



Labour Department (Headquarters)

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18 July 2008

Clerk to the Manpower Panel
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Mr Raymond LAM)
Fax: 2509 0775

Dear Mr LAM,

Legislative Council Panel on Manpower meeting on 18 October 2007
“One-stop” employment service

The LegCo Panel on Manpower discussed the policy initiatives relating to the labour and manpower portfolio in the 2007-08 Policy Address at its meeting on 18 October 2007. The Administration was requested to provide information on the employment situation of trainees and the number of those who failed to secure a job after attending the training programmes. Relevant information is appended below.

Employees Retraining Board (“ERB”)

With the objective of assisting the unemployed and local workers to re-enter the job market and sustain employment by acquiring new or enhanced vocational skills, ERB offers a wide range of retraining courses to eligible persons.

Graduates of placement-tied retraining courses offered by ERB are normally provided with a three-month placement follow-up service. Against the benchmark of 70%, these courses have achieved an average placement rate of about 85% in 2007-08. For the purpose of assessing the employment situation of graduates, employment retention surveys are conducted six months after the three-month placement follow-up period. In 2007-08, 68% of those successfully placed remained in employment nine months after completion of the course.

Labour Department (“LD”)

LD runs the Youth Pre-employment Training Programme (“YPTP”) and the Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme (“YWETS”) for young people aged 15 to 24. YPTP offers a wide range of pre-employment training on leadership, interpersonal, computer and job-specific skills, whereas YWETS assists trainees to gain employment in order to obtain on-the-job training.

Both YPTP and YWETS operate on a programme year basis running from September each year to August of the ensuing year. The 2007-08 programme is still in progress.

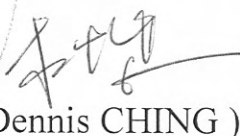
For the 2006-07 programme, YPTP trained 6 484 youngsters. According to the results of placement surveys on their employment status, excluding those pursuing further studies, 71.2% of the trainees were in employment. For YWETS, the 2006-07 programme registered 10 578 trainees and secured 7 114 placements. To keep track of YWETS trainees’ employment situation, a survey was conducted by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in early 2008. The findings revealed that 80.2% of the surveyed trainees of the 2006-07 programme were in employment.

Social Welfare Department (“SWD”)

Under the Support for Self-reliance (“SFS”) Scheme, unemployed able-bodied Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (“CSSA”) recipients are provided with employment assistance by SWD. SWD has also commissioned non-governmental organisations to operate intensive employment assistance projects. In these projects, training is provided on social skills, job-seeking skills, job skills, etc. to the participants.

As at the end of 2007-08, the number of CSSA recipients participating in the SFS Scheme was 31 308. During the year, 9 763 CSSA recipients succeeded in taking up full-time paid employment.

Yours sincerely,



(Dennis CHING)

for Commissioner for Labour