

Annex

Figures on enforcement actions taken by the Lands Department (LandsD) against unlawful occupation of government land (Note 1)

	2021	2022	2023
Suspected cases of unlawful occupation of government land received by the LandsD	16 711	14 287	16 516
Substantiated cases of unlawful occupation of government land	12 149	9 692	12 566
Cases handled/land clearance completed (Note 2)	10 537	9 199	13 078
Cases still being processed as at the end of the year (Note 3)	12 718	13 189	11 267
Convictions for unlawful occupation of government land after prosecutions have been instituted (Note 4)	14	17	23
Amounts of fines imposed by the court	ranging from \$2,000 to \$137,000	ranging from \$1,000 to \$91,000	ranging from \$1,000 to \$58,950
Imprisonment imposed by the court	--	Two months' imprisonment (suspended for three years) – two cases Four months' imprisonment (suspended for three years) – one case	--

Note 1: As the handling of a case may straddle different years, the numbers of cases handled/with land clearance completed and the number of convictions by the court in a year may not correspond with the number of substantiated cases of unlawful occupation of government land within the same year.

Note 2: During inspection, the LandsD, where appropriate, will warn the occupier on the spot to cease occupation of the government land. If the person concerned accepts the warning and ceases the occupation, no statutory notices will be posted. The figures in this row include both cases involving and not involving the posting of statutory notices and in which the occupation of government land has ceased.

Note 3: The figures in this row refer to the number of substantiated cases of unlawful occupation of government land including those which are pending or has commenced enforcement actions.

Note 4: The LandsD will consider whether there is sufficient evidence for prosecution having regard to the circumstances of individual cases and the advice sought from the Department

of Justice. In addition, as of the end of 2023, there were another nine cases being prosecuted for unlawful occupation of government land but pending verdict.