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28 June 2002

Miss Flora TAI
Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs Supervision of the Chinese Temples Committee

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs held on 14 June 2002, we agreed to provide information on public complaints against keepers of temples under the Chinese Temples Committee (CTC).

According to CTC records, 19 complaints have been received from the public since 2000. These complaints mainly involve temple keepers' soliciting money from worshippers, unfriendly work attitude, filthiness of temples and so on. One of the complaints involved a temple keeper playing mahjong inside the temple. After investigation, the complaint was substantiated and the contract with the temple keeper was terminated.

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To maintain proper temple management service, the CTC Secretariat will take

immediate action on any complaints received. For instance, temple inspectors

will visit the temples concerned in order to verify and investigate complaints. If a

complaint is substantiated, the inspector will give verbal warning right away and

request the temple keeper and his staff to rectify the situation. Where further

investigation is required, the temple keeper concerned will be invited to explain to

the CTC Secretariat in person with a view to working out improvement measures.

Both the complaint and the warning issued will be placed on record for reference

when considering the temple keeper's future tender for temple keepership.

I hope Members will find the above information useful.

Yours sincerely,

(Charles CHAN) for Secretary for Home Affairs