

NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fifteenth 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 fifteenth report in the series, covering the period from October 2008 to March 2009.

PROGRESS

Courses

2. As at 31 March 2009, 11 710 classes benefiting a total of 230 773 workers were launched since the commencement of SUS in September 2001, of which 194 472 from 11 583 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 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009
Printing	706	31	10 269	441	694	30	8 390	397
Chinese Catering	697	19	15 860	366	690	16	13 490	290
Import / Export Trade	669	24	14 178	456	662	29	9 838	384
Wearing Apparel / Textile	234	5	4 699	72	233	6	3 271	70
Transport	229	8	6 072	194	227	8	5 363	178
Retail	1 405	75	30 250	1 450	1 392	82	26 744	1 395
Tourism	576	23	13 511	428	575	23	11 691	410
Hairdressing	1 050	53	15 210	774	1 039	53	12 122	669
Electrical & Mechanical Engineering	1 403	65	27 602	1 173	1 386	57	22 880	877
Property Management	569	26	12 465	481	564	27	11 255	451

/Insurance

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009	Cumulative up to 31.3.2009	From 1.10.2008 to 31.3.2009
Insurance	674	60	16 928	1 390	667	55	14 756	1 163
Beauty Care	1 017	47	16 325	663	1 008	38	13 458	463
Building Maintenance & Decoration	357	16	6 053	221	358	18	4 946	220
Hotel	203	10	4 137	147	203	13	3 565	130
Real Estate Agents	72	12	1 237	142	72	14	755	116
Road Passenger Transport	116	3	2 564	62	116	3	2 354	61
Elderly Care	433	29	10 002	621	428	29	9 375	580
Films, TV & Entertainment	143	1	2 765	17	143	6	2 382	65
Sports & Recreation	138	4	2 898	75	136	4	2 591	81
Horticulture & Floral Art	406	23	5 947	313	402	22	5 348	281
Watches, Clocks & Jewellery	195	12	3 717	219	191	17	3 081	263
Medical & Health Care	331	43	6 400	735	319	42	5 487	673
Automobile	37	1	717	17	37	1	607	16
Market Vending	13	2	272	26	13	2	235	21
Environmental Hygiene	25	19	462	369	23	19	394	336
Domestic & Personal Services	12	12	233	233	5	5	94	94
Total	11 710	623	230 773	11 085	11 583	619	194 472	9 684

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate¹, course retention rate² and passing rate³ up to March 2009 were 93%, 84.7% and 93.4% 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 31 March 2009	From 1 October 2008 to 31 March 2009
(a) Administrative inspections ⁴	6 137	366
(b) Academic inspections ⁵	4 317	366
(c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments ⁶	11 614	619

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 October 2008 to March 2009, 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.