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\$90m for education research

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UNIVERSITIES and tertiary colleges would be given over \$90 million for research and development work in the 1988-1991 triennium, the Secretary for Education and Manpower, Mr Ron Bridge, said.

This amount, earmarked by the University and Polytechnie Grants Committee, was more than double the \$45 million grant for the current triennium, he said.

It reflected the great importance the Government attached to increasing the amount of research undertaken in the universities and polytechnics, he said.

Meanwhile, students in senior secondary, sixth-form and tertiary levels face fee increases as the Government felt they should shoulder a fair share of the costs

Mr Bridge said the fees in senior secondary and sixthform levels would be gradually increased over five years.

The fee revision, approved by the Executive Council last year, was aimed at restoring the real value of the fees originally set in 1978, he explained.

Mr Bridge also refuted earlier criticism from Dr Daniel Tse that the Education Commission needed restructuring and should be given more power because of its poor co-ordination with other educational advisory bodies.