

7 March 2003

Mr Michael Wong
Deputy Secretary for Security
6/F Main and East Wings,
Central Government Offices

Dear Michael:

Registration for Persons (Amendment) Bill 2001

In paragraph 2(i) of the Information paper on 21 February 2003 prepared by your Bureau for the Bills Committee on Particulars Furnished under Regulation 4 (1)(b), it is stated that ‘the registration officer has used this discretion to obtain the “educational level” of the registrant concerned. This information is required for determining whether the registrant is qualified or exempt from jury services’.

As member of the Bills Committee, I would request for further clarification from the Administration on the following:-

- (a) how would a registration officer determine what further particulars relate to the particulars furnished under Regulation 4(1)(b) of the Registration of persons Regulations (Cap. 177 sub. leg.) and whether and for what purposes such further particulars are necessary?
- (b) in particular, whether it is ultra vires for the registration officer to use his discretion to obtain the “education level” of a registrant for the purpose of determining whether the registrant is qualified or exempt from jury services, as the purpose is apparently outside the scope of the principal Ordinance?

I shall be grateful for your response by noon, 10 March 2003.

Your sincerely,

James To Kun-sun

c.c. Chairman & Members of Bills Committees