

<i>Press July 18, 1996</i>	
Headline :	<i>Improvements on Performance Assessment Scoring System</i>
Content :	<p>The following is issued on behalf of the Housing Authority:</p> <p>The Housing Authority's Building Committee today (Thursday) was informed of the improvements on the Performance Assessment Scoring System (PASS) and score analysis.</p> <p>PASS, first introduced in 1991, provides an objective means to measure contractors' performance directly against definite standards and serves as a tool for comparing relative performance of individual contractors on a fair and consistent basis,? said an Housing Authority spokesman.</p> <p>Scores above the upper quartile (75%) of the highest score represents relatively good performance whereas scores below Lower Score Threshold (LST) drawn at the lower quartile (25%) represents relatively unsatisfactory performance.</p> <p>Contractors who perform to the required standard will have more tendering opportunities than those who do not, he added.</p> <p>The general performance of the contractors in the majority as represented by the upper quartile, median and lower quartile scores had kept on improving over time, noted the spokesman.</p> <p>To further improve the quality assurance of Home Ownership Scheme and rental projects, the PASS Working Group conducted a system review in 1995 and embarked on a major revision of the Output Assessment for the 1996 edition of PASS, he continued.</p> <p>The revision includes streamlining assessment procedures such as merging domestic and non-domestic block assessments, comprehensive coverage of the assessment of works done on site, differentiating varied degree of contractors' compliance with standards, and optimizing the use of personal computer to improve efficiency and enhance consistency.</p> <p>In the 1996 edition, a bonus/penalty system has been introduced into the scoring system to provide more incentives for the contractors to achieve better workmanship, the spokesman said.</p> <p>To address to the Authority's concern over safety and progress performances, more emphasis will be placed on the assessment of block/site related safety factors in the Output Assessment, and programming/progress aspect in Input Assessment, the spokesman stressed.</p> <p>The Department will continue to monitor the implementation of safety plan and safety audit through liaison with the Labour Department and the Occupational Safety and Health Council, and to investigate the feasibility for developing PASS for Private Sector Participation Scheme.</p>

END/Thursday, July 18, 1996

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