

(Translation)

To : Bills Committee on Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 1999
From : Mr TSANG Kin-shing

19 March 1999

My views on the Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 1999 are as follows:

1. I strongly oppose the retention of Functional Constituencies (FCs) and the Election Committee (EC) in the Legislative Council (LegCo) election to be held in 2000. I urge for the abolition of all FC and EC seats. All 60 seats in the LegCo should be returned on the basis of Geographical Constituencies (GCs).
2. I oppose the adoption of the proportional representation system for the GC elections. Instead, the "single seat single vote" system which is more acceptable and comprehensible to the general public should be used.
3. The polling day should be designated as a cooling-off period.
4. Under the existing electoral provisions, the election deposit of a candidate will be forfeited if the number of votes the candidate obtained is less than 5% of the total number of votes. The Government should, at the same time, partially subsidize the election expenses of a candidate if the votes he/she secured exceeds a certain percentage of the total number of votes. This can encourage those who are supported by the public to participate in the election.
5. I support the pilot scheme of advance polling which enables people who cannot cast their votes on the polling day to vote in advance so that they can perform their civic responsibilities.
6. I support the revision of the electoral procedures so that unnecessary reelections can be avoided and the additional resources required for this purpose can also be reduced.

I would like to attend the Bills Committee meeting on 30 March 1999 to express my views and would appreciate it if you could make the necessary arrangements.