



運輸署
Transport Department

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17 June 2004

Mr Andy Lau
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F Citibank Tower
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lau,

Measures to curb taxi touting activities

At the meeting of the Panel on Transport on 26 March 2004, Members discussed our paper entitled "Measures to curb taxi touting activities" and asked whether the enforcement actions taken against taxi touting through illegal use of telecommunications would involve any surveillance or interception of telecommunications.

As the Office of the Telecommunications Authority ("OFTA") is responsible for regulating the use of telecommunications in Hong Kong, we have obtained the relevant information from OFTA, which is now set out at Annex for Members' information.

Yours faithfully,

(HUI Kuen)
for Commissioner for Transport

c.c. Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Attn.: Miss Emily Mo) ✓
Director-General of the Telecommunications (Attn.: Mr. K. F. Kwan) ✓

**Monitoring of Telecommunications Channels by
The Office of the Telecommunications Authority**

During enforcement against illegal telecommunications channels used for taxi touting, the Office of the Telecommunications Authority ("OFTA") may need to listen to the audible messages in these channels in order to effectively locate the illegal users since the taxis are always on the move.

2. However, contents of the communications in the radio channels will not be listened to deliberately if there is no such need for the investigation. All monitoring results will only be used for enforcing the Telecommunications Ordinance (Chapter 106). All telecommunications officers of OFTA are obliged to follow the provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Chapter 486) for the protection of privacy of the general public.

Office of the Telecommunications Authority
June 2004