

Background Analysis of the Candidates of the Election Committee for the Selection of the Chief Executive

I. From “small circle election” to “small circle coordination”

The Election Committee only allows the specified persons in the relevant sectors for participation. Due to its small size, those which possess power and privileges could be more influential in the selection of candidates for running in the election, and it is easier for those who has power and privileges to coordinate and exchange. There are signs indicating that invisible or closed-door coordination mechanisms had played an important role in the formulation of the candidate list from different sectors.

- The First Sector / Commercial
 - Out of the 16 sub-sectors in this sector, there are 9 sub-sectors in which the number of candidates standing are equal to the number of seats , rendering the seats to be uncontested
 - 158 seats are uncontested, which is more than half of the seats in the sector
- The Third sector (see photo)
 - Out of the five sub-sectors within the group, the candidates in the two sub-sectors are uncontested
 - 120 seats are uncontested, which is more than two-fifths of the seats in the sector
- The Fourth Sector
 - 55 seats are allocated to the sub-sector of the Hong Kong deputies of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (hereafter the CPPCC), the number of candidates standing are merely equal to the number of seats (total number of Hong Kong deputies of the CPPCC: 153)

II. Business background

1. Who belong to the “business sector”?

During our course of research, a stringent definition has been adopted on who shall be constituted as related with the “business sector”. We defined those who are in the “business sector” as those who are the majority shareholder and senior management personnel of major business enterprises, owners and directors of business enterprises, and those who claims themselves as “businessman”.

2. Participation from the Business Sector in the Election Committee

The number of seats occupied by the business sector in the Election Committee is definitely far more than the 300 persons in the First Sector (Commercial), counting the number of uncontested seats alone could serves as a simple and sufficient means to prove this argument.

As for the sub-sectors in the Third Sector (reflecting different sectors in the society) , out of the 180 candidates which are known to be the members in the Election Committee in this sector, the business sector accounted for 70 persons, reaching nearly 40%, of which five are from the Agriculture and Fisheries sector (Total number of seats: 60); Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication sector: 43 people (total number of seats: 60); and the Religious sector :22 persons (total number of seats: 60)

- In the sub-sectors of the Fourth Sector (political) : Out of the 151 uncontested seats in this sector, 80 persons could be classified as belonging to the business sector, which is more than half of the uncontested seats. Out of those who are in the business sector, 52 members are from the dedicated sector of the Hong Kong deputies of the CPPCC (Total: 55); 13 of them are the Hong Kong deputies of the National People's Congress (hereafter NPC) (Total: 36); while 15 members of the Legislative Council possess business background.
- The First, Third and Fourth Sectors: If we group the uncontested seats in the Third and Fourth sectors, and all the 300 seats in the First Sector

(Commercial), which are definitely being classified as “business”, if we combine them together, there are 631 seats in which the compositions and backgrounds of the candidates can be confirmed (180+151+300), out of these members, we could confirm that there are 450 persons would be belonging to the business sector, which constitutes more than 70% of such candidates .

3. Participation of Real Estate Developers in the Election Committee

The number of seats occupied by the real estate and construction sector in the Election Committee could be far more than 18 seats.

The candidates which are associated with real estate based conglomerates, or related with construction companies: 96 persons

Several large-scale property developers have deployed multiple candidates:

- Sun Hung Kai: 15
- Wharf: 10
- Cheung Kong/ Hutchison: 8
- Henderson: 8

The British-financed firms are not lagging-behind either :

- Jardine’s: 6
- Swire: 5

They were also running in other sectors:

- Hotel: 16
- Employers' Federation of Hong Kong: 8
- Transport: 8

4. The influence from of business and real estate sectors are far exceed than the abovementioned

- Among the professional sector, there are candidates who have a close business relationship with the business and real estate sectors, such as Legal; Accountancy; Architectural, Surveying and Planning, and Engineering, etc.

III. The Election Committee members which has a Close Relationships with the Mainland: We have chosen only the least controversial categories of background to represent the candidates having a close relationships with the Mainland

- National People's Congress: 36
- Hong Kong Deputies of the CPPCC sector: 55
- Hong Kong Deputies of the CPPCC (in other sectors): 40
- Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association: 16
- Senior management of Mainland-based companies (net of those being either the Hong Kong Deputies of the NPC, or the deputies of the CPPCC): 15

Total: 162 people, which is adequate in itself to nominate a candidate for the Chief Executive

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