

**For Information**

**LC Paper No. ~~CB(X)XXX/02-03(XX)~~**

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MANPOWER PANEL**

### **Third Half-yearly Progress Report on the Skills Upgrading Scheme**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper presents the third half-yearly progress report on the Skills Upgrading Scheme (SUS) for the period October 2002 to March 2003 for Members' information.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. On 1 June 2001, the Finance Committee approved the implementation of the SUS. Courses under the SUS began in September 2001. We reported to Members on the progress of the SUS for the first six-month period (September 2001 to March 2002) and the second six-month period (April 2002 to September 2002) vide information papers CB(2)1881/01-02(01) and CB(2)455/02-03(01) respectively. The progress of the third six-month period (October 2002 to March 2003) of the SUS is set out in the following paragraphs.

#### **PROGRESS**

##### *Courses*

3. As at 31 March 2003, a total of 1 422 classes involving a total of 29 895 workers have been launched since the commencement of the Scheme. Of these, 22 519 trainees from 1 260 classes have completed training. Details of the courses, breakdown by industries, are as follows:

<b>Industry</b>	<b>No. of classes started</b>		<b>No. of trainees enrolled</b>		<b>No. of classes completed</b>		<b>No. of trainees completed training</b>	
<b><i>Phase 1*</i></b>								
Printing	208	(69)	3 172	(1 046)	174	(47)	2 218	(600)
Chinese Catering	87	(15)	1 981	(363)	85	(25)	1 662	(505)
Import / Export Trade	104	(26)	2 553	(622)	90	(30)	1 478	(498)
Wearing Apparel / Textile	75	(14)	1 741	(237)	68	(12)	1 138	(183)
Transport	61	(13)	1 519	(325)	57	(18)	1 173	(389)
Retail	249	(62)	5 498	(1 320)	245	(66)	5 097	(1 367)
<b><i>Phase 2**</i></b>								
Tourism	61	(42)	1 457	(1 009)	52	(36)	1 155	(801)
Hairdressing	118	(60)	1 833	(923)	105	(60)	1 281	(711)
Electrical & Mechanical Engineering	284	(187)	6 151	(4 004)	246	(195)	4 416	(3 400)
Property Management	85	(58)	1 890	(1 347)	85	(69)	1 690	(1 378)
Insurance	47	(47)	1 369	(1 369)	43	(43)	1 072	(1 072)
Beauty Care	31	(31)	528	(528)	10	(10)	139	(139)
Building Maintenance and Decoration	11	(11)	187	(187)	---		---	---
Hotel	1	(1)	16	(16)	---		---	---
Real Estate Agents <sup>@</sup>	---		---		---		---	---
Passenger Transport <sup>@</sup>	---		---		---		---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 422</b>	<b>(636)</b>	<b>29 895</b>	<b>(13 296)</b>	<b>1 260</b>	<b>(611)</b>	<b>22 519#</b>	<b>(11 043)</b>

***Note :***

\* The first batch of courses under the first phase was launched in September 2001.

\*\* The first batch of courses under the second phase was launched in July 2002.

@ Courses for the Real Estate Agents sector will be launched in mid-May 2003. The Passenger Transport sector has joined the SUS recently and the respective industry working group is being formed to follow up on the course development work.

# As at 31 March 2003, 22 519 trainees out of 29 895 workers enrolled in SUS

courses have completed training.

( ) Figures in bracket denote the progress from 1 October 2002 to 31 March 2003.

4. The overall trainee enrolment rate<sup>1</sup> is 95.6%, course retention rate<sup>2</sup> is 83.9% and passing rate<sup>3</sup> is 93%. The latest feedback collected from trainees at the end of the courses indicated that the vast majority of the trainees were satisfied with the course contents (about 92%) and the performance of the trainers (about 95%).

### ***Quality Assurance***

5. To monitor the quality of training offered by the course providers, the SUS Secretariat and the respective industry working groups continued to arrange for representatives to pay three types of regular visits to training providers. Figures of these visits are summarised below :

	<b>Up to 31 March 2003</b>	<b>(Position in Second Progress report)</b>
(a) Administrative inspections <sup>4</sup>	1 188	(577)
(b) Academic inspections <sup>5</sup>	865	(594)
(c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments <sup>6</sup>	1 260	(649)

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<sup>1</sup> This is the percentage of the total number of trainees enrolled against the total number of planned training places.

<sup>2</sup> This is the percentage of the total number of trainees completing the course against the total number of trainees enrolled.

<sup>3</sup> All trainees are required to pass an end-of-course assessment before a certificate is awarded. This is the percentage of the total number of trainees passing the assessment against the total number of trainees completing the course.

<sup>4</sup> Administrative inspections are conducted to check whether the class arrangements conform to the approved conditions, e.g. proper keeping of attendance records, identity of trainers, commencement and finishing times of the classes, location of the training site, etc.

<sup>5</sup> Academic inspections are conducted by industry working group's representatives with the relevant background to sit in the class to observe how the trainers are conducting their classes.

<sup>6</sup> The industry working groups arrange representatives to invigilate the end of course assessments to ensure that training bodies are conducting the assessments strictly in accordance with the approved procedures.

6. The Secretariat continued to prepare investigation and assessment reports and submitted them regularly to the respective industry working groups for monitoring purpose. During the period between October 2002 to March 2003, the performance of the training providers and the respective trainers were generally considered satisfactory. The average passing rate of trainees attending the retail courses offered by one of the training providers was found to be below par. The training provider was asked to take improvement actions and it eventually did not offer further courses for the retail sector under the SUS.

Education and Manpower Bureau

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