



07/08/2006 00:10
 Urgent
 Return Receipt

To: <taxreform@fstb.gov.hk>
cc:
Subject: I support the GST

Dear Sir

I speak for all the Hong Kong people that pay tax. And I believe I can speak for a lot more people who wish they pay tax, and wish they can make a difference to Hong Kong's future.

I support the GST for the following reasons:

1. We have a responsible government – and responsible government do what is right for the people. Not what is popular – the opposition party is trying to curry votes, and that's why they are publicly opposing it. For the opposition party, I challenge them to give the Hong Kong people a constructive plan to stabilize Hong Kong's public coffers.
2. We need stability - this means having enough tangible fiscal reserves to enable Hong Kong to ride out any economic storm. Talk is cheap – it's the financial might that gives Hong Kong our political muscle. Broadening our tax base therefore not only gives us the buffer to lessen the economic pains in a downturn, but also provides the financial means for Hong Kong to fund economic, social and political growth and development. Hong Kong has been lucky to thrive thus far from land sales proceeds. We cannot depend on luck to protect our children's future and Hong Kong's future. We need to take destiny into our own hands. GST ownership is one of the ways that Hong Kong people can feel proud to possess.
3. If Hong Kong is a bankrupt economy and needs to depend on economic hand-outs from the Chinese Government, we would lose our political independence totally – quicker before you say can say “D-E-M-O-C-R-A-C-Y”!
4. There's never a good time to implement GST –but the pain is much less if we implement GST when the economy is good. The time is now - before we encounter the next economic downturn.
5. GST has proven to work in many countries – why not Hong Kong?? We have the state-of- the-art technology to collect GST, and with our transparent and accountable government machinery we can ensure the tax collected is put under responsible management and into good public use.

Henry Tang is a responsible and courageous leader of the people. Hong Kong needs responsible and courageous leaders like Henry Tang and Donald Tsang. I do not support Donald Tsang on every political policy he has made – like the Tamar HQ for instance. But for GST, I am fully behind him and his team.

Hong Kong certainly do not need self-serving politician-wanna-be's like those members of the political parties that led the GST protest today. May I request that my annual tax dollar contributions do not go into paying those irresponsible people – let alone giving them the planned salary increase!!

Yours sincerely

Ms Teo Goon-Chin