

# Airport projects chief is promoted

By S Y Yue

CENTRAL co-ordinator of the airport projects Rafael Hui is to be promoted to reflect the complexity and importance of the Chek Lap Kok airport scheme.

Mr Hui is to report directly to the Chief Secretary, Sir David Ford, on matters concerning the co-ordination, publicity and provision of information to Omelco members on airport projects.

For progress on construction, he remained under the Secretary for Works.

The post is to be upgraded because Sir David wants stronger support

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for the internal committee on airport projects which he chairs.

A request to upgrade the post would be made formally to the Establishment Sub-committee soon. The post is to be staff grade A, one level below secretary.

Mr Hui is Deputy Secretary for Works, earning \$77,750 a month.

When the post is upgraded, he will earn \$10,000 more a month.

The promotion will also allow Mr Hui to liaise more easily with policy secretaries who now are two levels above him.

The proposal to upgrade the post was put forward last year.

“The post is a central link for all the airport projects,” a source said.

“It is much more complicated than the one to set up the Mass Transit Railway.”

The Secretary for Civil Services, Barrie Wiggham, said there was discussion on ways to cope with the increasing workload concerning the ports and airports projects.

“Thought is being given as to how best to organise some of the works areas, particularly with the increasing responsibility of the PADS projects,” Mr Wiggham said.

The complexity of the job will increase as the projects gain momentum.

In addition to liaising with various branches, consultants, the Provisional Airport Authority and councillors, Mr Hui will oversee contractors when construction starts.

Mr Hui has been in his present post five months but is assuming a more important role in the airport projects.

He will go to Beijing today with the Secretary for Treasury, Hamish Macleod, to attend the second round of airport talks with China.

Mr Hui has overseen the airport projects from their initial stages, before the site of Chek Lap Kok was selected.

Mr Hui is 43 and is considered smart and capable within the Government.

He joined the Government as an assistant education officer in 1970 and became an administrative officer one year later.