

NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fourteenth 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 fourteenth report in the series, covering the period from April to September 2008.

PROGRESS

Courses

2. As at 30 September 2008, 11 087 classes benefiting a total of 219 688 workers were launched since the commencement of SUS in September 2001, of which 184 788 from 10 964 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 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 |
| Printing | 675 | 35 | 9 828 | 510 | 664 | 37 | 7 993 | 468 |
| Chinese Catering | 678 | 43 | 15 494 | 887 | 674 | 49 | 13 200 | 807 |
| Import / Export Trade | 645 | 53 | 13 722 | 1 037 | 633 | 52 | 9 454 | 738 |
| Wearing Apparel / Textile | 229 | 8 | 4 627 | 126 | 227 | 9 | 3 201 | 103 |
| Transport | 221 | 12 | 5 878 | 356 | 219 | 11 | 5 185 | 298 |
| Retail | 1 330 | 76 | 28 800 | 1 481 | 1 310 | 69 | 25 349 | 1 212 |
| Tourism | 553 | 11 | 13 083 | 235 | 552 | 13 | 11 281 | 257 |
| Hairdressing | 997 | 67 | 14 436 | 946 | 986 | 62 | 11 453 | 713 |
| Electrical & Mechanical Engineering | 1 338 | 71 | 26 429 | 1 307 | 1 329 | 77 | 22 003 | 1 223 |
| Property Management | 543 | 27 | 11 984 | 550 | 537 | 29 | 10 804 | 524 |
| Insurance | 614 | 74 | 15 538 | 1 859 | 612 | 77 | 13 593 | 1 732 |

/Beauty

| Industry | No. of classes started | | No. of trainees enrolled | | No. of classes completed | | No. of trainees completed training | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 | Cumulative up to 30.9.2008 | From 1.4.2008 to 30.9.2008 |
| Beauty Care | 970 | 69 | 15 662 | 1 009 | 970 | 76 | 12 995 | 930 |
| Building Maintenance & Decoration | 341 | 23 | 5 832 | 365 | 340 | 22 | 4 726 | 294 |
| Hotel | 193 | 34 | 3 990 | 586 | 190 | 31 | 3 435 | 457 |
| Real Estate Agents | 60 | 16 | 1 095 | 207 | 58 | 14 | 639 | 121 |
| Road Passenger Transport | 113 | 7 | 2 502 | 147 | 113 | 7 | 2 293 | 142 |
| Elderly Care | 404 | 21 | 9 381 | 477 | 399 | 20 | 8 795 | 439 |
| Films, TV & Entertainment | 142 | 8 | 2 748 | 117 | 137 | 7 | 2 317 | 96 |
| Sports & Recreation | 134 | 8 | 2 823 | 167 | 132 | 6 | 2 510 | 116 |
| Horticulture & Floral Art | 383 | 53 | 5 634 | 703 | 380 | 56 | 5 067 | 697 |
| Watches, Clocks & Jewellery | 183 | 30 | 3 498 | 511 | 174 | 23 | 2 818 | 372 |
| Medical & Health Care | 288 | 45 | 5 665 | 904 | 277 | 51 | 4 814 | 860 |
| Automobile | 36 | 2 | 700 | 39 | 36 | 2 | 591 | 33 |
| Market Vending | 11 | 5 | 246 | 113 | 11 | 5 | 214 | 101 |
| Environmental Hygiene | 6 | 6 | 93 | 93 | 4 | 4 | 58 | 58 |
| Total | 11 087 | 804 | 219 688 | 14 732 | 10 964 | 809 | 184 788 | 12 791 |

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate¹, course retention rate² and passing rate³ up to September 2008 were 93%, 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 (94%) and the performance of the trainers (96.6%).

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 2008 | From 1 April 2008 to 30 September 2008 |
|---|---|---|
| (a) Administrative inspections ⁴ | 5 771 | 454 |
| (b) Academic inspections ⁵ | 3 951 | 454 |
| (c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments ⁶ | 10 995 | 809 |

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 2008, 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.