

IRD Senior Assessor and husband charged for alleged \$1.3m housing allowance fraud**12.07.08**

The ICAC has charged a Senior Assessor of the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) and her husband for allegedly furnishing false information to deceive Private Tenancy Allowance (PTA) totalling over \$1.3 million from the Hong Kong Government.

Irene Tsoi Chi-yi, 47, Senior Assessor of IRD, and her husband **Cheng Kai-sum**, 48, Senior Director of Enforcement Division of the Securities and Futures Commission, will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Tuesday (July 15) on four counts of furnishing false information.

The case arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the above alleged offences.

One of the charges alleges that on September 28, 1990, Tsoi and Cheng, in furnishing information for obtaining PTA, had produced to the Government an application for PTA in relation to a leased property in Cloudview Road and a car parking space, which to their knowledge was misleading, false or deceptive in that it purported to show that Tsoi was eligible to claim and receive PTA in respect of the tenancy under the application.

Tsoi and Cheng face three similar charges concerning three other applications for PTA produced to the Government on April 22, 1992, November 12, 1992 and May 2, 1994 respectively in relation to another leased property in Stubbs Road and a car parking space.

ICAC enquiries revealed that the properties were owned by a company in which Cheng allegedly had a financial interest, and that Tsoi and Cheng had allegedly deceived PTA totalling over \$1.3 million from the Government by the above fraudulent means.

The defendants have been released on ICAC bail, pending their court appearance on Tuesday.