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11 June 2003

Miss Connie Szeto
Clerk to the Panel on Financial Affairs
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Szeto,

At the Financial Secretary's briefing to the LegCo Panel on Financial Affairs on 2 June, Hon Lee Cheuk-yan requested that an additional question be asked in the Weekly Consultations on the Effect of SARS on Business conducted by the Census and Statistics Department, concerning the proportion of employees taking no-pay leave in the companies surveyed. The question has been added and enumerated for the first round for the week ending 7 June. The results are shown in the table attached. I should be grateful for your onward transmission of the table to Hon Lee Cheuk-yan and other Members of the Panel on Financial Affairs for information.

In the ensuing weeks, the results compiled from this particular question will be henceforth updated and uploaded on the websites of both the Census and Statistics Department and the Economic Analysis Division of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, just as what we have been doing for other parts of the Weekly Consultations.

Yours faithfully,

(H Y Cheung)
for Government Economist

cc AA/FS (Attn: Mr Howard Lee) w/e

Current arrangement for staff to take no-pay leave

For the week ending 7 June 2003, all selected companies were asked whether they had arrangement for staff to take no-pay leave and the proportion of staff in the company involved in the no-pay leave arrangement. Among all the responded companies, 13% indicated that they had made no-pay leave arrangement for staff. For companies with no-pay leave arrangement, 83% of staff in those companies were involved in such arrangement on average.

Current Arrangement for Staff to Take No-Pay Leave for the Week Ending 7.6.2003

	<u>Companies with no-pay leave arrangement</u>		Average % of staff with no-pay leave in the sector (%)
	Proportion in the sector (%)	% of staff involved in companies concerned	
	<u>(a)</u>	<u>(b)</u>	
Retail	13	77	10
Restaurants	38	85	32
Hotels	100	79	79
Travel agents and airline ticket agents	46	100	46
Airlines	67	100	67
Cinemas & movie theatres	10	10	1
Sanitary and similar services	7	3	0.2
Other selected sectors (such as Import/export, manufacturing etc.)	2	94	2
<i>All selected sectors</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>11</i>