

EMBCR 4/3051/79 Pt. 25

2810 3561  
2899 2967  
13 March 2000

Mr Lau Chin-shek  
Chairman  
Panel on Manpower  
Legislative Council  
8 Jackson Road  
Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

**Restrictions on Driving Duties  
by Foreign Domestic Helpers**

At the joint meeting of the Panels on Manpower and Security on  
21 December 1999,  
you requested the Administration to issue letters to Executive Council Mem-  
bers, Legislative Council Members and senior government  
officials reminding them of the restrictions on driving duties by foreign dome-  
stic helpers.

When consulted by Education  
and Manpower Bureau, the Security Bureau is of the view that the minutes of  
the joint  
meeting do not record that the Administration has agreed to issue the letters,  
and the Administration has in fact not indicated  
agreement to do so. Since wide publicity has already been  
given to the restrictions and the new arrangement for individual  
employers to apply for  
exceptional permission, the Security Bureau sees no need to give further  
specific notices. It would be quite inappropriate to single out certain  
classes of people for special notification  
as the new policy applies to all foreign domestic helpers and  
employers. The Security Bureau sees no special reasons for Immigration Dep-  
artment to deviate from existing normal practices. A reminder in the form of  
a press release will be issued in due course.

Yours faithfully,

( K.K. Lam )  
for Secretary for Education and Manpower