

**Film Services Office Progress Report  
(August – October 2004)**

**Progress made**

**1. Facilitating location shooting**

**A. Government departments**

As at 31.10.2005, a total of 51 departments, most of them with venues suitable for location shooting, have agreed to accept applications from the industry. Subsequent to the formation of a working group comprising representatives from the Hong Kong Police Force, the Film Services Office (FSO) and the film industry in March this year, a total of three meetings have been held to explore the feasibility of employing policemen to assist in intermittent traffic control for filming convenience.

**B. Public and other bodies**

As at 31.10.2005, a total of 1 801 public and other bodies have agreed to accept applications for location shooting in their premises.

**C. Handling complicated applications for location shooting**

During the reporting period, FSO dealt with 105 complicated cases referred by the industry. Of which, 103 cases have been approved by the organizations concerned and 2 cases are being processed.

**D. Advising the industry on filming locations**

During the reporting period, FSO made 66 suggestions of filming locations to the industry.

**2. FSO publications and publicity campaign**

The 2005 edition of “Guide to Filming in Hong Kong” and “Film and Video Production Directory” are being compiled and are expected to be published in January 2005.

The FSO website has been providing information on film production for Hong Kong film-makers. In view of the increasingly comprehensive content of the website, FSO is revamping the website to make it more user-friendly. A brand-new website will be introduced in early 2005.

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### 3. Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance

During the reporting period, FSO processed 324 applications. A total of 102 stream A discharge permits (21 for film or television productions) and 103 stream B discharge permits (for theatrical productions) were issued. In addition, 24 special effects operator licences and 26 conveyance permits were issued. For the first ten months of this year, the average number of cases processed each month is 153, which shows a significant increase when compared with the average of 99 cases processed each month last year.

### 4. Facilitating promotion of local films overseas

With the assistance of FSO, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Washington, Toronto and Calgary organized Hong Kong Film Festivals from July to October this year. 23 Hong Kong films were shown during the period.

### 5. Promoting Hong Kong as a major film production centre in Asia overseas

#### A. Pusan International Film Commission & Industry Showcase

FSO participated in the Pusan International Film Commission & Industry Showcase held in October this year in Pusan, Korea to promote Hong Kong as Asia's major film production hub. During the 3-day exhibition, about 150 film-makers were received. They showed keen interest in the specific arrangements of locating shooting in Hong Kong, some of them even expressed interest in coming to Hong Kong for location shooting.

#### B. Overseas and Mainland production crews coming to Hong Kong for location shooting

During the reporting period, 36 overseas and Mainland production crews conducted location shooting in Hong Kong. The productions were divided into three categories, including 1 film, 29 TV programmes and 6 advertisements.

With the assistance from FSO and a number of government departments, the shooting of French film "La Moustache" in Hong Kong was successfully completed.

## Progress made

### **6. Training programmes**

The second training course of the “Training Programme for New Film Workers”, co-organised by the Federation of Hong Kong Filmmakers and the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education under the Vocational Training Council, commenced on 11 November 2004. The training programme is sponsored by the “Film, TV and Entertainment Industry Skills Upgrading Scheme” and receives a subsidy of \$1.2 million from the “Film Development Fund” for procurement of training equipment. A total of 162 trainees were admitted to this one-year full-time course. The Training Programme also introduces training for Stuntmen. This will be an evening course and admission of trainees is in progress.

### **7. Advanced digital technology training for film workers**

The “Digital Technology Training Fund” received a total of 11 applications in 2004-05. Assessment reports on the applications had been prepared by FSO. After consideration, 6 of the 11 applications were recommended by the vetting committee in October this year, entailing an allocation of about \$0.75 million.

### **8. Film Guarantee Fund (FGF)**

The FGF received one application in October this year and loan guarantee had been approved. The film concerned was “Himalaya Singh” (loans provided by HKCB Finance Limited). The amount of loan guaranteed was \$2.625 million.

As the two-year trial period of the FGF will expire in March next year, FSO has conducted a review on the effectiveness of the scheme with recommendations on the way forward.

### **9. The 24th Hong Kong Film Awards Presentation Ceremony**

The Hong Kong Film Awards Association has submitted application to FSO, detailing relevant information about the film awards presentation ceremony such as the scheme content and budget etc. FSO will examine the application and prepare an assessment report, which will be submitted to the Commissioner of Television and Entertainment Licensing for funding approval.

<b>Progress made</b>
<b>10. Registration system for film scripts and titles</b>  With regard to the industry's suggestion that registration systems for film scripts and film titles should be established in the trade as soon as possible, FSO had engaged a consultant to conduct a feasibility study. The consultant has completed its report and FSO will consult the industry on the findings.

Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
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