



Supreme Prosecutors Office

News Release

Release Date: December 10, 2012
Released by: Chief Registrar's Office
Contact Person: Hong Tai-wen
Contact Ph.: 02-23167688

Mr. Su Tseng-chang, the Chairman of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), recently convened an international press conference criticizing the regression of human rights under the Ma Government, and the presence of two major risks including “the bitterly distressing phenomenon of indictments by prosecutorial and investigative authorities in abuse of their powers”. With regards to this particular issue, Prosecutor-General Huang hereby expressly clarifies it as follows:

“Ever since I took office on April 19, 2010, I have understood that given the present environment of strong competition between parties, the prosecutorial organ must be able to act above the political affiliations of individuals and enforce the law fairly and impartially, in order to gain the support and trust of all people. Therefore, I have reiterated in many national conferences with chief prosecutors or prosecutors that “fairness and impartiality are the lifeblood of judicial authorities”, and I require all prosecutors to carry out their duties and exercise their powers fairly, impartially and independently. I strongly believe that the more than 1300 prosecutors in Taiwan are strictly complying with the law and acting in accordance with their consciences in prosecuting any criminal cases, without regard to political affiliations or identity. I can give the

following 3 examples:

1. According to the “Compilation Report on Cases of DPP Political Comrades Being Subject to Unfair Treatment by Prosecutorial, Investigative and Judicial Authorities” as reported by news media on December 5, 2012, of the 14 “not guilty” cases, only 6 were indicted by prosecutors during KMT rule, while 8 were indicted by prosecutors under DPP rule. Based on these 14 cases of “not guilty” examples, is it then fair to claim that human rights have regressed under the Ma Government, and to accuse the prosecutorial and investigative authorities of having made indictments in abuse of their powers?
2. The conviction rate of criminal cases handled by first instance prosecutors has increased steadily from 87.8% in 2000 to 95.9% for January to October, 2012. The rise of 8.1 percentage points indicates that there have already been marked improvements in the quality of criminal prosecutions conducted by Taiwan prosecutors.
3. Based on the “Taiwan Human Rights Indicators Survey” released by the Chinese Association for Human Rights on December 4, 2012, the prosecutor investigation indicator had fallen slightly from 3.024 in 2008 to 2.79 in 2009, and then back to 3.017 in 2010 and 3.053 in 2011. It further improved to 3.153 in 2012, showing steady improvements in the prosecutor investigation human rights indicator.