

Newspapers and news agencies registration fees revised

Various fees related to the registration of news agencies and local newspapers as well as licence fees for newspapers distributors will be revised from December 1, 2005.

Under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance (Cap 268) (RLNO), the 11 fees adjustments, with two reductions and nine increases, were gazetted today (June 17).

A Home Affairs Bureau spokesman said today that it was government policy to set fees at levels adequate to recover the full cost of providing the services. After the adjustments, three of the fee items would achieve full cost recovery. Further fee increases are expected in relation to the remaining eight items.

The spokesman said that fees under the RLNO had remained unchanged since 1994 and the adjustments would have very little impact on people's daily lives or the running cost of business operators.

Ends/Friday, June 17, 2005