

LC Paper No. CB(4)1379/16-17(01)
(English version only)

The Administrator,
The Duty Lawyer Service,
Suites 808-9 Harcourt House,
39 Gloucester Road,
Wanchai, Hong Kong

30 May 2017

Subject: Review of the half-hourly payment arrangement

Dear Madam Grace Wong,

We express our gratitude for the implementation of the payment rate increment for Part-Time Interpreters, in accordance with the revised rate made by the Judiciary effective from 1 May 2017. Interpreters registered with the Judiciary are an integral part of the Judicial System and continue to render quality-interpreting services. We remain deeply concerned, however, about the arrangement of the prevailing rate on a half hourly basis, subsequent to the first two hours. While we understand that it has been the practice for years within the DLS, we would like to request you to review the half-hourly payment arrangement for the following reasons:

1. The Judiciary recognises the escalating inflation rate, thus the changes made from a half-hourly rate to an hourly rate after the first two hours. In the paper submitted to the Legislative Council Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services in May 2017 [LC Paper No. CB (4)1036/16-17(01)], the Judiciary states that the adjustment to the rate has been considered on the basis of “the CPI(A)¹ [which] is commonly used in the community as a reference in inflation adjustments for charges so as to maintain the purchasing power of the currency in face of changing prices.” Hence, we would particularly urge you to take the current inflation rate into account.
2. All the government departments have been following the Judiciary rates in the past, whereas the DLS is the only body that has deviated from the standard practice. If

¹ CPI(A) is one of the four series of Consumer Price Indices which reflect the impact of consumer price changes on households in different expenditure ranges. It is compiled based on the expenditure patterns of households, which covers some 50% of households in Hong Kong.

the DLS follows the rate competitively on a par with the Judiciary and the rest of the departments, interpreters will be encouraged to provide professional interpreting services to the DLS and that will continue to remain in their priority.

3. Finally, it is worthy of note that the Judiciary and the government departments usually assign interpreters in one particular case at a time, in exception to the times of being assigned to Court 1 of the magistracies where interpreters may handle several short hearings at a go. While being assigned to Court 1 of the Magistracies, interpreters have always assisted the Court Duty Lawyer offices too, despite being assigned by the Judiciary. In the CAT (Convention Against Torture)-DLS specifically, interpreters have always accommodated the requests made by the Court Liaison Officers by taking numerous calls in-between conferences, assisting in “Declaration” of newly-referred cases from the Removal Assessment Section of the Immigration Department, providing remote interpreting services over the telephone to make bookings free of cost, accompanying claimants from the MTR stations to the lawyers’ offices, as well as assisting in the assigned case for the day. This practice, which is applicable only to the CAT-DLS demonstrates that the interpreters have been giving professional services, whilst deviating from the standard practice of providing an interpretation service solely for the assigned case.

Enclosed is a list of the signatures of the Judiciary registered and non-registered interpreters for your perusal. We hope to receive a favourable result and continue to provide quality services to the DLS.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Judiciary-registered and non-registered Part-Time Interpreters

Contact person: Gurung Sangi, Reg. C038

Email: gurungss@netvigator.com

CC Hong Kong Bar Association; The Law Society of Hong Kong; Part-time Interpreters Unit, The Judiciary; Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services, Legislative Council - LC Paper No. CB (4)1036/16-17(01).

Serial No.	Full Name	Judiciary registration No.	Signature
1.	KARTARAHARDJA, Sugianto Registration No. C173	C173	
2.	Samarasekara, A.F.R.	116.	
3.	SCHARSIG, Rosalina Reg. No. C144	C144	Rosalina
4.	HU. MEY-RUEY	B267	FOR HU, MEY-RUEY Rosalina
5.	WONG, HENG-WUN	B005	SCHARSIG, Rosalina Reg. No. C144 FOR WONG, HENG-WUN Rosalina
6.	WIRIADI, YOLANDA	C097	SCHARSIG, Rosalina Reg. No. C144 FOR WIRIADI, YOLANDA Rosalina
7.	TUFAIL MOHAMMAD	C079	
8.	Khen Koshif Manawar	C148	
9.	BAUTISTA, JOANN C.	C035	
10.	陳秀蘭 (C069) Chan Sau Lan 印/中	C069	
11.	LEUNG MAN HOI	A213	
12.	TRUONG HE QUYN	A194	
13.	WONG GIN CHING	A291	
14.	CHONG YAT CHENG	C150	
15.	CHAN, MUI-KAN	046	SCHARSIG, Rosalina Reg. No. C144 FOR CHAN, MUI-KAN Rosalina
16.	TRUONG LE	A103	
17.	ALAMANI, Irma	Reg. No. 015	
18.	HUI, CHAN-YIP	68	SCHARSIG, ROSALINA FOR HUI, CHAN-YIP Rosalina
19.	Nadeem Amar	C145	
20.	ROY, HAIMAN TI	C020	
21.	SITI NURJANAH BABBS		

Serial No.	Full Name	Judiciary registration No.	Signature
1.	MARIA MA	A68	
2.	CHUMIKOM KHUN	A26	
3.	LIU CHUK LY	A56	
4.	YU YUN MUI	A160	
5.	MUN PIK HA	A87	
6.	LY TUY HUE	A223	
7.	SANTOS Yolanda Asuncion O.	041	
8.	ALI Tai Mui	A35	
9.	GAMIAO T. A	A295	
10.	Pishkarni Nelli	C048	
11.	Hajera K. Mida	C130	
12.	Dang Juee	A205	
13.	Bambang Eko Purwanto	C064	
14.	Andram Sehgupta	C-021	
15.	KAWUMA L.A.G.	A291	
16.	HARRY DONATUS ROM	C149	
17.	MISHRA TRIDEEP	C160	
18.	WIKI KAN SON	C127	
19.	SHARMA GOPALCHAND	C153	
20.	SENGUPTA NANDINI	C-090	
21.	VK PABIM RAHCEGMA	A235	
22.	DIN. NORMELITA B.	B145	
23.	RAI VISHALI	B284	
24.	MO MUMU AL	136	
25.	YU SHUN FONG	A018	
26.	SABINA FATIMA	B280	
27.	KARCHOUD JON	C070	
28.	AMARPA SINGH	C169	
29.	CHAN YING	B089	
30.	HUNG YUK CHING	B203	
31.	SUN YUK SHING	B155	
32.	ALI CHANMA	C157	
33.	Sharmina Ramiz	A300	
34.	Melwani Rajni Tarachand	018	
35.	UDOGWU PENTAMIN	C135	
36.	JALAL M.S.A HAMMED	B293	
37.	SINGHI SHAKUNTALA	B081	
38.	BIBI FATIMA	B015	
39.	CHEUNG OL HUNG	C123	
40.	JIWAN KARMA	C092	

SCHARSIG, Rosalina FOR CHAN YING
 SCHARSIG, Rosalina FOR HUNG YUK CHING
 Reg. No. C144

RAMIZ SHARMINA
 REG. NO. A300

SHARUNG SINGH
 FOR, JIWAN KARMA

Serial No.	Full Name	Judiciary registration No.	Signature
01	KHATI WADA GANGA KUMAR	C 140	
02	Gul ifat	C 164	
03	LIANTI	C 137	
04	Nyamaa Davaadorj	Mongolian IT	
05	HENG LYDIA WIDAYA	C 091	
06	PAUL HANSON	BENGAU IT	
07	YING SIM KUEN	089. Nepali I.T.	
08	KHON LAM SHUBHA BHAGWAN	HINDI/SINDHI C-126	
09	NASREEN RASHEEDA	URDU, PUNJABI IIT	
10	Cam So Yuet	A 96	
11	GURUNG SANGI	C 038	
12	ELISE TU	A 208	
13	THAPA ANJU	C 180	
14	WEARING SMITH M.GC	097	
15	Shaveef Jaleel	B 273.	
16	POON YUET KWAI	A 202	
17	SAJID KHAN	C 158	
18	Ranjay Jorj	C 175	
19	SYED MUHAMMAD NAEEM ASIM	C 166	
20	Subka Anjali	B 161	
21	FUNG SIU PANG	A 151.	

