

Proposed research outline

Minimum wage systems in selected places

1. Background

1.1 At the meeting of the Panel on Manpower on 17 May 2007, the Panel requested the Research and Library Services Division (RLSD) to update the research report entitled "Minimum Wage Systems" (RP08/98-99) published in May 1999 to facilitate Members' discussion on the situation in Hong Kong.

2. Proposed outline

2.1 RLSD proposes the following outline for the research:

Part 1 — Introduction

- (a) This part provides the background information of the research.

Part 2 — Detailed discussion on the minimum wage systems in selected places, including:

- (a) development of the minimum wage systems;
- (b) coverage of the minimum wage systems;
- (c) minimum wage rates;
- (d) process of determining the minimum wage rates;
 - (i) authorities for determining the minimum wage rates;
 - (ii) criteria for determining the minimum wage rates; and
 - (iii) procedures for determining the minimum wage rates;
- (e) characteristics of minimum wage workers;
- (f) enforcement and penalty; and
- (g) empirical studies evaluating the impact of the minimum wage systems.

Part 3 — Analysis

- (a) Comparison of the various attributes of the minimum wage systems in selected places.

3. Proposed places to be studied

3.1 To provide a complete update for the Panel, RLSD proposes to examine the same 10 places studied in the research report published in May 1999:

- (a) Australia;
- (b) France;
- (c) Japan;
- (d) Singapore;
- (e) South Korea;
- (f) Guangdong;
- (g) Shenzhen;
- (h) Taiwan;
- (i) The United Kingdom; and
- (j) The United States.

4. Proposed completion date

4.1 RLSD proposes to complete the research by September/October 2007.

Research and Library Services Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
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