

NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ninth 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 ninth report in the series, covering the period from October 2005 to March 2006.

PROGRESS

Courses

2. As at 31 March 2006, 7 198 classes benefiting a total of 147 217 workers have been launched since the commencement of the Scheme in September 2001. Of these, 121 956 trainees of 7 036 classes have completed the 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 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006
Printing	480	31	7 125	438	472	30	5 783	329
Chinese Catering	427	27	10 218	649	412	19	8 543	409
Import / Export Trade	371	32	8 328	614	363	39	5 729	556
Wearing Apparel / Textile	207	14	4 279	216	200	7	2 880	79
Transport	145	3	3 810	72	145	8	3 349	209
Retail	961	65	21 453	1 328	946	64	19 073	1 163
Tourism	481	10	11 507	241	480	12	9 960	296
Hairdressing	635	98	9 291	1 432	633	105	7 302	1 242
Electrical & Mechanical Engineering	924	142	18 790	2 745	881	100	14 879	1 668
Property Management	386	36	8 663	771	385	44	7 928	842

/Insurance

Industry	No. of classes started		No. of trainees enrolled		No. of classes completed		No. of trainees completed training	
	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006
Insurance	345	42	8 927	986	342	45	7 590	909
Beauty Care	693	101	11 453	1 627	686	106	9 356	1 367
Building Maintenance & Decoration	267	20	4 743	289	264	21	3 800	239
Hotel	145	29	3 142	557	141	25	2 690	386
Real Estate Agents	30	6	653	119	28	4	291	55
Road Passenger Transport	90	9	1 997	200	88	7	1 761	142
Elderly Care	256	48	5 985	1 056	251	64	5 591	1 340
Films, TV & Entertainment	116	9	2 316	178	116	13	2 031	211
Sports & Recreation	70	10	1 491	206	66	9	1 236	165
Horticulture & Floral Art	76	41	1 173	637	72	51	993	699
Watches, Clocks & Jewellery	50	50	985	985	36	36	632	632
Medical & Health Care	43	43	888	888	29	29	559	559
Automobile ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7 198	866	147 217	16 234	7 036	838	121 956	13 497

3. The cumulative overall trainee enrolment rate², course retention rate³ and passing rate⁴ up to March 2006 were 94.0%, 84.3% and 93.5% 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 92.9%) and the performance of the trainers (about 97.4%).

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 –

/(a)

1 Automobile industry joined SUS in early September 2005. The first batch of courses will be launched in August 2006.

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 of the completed classes.

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.

	Cumulative up to 31.3.2006	From 1.10.2005 to 31.3.2006
(a) Administrative inspections ⁵	4 183	183
(b) Academic inspections ⁶	2 394	163
(c) Invigilation of end-of-course assessments ⁷	7 036	838

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 2005 to March 2006, the performance of the course providers and the respective trainers was generally satisfactory.

Education and Manpower Bureau
June 2006

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.