By Fax: 2501 4504

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24 January 2002

Secretary for the Civil Service (Attn: Mr Stephen SUI) Government Secretariat 10th floor West Wing Central Government Offices Hong Kong

Dear Stephen,

LegCo Panel on Public Service

Management-initiated Retirement Scheme

As directed by Hon TAM Yiu-chung, Chairman of the Panel, I write to request the Administration to provide the following information in respect of the Management-initiated Retirement Scheme (MIR Scheme):

- (a) Please elaborate on the justifications of the retirement package offered under the MIR Scheme, in particular, on the relevant provisions of the pensions legislation;
- (b) Please provide the total amount of expenditure and total amount of ex-gratia payment involved since the implementation of the MIR Scheme in September 2000; and
- (c) Please outline the latest developments of the MIR Scheme since discussion at the Panel meeting on 21 May 2001.

On item (b) above, the Chairman is aware of the Administration's advice given at the Panel meeting on 21 May 2001 that the Administration is prepared to disclose in May 2002 the number of directorate officers retired under the MIR Scheme and the ex-gratia payment involved. To address the recent public concern about the retirement package offered under the Scheme, the Chairman requests early disclosure of the required information stated in item (b) above.

I should be grateful if you would let me have the information paper (in both Chinese and English, and with softcopy) by 7 February 2002 for circulation to members.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Salumi CHAN) Clerk to Panel

c.c. Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP (Chairman)