

Department of Justice denies press report on Leung

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In response to a report in an English language newspaper today (November 26) concerning the case of former Financial Secretary, Mr Antony Leung Kam-chung, a spokesman for the Department of Justice gave the following reply:

"No decision has yet been taken by the Department of Justice. Although the department cannot comment at this stage on the progress of the case, it can confirm that there is no substance to the report that four top lawyers have advised the department that there is sufficient evidence to prosecute. Although the department will not reach a decision on the case until such time as all outstanding issues have been attended to, it is confident that the case can be finalised sooner rather than later. The interests of justice require that this case, like every other, be processed fairly and thoroughly in accordance with established prosecution policy and practice, and that is being scrupulously observed. The objective of the department throughout has been to achieve a correct decision, not a rushed decision."

Ends/Wednesday, November 26, 2003