

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE DONALD TSANG YAM KUEN:
IS HE NOW, AND WAS HE EVER, THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB ?**

Questions may, perhaps, in due course, be raised as to whether or not the Chief Executive of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) is, or ever was, the right man for the job.

Is he capable, now, or has he, ever, been capable of leading the 7-million-plus human population of the territory, as Beijing's appointed leader of these 416 square miles, in good times as well as bad times?

Has he, ever, been tuned into the aspirations of the people over whom he is expected to be their role model?

Mr Donald Tsang Yam Yuen () was never chosen by the people of the HKSAR, but appointed by Beijing in what could only be described as a mock election – with nobody else, wanting, or willing, to compete with The Chosen One for the top job.

On appointment as Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen said, inter alia: *'I will do a good job.'*

And so, one has to ask the questions, in retrospect:

For whom was he referring when he said that he would do a good job:

- a. To do a good job for the 7 million-plus human population of the HKSAR;
- b. To do a good job for the Beijing politicians, who appointed him in the first instance;
- c. To do a good job for the Moguls of the HSKAR; or,
- d. To do a good job in order to lay the foundations for his future after his term of office as Chief Executive expires?

TARGET () believes, strongly, that journalists should maintain the stance of being apolitical, but, at the same time, they should be able to analyse political history as it unfolds.

In the case of Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, he appears to have made one political faux pas after another since he took office.

These faux pas are too numerous to list, but suffice it to say, they could fill a tome.

Notwithstanding his mien, which is unfortunate, of course, and is hardly his fault since he was dealt his genetic *'cards'* about which he had no say, it is obvious that his propensity for politics and his knowledge of political science are sadly lacking.

Alternatively, he is a fool of the first order.

It is known that, on occasion, the Chief Executive has accepted invitations to join a party aboard a luxury

yacht to cruise the waters of the HKSAR.

Of late, it has been reported that he accepted a number of invitations to be a member of certain posh, HKSAR clubs – gratis.

It is, also, known that on at least one occasion, the yacht, on which he was a guest, was, beneficially, owned by big business interests of the HKSAR.

As a private person, such acceptance of an invitation to have a luncheon aboard a friend's yacht, it would go unnoticed because, after all, why should a person not enjoy his free time, soaking up the sun aboard somebody else's luxury motor boat.

But the problem is that the Chief Executive, on taking office, ceased to be a private person.

He became, on his induction as the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, a very public person.

It is said that a person, when walking through a melon field, should not stop in order to bend down to tie one's shoe laces ().

The reason for this proscription is clear: Stooping down in a melon field might be construed as being the act of a person with larcenous intent.

The incoming President of the United States of America knows, fully well, that, as soon as he takes the Oath of Office, he is under a microscope, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, and that his life becomes the property of the State.

Gifts from whomsoever, during his tenure of office, can never be his property: The gifts become the property of the State.

He cannot even eat in his favourite restaurant prior to him, taking office, unless the restaurant, along with its management and all staff members, has been scanned by his personal security agents.

Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen is, today, in a similar position to that of a President of the United States except, of course, that he is not, really, anywhere near as important as any leader of any nation of the globe.

In fact, it is unlikely that history will count him as being important, at all, except in respect of his ability to bend with the wind as it blows in Beijing.

The Light Bulb Incident

When the Chief Executive, in 2009, endorsed proposed new legislation on the use of more-efficient light bulbs in the territory, such legislation on the '*green*' light bulbs to become law in the near future, it appeared that he may have forgotten that his son's father-in-law was one of the 3, sole distributors of this type of light bulb.

One would have thought that the advisers of Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen would have reminded him of the oblique probability of a conflict of interests when supporting the proposed new legislation with regard to more-efficient light bulbs for the territory.

This is not to suggest that the Chief Executive had any evil intent in respect of the light-bulb incident, far from it, but it is indicative of the fact that, only too often, his mouth opens and makes utterances long before his brain has stopped its computations.

On October 16, 2009, at about the time of the light-bulb incident, the Hongkong University Students' Union penned a condemnation of the Chief Executive.

The condemnation said:

'On 15 October 2009, the Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen in his policy address avoided the issue of constitutional reform in Hong Kong and the future of Hong Kong's democratization. On the following day, he remarked that the consultations on reforms in 2012 would not include reference to universal suffrage in Hong Kong in 2017 and 2020, and that the future of functional constituencies has to be considered by public consultation since they cannot be kept at present form.'

'We are greatly disappointed by Mr. Tsang's lack of commitment in constitutional reform towards democracy and the failure to provide a roadmap to universal suffrage. We condemn his betrayal to the Hong Kong people in his failure to adhere to his election promise in 2007 to resolve the issue of universal suffrage. We are also shocked by Mr. Tsang's implication that functional constituencies may be retained in some form in the fully elected legislature in the future.'

'We maintain that functional constituencies must be abolished, as they are wholly inconsistent with the spirit of equal and universal suffrage as envisaged in the Basic Law, and we remain firm in our stance to press for true double universal suffrage in 2012. We stress that any attempt to retain functional constituencies in the ultimate model for universal suffrage would be deceiving the Hong Kong public, in total disregard for the Basic Law and the core values of democracy and equality.'

'We thus urge Mr. Tsang to fulfill his election promises and to push for true democracy in Hong Kong. We further urge that Mr. Tsang conveys to the Central Government the will of the Hong Kong people, and press for the realization of double universal suffrage by the year 2012.'

One month and 3 days later, the Hongkong University Students' Union issued a Resolution, demanding Universal Suffrage and the abolishment of Functional Constituencies by 2012.

Of course, the Hongkong University Students are only kids, aren't they?

As such, little weight needs to be placed of the Union's condemnation of the HKSAR Government, the Chief Executive and/or any of its demands.

But if kids can feel such frustration about the lack of progress of democratisation for the HKSAR, one must ponder whether or not such frustration is, also, felt by the man-in-the-street.

One has come to learn, only recently, that Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen is feeling a little uncomfortable about his position as the leader of 7 million-plus residents of the HKSAR because, on numerous occasions of late, he has referred to '*security considerations*.'

Only a fortnight ago, in trying to drum up public support for Beijing's proposals with regard to the 2012 elections of a new Chief Executive of the territory and a minor reform, which would permit 5 new Legislative Councillors to be elected without Functional Constituencies, being abolished, he kept secret, for security reasons, one was told, the places that he and his retinue would be visiting in order to stir up people to go along with his proposals.

His slogan, '**Act Now** (!)', reminded one of other political campaigns, held in various parts of Europe, just prior to the advent of World War II.

On June 1, 2010, a poll by The Hongkong University Public Opinion Programme placed the Chief Executive's ratings at 49 points.

On March 25, 2010, support for the Chief Executive stood at 52.50 points.

What the people of the HKSAR claim about the popularity of the Chief Executive is not very important because, at the end of the day, it is the opinion of Beijing that really matters.

As long as there is no suggestion of violent civil disobedience in the territory, the position of the Chief Executive is secure whether or not he is a capable leader.

For More On This Subject, Please Refer To:

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[DÉJÀ VU: THE PLAY'S THE THING](#)

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