



tang joyce

To: taxreform@fstb.gov.hk

cc:

Subject: Comment on Tax Reform

25/07/2006 18:59

☐ Urgent☐ Return Receipt

Dear Sir,

I would like to express our strong view (which have been in mind for years) on the salary tax system in HK to the government. Though the current topic concerns about GST, we still wish to take the chance to reflect how unfair the tax system is to many 'middle class' families like us.

My family is a typical middle class family in HK, working parents with 2 kids (one at age 7 & one at 3), employ domestic worker to help housework and kids care, living in a mortgaged tiny flat.

The parents, so called middle class, earn HK\$60,000 in total per month, working near 12 hours per day, 5.5 days per week. Nearly none or minimum monetary benefits ever received from HKSARS, have to pay all kindergarten school fee, miscel. primary school fee, domestic worker tax, expensive mortgage for a tiny private flat for self use (HK\$2,250,000 for 600 square feet), insurance, medical expenses...etc. Most heavy burden is, apart from the mortgage, we have to contribute more than ONE MONTH hard earned salary to the Government every year. What does it means to us??? We have none left after deducting all those expensives listed above. My family does not have the privilege of travelling aboard for the past eight years, much worse than those receiving CSSA! That isn't the worse, the worse is that we are sacrificing our health, our time to spend with our kids for earning a seems to be very good income. But, the income only barely maintains, a standard of living which is not proportionate to the effort and time the middle class have spent throughout their entire life in HK. Please see, we born in late 60's, are not benefited from cheap flat and comfort work life as enjoyed by middle past in our previous generation.

We are being pressed breathless. We squeeze and squeeze and to be honest for the past three years we have to rely on tax loan due to the increase household expensives when the kids are born!!!

Thus, though we don't want to see GST, however, it is at the same time extremely unfair to ask the middle class to shoulder majority of government expenses. We sincerely hope that if the government has to implement GST for generating more income, please don't 'double' punish the midde class, i.e. GST + heavy salary tax. We are educated, civilised and doing our best without uttering a word, however, that doesn't mean that we should contribute endlessly. If GST is to be implemented, which means there are more people contributing their money to the government, tax to the middle class should be significantly reduced. Otherwise, our last hope and faith in the HK government will vanish!

Regards,

Middle Class Family