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# Tax Avoidance

## Tax Avoidance, legal VS illegal

- Knowingly **fail to report income** or you don't file an income tax return
- Deliberately **underpaying taxes** owed.
- Under-reporting **income**
- Not reporting an income **source**.
- Providing **false information** to the IRS about business income or expenses
- **Overstating** the amount of **deductions**.



# HK Tax Avoidance

## Two-tiered profits tax rates

The profits tax rate for the **first \$2 million** of assessable profits will be lowered to **8.25%**.



# HK Tax Avoidance

## Salaries tax/profits tax distribution

The company distributes the company's profits to the directors' salaries tax through the remuneration of directors.  
example:

If the limited company's profit is within 2 million and your personal allowance is only a basic allowance of \$132,000, the company can give you a director's salary of \$232,000 (\$132,000+100,000).



Salaries

# HK Tax Avoidance

- Corporatize expenditures (commonly used by self-employed persons)
- Salaries tax **income deductible**, such as working expenses such as meals, rides, entertainment.
- As long as such **expenses** are **related** to your **business** and used to generate your taxable income, such expenses can be used for tax deduction.



# HK Tax Avoidance

- **Use a loss-making business to cut taxes**

According to the guidelines of the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Department, **losses** incurred by a company in a tax year can be **used** to **offset the profits** of the industry in subsequent years.

That is, if you have a company whose business is at a loss, inject profitable business into the company, and the loss and profit will be deducted to save tax.



# HK Tax Policy

- **Minimizing** taxable **income**
- **Controlling** the timing of **earnings** and **expenses**



# HK Tax Avoidance Example



## A company (China)

- Pay high trademark usage fee.
- Special taxation policies in China's
- Not famous in international market.

## B company (Hong Kong)

- Register a company B company in Hong Kong
- Registration of a HK trademark in both HK and the China.

## Result

- A company have their own international trademark.
- Tax avoidance in China.
- Listing and financing in HK.

## C company (China-HK)

- Establish a Chinese-foreign joint company with shareholders A and B.
- Company B take up 25% of capital contribution
- Company A invests in the garment production factory

# Country's Taxation Policy

## Principle:

Guaranteed fiscal revenue

Promote economic development

## The factors on making Taxation policy

1. The country's overall financial resources.
2. Taxpayer's ability and psychological endurance.
3. Economic development needs.
4. Industrial structure.
5. No mercy on tax evasion.



# Reference

- <http://www.rf.hk/case/906.html>
- <https://acaccountinghk.com/set-up-company/tax-reduction-method/>
- <https://www.thebalancesmb.com/tax-avoidance-vs-evasion-397671>