

NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Twelfth 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 twelfth report in the series, covering the period from April to September 2007.

PROGRESS

Courses

2. As at 30 September 2007, 9 616 classes benefiting a total of 193 105 workers were launched since the commencement of SUS in September 2001, of which 162 058 from 9 487 classes had completed training. Details of the courses, broken down by industry, are as follows –

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007
Printing	603	47	8 810	680	592	47	7 129	556
Chinese Catering	606	40	14 014	821	602	50	12 004	868
Import / Export Trade	550	46	11 862	905	535	51	8 128	660
Wearing Apparel / Textile	216	1	4 421	15	216	1	3 071	11
Transport	206	20	5 445	516	201	18	4 729	435
Retail	1 167	82	25 579	1 673	1 156	81	22 755	1 470
Tourism	530	14	12 602	323	526	16	10 804	310
Hairdressing	855	75	12 429	1 061	855	78	9 932	861
Electrical & Mechanical Engineering	1 224	47	24 307	854	1 214	55	20 175	852
Property Management	479	27	10 665	581	475	25	9 678	472

/Insurance

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007	Cumulative up to 30.9.2007	From 1.4.2007 to 30.9.2007
Insurance	503	67	12 855	1 685	497	63	11 127	1 461
Beauty Care	832	85	13 631	1 329	815	68	11 106	912
Building Maintenance & Decoration	308	16	5 314	232	307	15	4 294	181
Hotel	158	7	3 383	133	158	7	2 961	114
Real Estate Agents	41	1	842	20	41	2	479	30
Road Passenger Transport	105	4	2 330	90	105	4	2 126	82
Elderly Care	356	41	8 292	941	347	36	7 674	789
Films, TV & Entertainment	129	4	2 543	66	125	0	2 162	0
Sports & Recreation	120	28	2 531	569	114	30	2 185	605
Horticulture & Floral Art	257	51	3 904	740	253	50	3 465	662
Watches, Clocks & Jewellery	143	39	2 809	771	132	37	2 168	566
Medical & Health Care	197	39	3 935	755	190	44	3 400	723
Automobile	31	5	602	99	31	6	506	96
Total	9 616	786	193 105	14 859	9 487	784	162 058	12 716

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate¹, course retention rate² and passing rate³ up to September 2007 were 93.3%, 84.6% 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 93.6%) and the performance of the trainers (about 96.7%).

Quality Assurance

4. To monitor the quality of training offered by course providers, the SUS Secretariat and the respective Industry Working Groups (IWGs) continued to arrange for representatives to pay three types of regular visits to these course providers. Figures of these visits are summarised below –

/(a)

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

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

3 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.

	Cumulative up to 30 September 2007	From 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007
(a) Administrative inspections ⁴	5 056	336
(b) Academic inspections ⁵	3 236	336
(c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments ⁶	9 518	784

5. The SUS Secretariat continued to prepare investigation and assessment reports and to submit them regularly to the respective IWGs for monitoring purpose. During the period from April to September 2007, performance of course providers and the respective trainers remained generally satisfactory.

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4 Administrative inspections are conducted to check whether class arrangements conform to 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.

5 Academic inspections are conducted by IWG representatives with relevant background. Inspectors will sit in the class to observe how trainers conduct classes.

6 The IWGs arrange representatives to invigilate end-of-course assessments to ensure that training bodies are conducting assessments strictly in accordance with approved procedures.