

## NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Fifth 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 fifth report in the series, covering the period October 2003 to March 2004.

#### PROGRESS

##### *Courses*

2. As at 31 March 2004, 3 579 classes benefiting a total of 75 997 workers have been launched since the commencement of the Scheme in September 2001. Of these, 61 528 trainees of 3 428 classes have completed training. Details of the courses, broken down by industries, are as follows –

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
	Cumulative up to 31.3.2004	During the period from 1.10.2003 to 31.3.2004	Cumulative up to 31.3.2004	During the period from 1.10.2003 to 31.3.2004	Cumulative up to 31.3.2004	During the period from 1.10.2003 to 31.3.2004	Cumulative up to 31.3.2004	During the period from 1.10.2003 to 31.3.2004
Printing	317	44	4 768	618	299	49	3 747	618
Chinese Catering	275	9	6 671	213	273	45	5 635	1 081
Import / Export Trade	169	50	4 058	1 106	140	22	2 413	404
Wearing Apparel / Textile	139	13	3 089	292	139	24	2 114	334
Transport	84	17	2 134	440	75	8	1 619	208
Retail	641	83	14 992	1 680	625	158	13 446	3 090
Tourism	305	56	7 369	1 321	301	69	6 209	1 401
Hairdressing	322	65	4 770	937	312	63	3 644	754
Electrical & Mechanical Engineering	456	115	9 714	2 304	421	82	7 376	1 435
Property Management	210	59	4 721	1 320	202	58	4 192	1 235
Insurance	116	30	3 275	795	112	27	2 720	612
Beauty Care	272	87	4 720	1 387	262	93	3 778	1 287

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
Building Maintenance & Decoration	166	25	3 196	418	162	50	2 551	785
Hotel	87	12	2 039	217	87	26	1 820	302
Real Estate Agents	12	6	281	149	10	4	112	36
Passenger Transport	8	-	200	-	8	3	152	56
Elderly Care <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 579</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>75 997</b>	<b>13 197</b>	<b>3 428</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>61 528</b>	<b>13 638</b>

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate<sup>2</sup>, course retention rate<sup>3</sup> and passing rate<sup>4</sup> up to March 2004 are 96.0%, 84.1% and 90.3% 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 (about 91.6%) and the performance of the trainers (about 96.9%).

### *Quality Assurance*

4. To monitor the quality of training offered by the course providers, the SUS Secretariat and the respective industry working groups continued to arrange for representatives to pay three types of regular visits to these course providers. Figures of these visits are summarised below –

	<b>Cumulative up to 31.3.2004</b>	<b>During the period from 1.10.2003 to 31.3.2004</b>
(a) Administrative inspections <sup>5</sup>	3 567	190
(b) Academic inspections <sup>6</sup>	1 828	162
(c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments <sup>7</sup>	3 428	781

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1 The Elderly Care Sector joined the SUS in late June 2003. The first batch of courses was provided in mid-April 2004.

2 This is the percentage of the total number of trainees enrolled against the total number of planned training places.

3 This is the percentage of the total number of trainees completing the course against the total number of trainees enrolled.

4 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.

5 Administrative inspections are conducted to check whether the class arrangements conform to the 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.

6 Academic inspections are conducted by industry working group's representatives with the relevant background. The inspectors will sit in the class to observe how the trainers are conducting their classes.

7 The industry working groups arrange representatives to invigilate the end of course assessments to ensure that training bodies are conducting the assessments strictly in accordance with the approved procedures.

5. The Secretariat continued to prepare investigation and assessment reports and submitted them regularly to the respective industry working groups for monitoring purpose. During the period October 2003 to March 2004, the performance of the course providers and the respective trainers were generally satisfactory.

#### **ADDITIONAL INDUSTRY SECTORS**

6. Two new industry sectors, namely, the Sports & Recreation sector and the Films, TV & Entertainment sector, joined the SUS in February 2004. The respective industry working groups have been subsequently set up to follow up on the course development work.

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Education and Manpower Bureau  
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