complaints. DG Com handles complaints which are classified as minor breaches, unsubstantiated or outside the ambit of the B(MP)O under delegated authority. If there is prima facie evidence for an arguable case of potential breach of the relevant regulatory requirements, the complaint will be referred to the BCC for consideration. The CA, having considered the recommendations of the BCC, will make a decision on the complaint.*

*Note 2: Some of the cases involved multiple broadcasters. Thus, the sum of the number of cases against individual broadcasters exceeded the total number of cases.*

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