

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MANPOWER PANEL**Ninth Half-yearly Progress Report
on the Skills Upgrading Scheme****PURPOSE**

When approving the \$400 million commitment for the launch of the Skills Upgrading Scheme (SUS) on 1 June 2001, Members requested the Administration to provide half-yearly reports on the implementation of the Scheme. This is the ninth report in the series, covering the period October 2005 to March 2006.

PROGRESS*Courses*

2. As at 31 March 2006, 7 198 classes benefiting a total of 147 217 workers have been launched since the commencement of the Scheme in September 2001. Of these, 121 956 trainees of 7 036 classes have completed the training. Details of the courses, broken down by industries, are as follows –

| Industry | No. of classes started | | No. of trainees enrolled | | No. of classes completed | | No. of trainees completed training | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 |
| Printing | 480 | 31 | 7 125 | 438 | 472 | 30 | 5 783 | 329 |
| Chinese Catering | 427 | 27 | 10 218 | 649 | 412 | 19 | 8 543 | 409 |
| Import / Export Trade | 371 | 32 | 8 328 | 614 | 363 | 39 | 5 729 | 556 |
| Wearing Apparel / Textile | 207 | 14 | 4 279 | 216 | 200 | 7 | 2 880 | 79 |
| Transport | 145 | 3 | 3 810 | 72 | 145 | 8 | 3 349 | 209 |
| Retail | 961 | 65 | 21 453 | 1 328 | 946 | 64 | 19 073 | 1 163 |
| Tourism | 481 | 10 | 11 507 | 241 | 480 | 12 | 9 960 | 296 |
| Hairdressing | 635 | 98 | 9 291 | 1 432 | 633 | 105 | 7 302 | 1 242 |
| Electrical & Mechanical Engineering | 924 | 142 | 18 790 | 2 745 | 881 | 100 | 14 879 | 1 668 |
| Property Management | 386 | 36 | 8 663 | 771 | 385 | 44 | 7 928 | 842 |
| Insurance | 345 | 42 | 8 927 | 986 | 342 | 45 | 7 590 | 909 |
| Beauty Care | 693 | 101 | 11 453 | 1 627 | 686 | 106 | 9 356 | 1 367 |
| Building Maintenance & Decoration | 267 | 20 | 4 743 | 289 | 264 | 21 | 3 800 | 239 |
| Hotel | 145 | 29 | 3 142 | 557 | 141 | 25 | 2 690 | 386 |
| Real Estate Agents | 30 | 6 | 653 | 119 | 28 | 4 | 291 | 55 |
| Road Passenger Transport | 90 | 9 | 1 997 | 200 | 88 | 7 | 1 761 | 142 |
| Elderly Care | 256 | 48 | 5 985 | 1 056 | 251 | 64 | 5 591 | 1 340 |
| Films, TV & Entertainment | 116 | 9 | 2 316 | 178 | 116 | 13 | 2 031 | 211 |
| Sports & Recreation | 70 | 10 | 1 491 | 206 | 66 | 9 | 1 236 | 165 |

| Industry | No. of classes started | | No. of trainees enrolled | | No. of classes completed | | No. of trainees completed training | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 |
| Horticulture & Floral Art | 76 | 41 | 1 173 | 637 | 72 | 51 | 993 | 699 |
| Watches, Clocks & Jewellery | 50 | 50 | 985 | 985 | 36 | 36 | 632 | 632 |
| Medical & Health Care | 43 | 43 | 888 | 888 | 29 | 29 | 559 | 559 |
| Automobile ¹ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 7 198 | 866 | 147 217 | 16 234 | 7 036 | 838 | 121 956 | 13 497 |

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate², course retention rate³ and passing rate⁴ up to March 2006 were 94.0%, 84.3% and 93.5% respectively. 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 92.9%) and the performance of the trainers (about 97.4%).

Quality Assurance

4. 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 these course providers. Figures of these visits are summarised below –

| | Cumulative up to 31.3.2006 | From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006 |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) Administrative inspections ⁵ | 4 183 | 183 |
| (b) Academic inspections ⁶ | 2 394 | 163 |
| (c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments ⁷ | 7 036 | 838 |

1 Automobile industry joined SUS in early September 2005. The first batch of courses will be launched in August 2006.

2 This is the percentage of the total number of trainees enrolled against the total number of planned training places.

3 This is the percentage of the total number of trainees completing the course against the total number of trainees enrolled of the completed classes.

4 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.

5 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.

6 Academic inspections are conducted by industry working group's representatives with the relevant background. The inspectors will sit in the class to observe how the trainers are conducting their classes.

7 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.

5. 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 October 2005 to March 2006, the performance of the course providers and the respective trainers were generally satisfactory.

Education and Manpower Bureau

May 2006