

Workshop for the Committee on
Governance and Political Development of
the Commission on Strategic Development

**Topic: The Reality of Hong Kong and its
Constitutional Development**

Speaker: Dr Sung Lap-kung

Date: 28 February 2006

(I) The Reality of HKSAR

	<u>Problems to be handled</u>
1) Public opinion and sentiments surged after the handover; After the procession in 2003, the public believe that it is an effective way to challenge the Government	Increase channels for public participation
2) Economic and social transformation and the process of democratization have made effective governance more difficult.	Progress of Democratization Effective Governance

(I) The Reality of SAR

	<u>Problems to be handled</u>
3) The Central Government is highly concerned about, and has been actively participating in the HKSAR's constitutional development.	To ease the worries of the Central Government
4) The relationship between the executive and the legislature has been tense, and sometimes confrontational.	Rationalize the executive-legislative relationship
5) Development of political parties has become political reality despite being inhibited by the Basic Law	Development of party politics

(II) Factors to be considered in constitutional development

- 1) Changing situation of Taiwan
- 2) Impact arising from globalization
- 3) Challenges arising from the integration of the Mainland and Hong Kong
- 4) To drive constitutional development within the framework of the Basic Law. The Basic Law should not be amended unless when it is absolutely necessary.
- 5) Constitutional development should move forward not backward. Functional constituency should fade out.

(III) The Way Forward

- 1) A communication mechanism between the democrats and the Central Government should be set up.
- 2) To improve the governance of the HKSAR Government
- 3) To actively promote a communication mechanism with participation from the Central Government and various parties in Hong Kong to forge consensus on constitutional development.