SHANXI CENTRAL'S DEPUTY CHAIRMAN SUED FOR \$HK34 MILLION

The Deputy Chairman of publicly listed Shanxi Central Pharmaceutical International Ltd (Code: 327, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd) has been sued by the holder of his Promissory Note for about \$HK34 million – after a couple of Mr Shi Yue Ming's \$HK500,000-cheques bounced.

This is the guts of High Court Action Number 2441, which was lodged in the High Court of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), last week.

According to the Statement of Claim, attached to the Writ of Summons, Mr Shi Yue Ming, who is, also, known as Mr David Y.M. Shi, 'was indebted to one Mr. Lau Sze Yen ... in respect of various loans lent by Mr. Lau to the Defendant on divers dates.' (Paragraph One of the Statement of Claim)

Mr Lau is alleged to have assigned his interest in the debts, owed to him by Mr Shi Yue Ming to Forever Top Investment Ltd, the Plaintiff in this Action.

The amount of the Assignment was \$HK34 million, that sum of money, confirmed to have been owing to Mr Lau, as at November 15, 2002, by the Defendant of the Action, Mr Shi Yue Ming.

Paragraph 6 of the Statement of Claim alleges that, on November 15, 2002, Forever Top Investment 'made and delivered to the Plaintiff a Promissory Note in the sum of HK\$34,000,000 ... payable in instalments set out in the schedule thereunder commencing on the 15th day of December 2002 and in default of any instalment to pay to the Plaintiff on demand the whole balance then unpaid whether or not there had been any waiver of any previous instalment.'

It is alleged at Paragraph 7 (4) that Mr Shi Yue Ming 'acknowledged notice of and consented to (the) assignment of the said debt assigned by Mr. Lau to the Plaintiff and the Defendant further covenanted and agreed to repay the same to the Plaintiff or to whom the Plaintiff may appoint.'

It is, then, alleged that Mr Shi Yue Ming drew a total of 57, post-dated cheques in the total sum of \$HK34 million, all drawn in favour of Forever Top Investment.

But, it is alleged at Paragraph 8, that when Forever Top Investment presented the first cheque to be cashed, on December 17, 2002, it was returned with the notation: '*Refer to drawer*' and '*Drawer's signature differs from specimen in our possession*.'

The cheque was in the amount of \$HK500,000 and was drawn on The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd.

On January 24, 2003, there was a repeat performance to that which took place on December 17, 2002.

That cheque was, also, in the sum of \$HK500,000, and it was, also, drawn on The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd.

Now, tired of messing around, Forever Top Investment wants all of its money and is not willing to give it another go to try for the third time to cash one of Mr Shi Yue Ming's cheques.

According to **TOLFIN** (**TARGET**'s Computerised Online Financial Intelligence Service and Credit-Checking Provider), there is a company, called Forever Top Investments Ltd, which is owned 100 percent by the publicly listed company, Lei Shing Hong Ltd (Code: 238, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd). It is likely that the company, Forever Top Investment Ltd ... <u>CLICK TO ORDER FULL ARTICLE</u>

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