

**Legislative Council Members' Meeting-cum-Luncheon
With Yau Tsim Mong District Council members
on Thursday, 28 April 2005**

**Summary of views on
Policies and measures for alleviating poverty**

1. Given the alarming disparity between the rich and the poor in the Yau Tsim Mong district, provision of additional resources for alleviating poverty at the district level is required.
2. Measures for alleviating poverty should focus on creation of employment opportunities and promotion of self-reliance. The Administration should examine the cost-effectiveness of the existing retraining programmes for unemployed middle-aged people.
3. The Administration should consider measures to improve the livelihood of the low-income group, such as legislating for minimum wage, formulating policies to achieve a balanced and reasonable redistribution of income, providing incentive to attract foreign investments and allocating more resources for the implementation of public works project.
4. The Administration should allocate funds to District Councils or set up a funding scheme for the development of local community economies with distinctive characteristics of different districts.
5. The Administration should provide additional resources to improve the community facilities and the conditions of old buildings in old urban districts, such as Mong Kong and Tsim Sha Tsui, so that these districts would no longer be labeled as residence for the low-income families.
6. Measures to assist the underprivileged to integrate into the community and civic education to cultivate an understanding attitude towards people of different nationalities, cultures and religions should be put in place.