

**Press Release**

16/07/03

**Response Statement**

In response to press enquiries, an ICAC spokesman confirmed that an operation has been mounted this (Wednesday) morning in relation to corruption allegations over the preferential treatment of a number of singers, including the promotion of these singers and their hits on a music billboard.

Amongst 22 persons arrested today included two senior executives and an employee of a broadcasting company; a chairman, two senior staff members and an employee of an entertainment company; the president, a senior vice-president and a singer of a records company, five company directors, and seven individuals.

It was alleged that the arrested personnels of the records company and the entertainment company might have offered advantages to the broadcasting company? senior executives for ensuring that hits of certain of their singers would be given favourable positions on the billboard, and securing various musical awards granted by the broadcasting company.

During the ICAC operation, 26 other individuals have also been interviewed in connection with the investigation.

Inquiries are continuing.