

立法會
Legislative Council

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**Paper for the House Committee meeting
on 13 October 2000**

**Questions scheduled for the
Legislative Council meeting on 18 October 2000**

Questions by:

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|------|---------------------|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon Kenneth TING | (Oral reply) |
| (2) | Hon HO Chun-yan | (Oral reply) |
| (3) | Hon CHAN Kam-lam | (Oral reply) |
| (4) | Hon LAW Chi-kwong | (Oral reply) |
| (5) | Hon CHAN Yuen-han | (Oral reply) |
| (6) | Hon LAU Kong-wah | (Oral reply) |
| (7) | Hon Fred LI | (Written reply) |
| (8) | Hon TAM Yiu-chung | (Written reply) |
| (9) | Hon CHAN Kwok-keung | (Written reply) |
| (10) | Hon LAU Kong-wah | (Written reply) |
| (11) | Hon LAW Chi-kwong | (Written reply) |
| (12) | Hon TAM Yiu-chung | (Written reply) |
| (13) | Hon CHAN Kwok-keung | (Written reply) |
| (14) | Hon Bernard CHAN | (Written reply) |
| (15) | Hon Fred LI | (Written reply) |
| (16) | Hon CHOY So-yuk | (Written reply) |

註 :

NOTE :

議員將採用這種語言提出質詢

Member will ask the question in this language

(1) 丁午壽議員 (口頭答覆)

內地各省、市海關執法時往往採用不同標準，加上執法標準時有變更，引致港商無所適從。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 當局會如何協助港商解決此問題；及
- (二) 會否增設一個專責辦事處，或在現行架構增添人手，處理港商作出的有關投訴及協助他們直接向各省、市的海關反映意見？

(1) Hon Kenneth TING (Oral Reply)

Regarding the confusion caused to Hong Kong businessmen by the different as well as the ever-changing enforcement standards adopted by the customs authorities of various provinces and municipalities in the Mainland, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) how it will assist Hong Kong businessmen in solving the problem; and
- (b) whether it will set up a dedicated office or increase the manpower resources under the existing framework for handling relevant complaints lodged by Hong Kong businessmen, as well as to assist them in reflecting their views directly to the customs authorities of various provinces and municipalities?

(2) 何俊仁議員 (口頭答覆)

現時，信用卡合約普遍訂明持卡人須補償發卡機構因追收持卡人欠款而引致的一切費用及開支。本年 7 月，高等法院原訟法庭裁定此彌償條款不合情理，因此不能強制執行；法院同時批評發卡機構收取高昂利息。就保障信用卡持卡人的權益事宜，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 香港金融管理局(簡稱“金管局”)有否評估上述條款及做法是否符合《銀行營運守則》的規定；過去兩年，金管局有否發現認可機構的行動違反了該守則的精神及規定，因而損害信用卡持卡人的權益；若有，該局曾經採取了甚麼跟進行動；
- (二) 鑒於《銀行營運守則》並不是法例，對不屬認可機構的發卡機構並無約束力，當局會否制定法例，以加強保障信用卡持卡人的權益；及
- (三) 爲了符合上述裁決的精神，當局會否制訂規則，就發卡機構因追收信用卡欠款而引致的費用的攤分事宜，設定持卡人須負擔的上限，並禁止發卡機構向持卡人收取過高利息？

(2) Hon HO Chun-yan (Oral Reply)

At present, it is commonly stipulated in credit card agreements that cardholders are required to compensate the card issuer for all the fees and expenses incurred for recovering outstanding credit card debts. The Court of First Instance of the High Court ruled in July this year that this indemnity clause was unconscionable and therefore could not be enforced. The Court also criticized the card issuer for charging exorbitant interests. Regarding the protection of the interests of credit card holders, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) whether the Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("HKMA") has assessed if the aforesaid clause and practice is in line with the provisions of the Code of Banking Practice; whether the HKMA has found in the past two years that authorized institutions acting in violation of the spirit and provisions of the Code, and consequently infringed upon the rights of credit card holders; if it has, of the follow-up actions HKMA has taken;
- (b) given that the Code of Banking Practice is not law and has no binding effect on those credit card issuers which are not authorized institutions, whether it will enact laws to enhance the protection of the interests of credit card holders; and
- (c) whether, in order to comply with the spirit of the above ruling, it will enact stipulations setting an upper limit on the amount the card holders should share in respect of the fees incurred for recovering outstanding credit card debts, and prohibiting card issuers from charging card holders exorbitant interests?

(3) 陳鑑林議員 (口頭答覆)

近日，房屋署通知觀塘平田邨的住戶，為避免一旦設置在露台內的膠喉起火時危害有關住戶的生命安全，他們在所住單位露台加裝窗戶前，須自行聘請承建商進行有關的防火工程。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 現時有哪些公共屋邨的露台設計與平田邨的相同，以及有關的住宅單位數目分別為何；
- (二) 當局是否准許所有該類型單位的住戶在露台加裝窗戶；及
- (三) 估計每宗該項防火工程所需費用為何；以及當局有否計劃為所有同類型的單位進行有關工程；若沒有計劃，原因為何？

(3) Hon CHAN Kam-lam (Oral Reply)

Recently, the Housing Department informed tenants of Ping Tin Estate in Kwun Tong that, in order to avoid endangering the lives of the tenants when the PVC pipes installed in the balconies are on fire, they are required to engage their own contractors to carry out the relevant fire safety works before retrofitting their balconies with windows. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the names of the public rental housing estates with the same balcony design as that of Ping Tin Estate, and the respective numbers of residential units in these estates;
- (b) whether all the tenants of this type of units are allowed to retrofit their balconies with windows; and
- (c) of the estimated cost of the fire safety works for each household; and whether it plans to carry out such works for all the units of the same type; if it has not, of the reasons for that?

#(4) 羅致光議員 (口頭答覆)

環境保護署曾向九號貨櫃碼頭的承建商發出許可證，准許該承建商自本年 7 月起將青衣海底嚴重污染的淤泥運往內地水域傾倒；該署在上月 19 日要求承建商提交詳盡資料，以便該署調查該項傾倒活動是否合乎環保原則。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 為何該署沒有在展開上述調查時，暫時撤銷有關許可證；以及現時有哪些工程的承建商獲發該種許可證；
- (二) 會否檢討發出該種許可證的規定和程序；及
- (三) 有何計劃加強與內地有關當局的合作，以確保跨境傾倒淤泥活動不會危害自然環境？

(4) Hon LAW Chi-kwong (Oral Reply)

The Environmental Protection Department issued to the Container Terminal 9 ("CT9") contractor a permit for conveying, from July this year onwards, the seriously contaminated mud dredged from the Tsing Yi seabed to Mainland waters for disposal. On 19 September, the Department requested the contractor to submit detailed information to enable it to investigate if the dumping operation conformed to environmental protection principles. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the reasons for not suspending the relevant permit at the time the Department launched the investigation; and of the current projects in respect of which disposal permits of this type have been issued to the contractors concerned;
- (b) whether it will review the stipulations and procedure for issuing this type of permits; and
- (c) of its plan to enhance the co-operation with the relevant authorities in the Mainland, with a view to ensuring that trans-boundary disposal of mud will not endanger the natural environment?

(5) 陳婉嫻議員 (口頭答覆)

關於政府向那些有年滿 21 歲但仍在學成員的家庭，發放綜合社會保障援助(簡稱“綜援”)事宜，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 當局在計算有關家庭可領取的綜援金額時，對未滿及已滿 21 歲的在學家庭成員的處理方式是否一致；若不一致，詳情及原因為何；
- (二) 過去 3 年，家庭成員中有年滿 21 歲但仍在學人士的綜援個案數目；及
- (三) 可供年滿 21 歲但仍在學的綜援家庭成員申領的其他類別的援助為何；在該等家庭成員取得其他援助之前的一段期間，當局有何安排協助該等家庭解決經濟困難？

(5) Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Oral Reply)

Regarding the granting of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") to families with members aged 21 or above who are still attending schools, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) whether, when calculating the amount of CSSA payments, the authorities equally treat families with members aged 21 or above who are still attending schools, and those with students aged below 21; if not, of the details and the reasons for that;
- (b) of the number of CSSA cases over the past three years involving families with members aged 21 or above who are still attending schools; and
- (c) of the other kinds of assistance which are available for application by CSSA recipient family members aged 21 or above who are still attending schools; and during the period before such family members receive other assistance, of the arrangement to assist such families in tackling their financial hardships?

(6) 劉江華議員 (口頭答覆)

據報，某些於 1984 年以前落成的居者有其屋計劃(簡稱“居屋”)屋苑所採用的一些建築物料含有石棉。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 曾採用含有石棉的建築物料興建的居屋屋苑名稱和涉及的單位數目，以及當局過去沒有公布有關情況的原因；
- (二) 當局於何時知悉該等屋苑採用含有石棉的建築物料興建，而當局在知悉有關情況後沒有即時通知有關業主的原因；及
- (三) 當局會否為有關業主拆除含有石棉的建築構件，並承擔有關費用；若會，施工時間及詳情為何；若否，原因為何？

(6) Hon LAU Kong-wah (Oral Reply)

It was reported that asbestos had been found in some construction materials used in certain Home Ownership Scheme ("HOS") estates completed before 1984. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the names of the HOS estates where asbestos-based construction materials have been used and the number of units involved, and the reasons for not disclosing the use of such materials in the past;
- (b) when the authorities concerned knew of the use of asbestos-based construction materials in these estates, and of the reasons for not informing the owners concerned immediately after it knew of that; and
- (c) whether the authorities concerned will remove the building components containing asbestos for the owners concerned and bear the costs involved; if so, of the works schedule and the details thereof; if not, the reasons for that?

(7) 李華明議員 (書面答覆)

就香港房屋委員會向公共租住屋邨的住宅及商鋪租戶收取租金按金事宜，政府可否告知本會，是否知悉：

- (一) 當局收取按金的理由；
- (二) 按金收入的用途；
- (三) 按住宅及商鋪劃分，現時滾存的按金總額，以及在過去 3 年，當局從按金款項賺取的利息總額分別為何；及
- (四) 當局沒有定期向有關租戶發放按金利息的原因？

(7) Hon Fred LI (Written Reply)

Regarding the Hong Kong Housing Authority's collection of rent deposit from domestic and commercial tenants of public rental housing, will the Government inform this Council whether it is aware of:

- (a) the rationale for collecting the deposit;
- (b) the uses of the revenues from the deposit;
- (c) the current total accumulated amounts of deposit as well as the total amounts of interest gained in the past three years from the deposit collected respectively from domestic and commercial tenants; and
- (d) the reasons for not paying interest gained from the deposit to the tenants concerned on a regular basis?

(8) 譚耀宗議員 (書面答覆)

政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 過去 3 年，每年分別有多少名納稅人獲批供養父母免稅額；及
- (二) 鑒於本港經濟轉型及失業率持續高企，不少未屆退休年齡的人士未能找到工作而需由子女供養，當局有否計劃放寬該免稅項目內關於受供養人士必須滿 60 歲的規定，以紓緩有關納稅人士的經濟負擔；若有計劃，詳情為何；若否，原因為何？

(8) Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Written Reply)

Will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the number of taxpayers granted the dependent parent allowance in each of the past three years; and
- (b) given that the economic restructuring and persistently high unemployment rate in the territory have rendered many people out of work before the retirement age and dependent on their children, whether it has plans to relax the requirement that dependent parents must reach 60 before claim for that allowance can be made, so as to alleviate the financial burden of the taxpayers concerned; if it has, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

(9) 陳國強議員 (書面答覆)

政府可否告知本會，自去年 1 月至今：

- (一) 領取綜合社會保障援助(“綜援”)的受助人在找到工作後轉為領取低收入援助類別的個案數目；及
- (二) 受助人終止領取綜援的個案數目；請按終止領取綜援的原因分類列出？

(9) Hon CHAN Kwok-keung (Written Reply)

Will the Government inform this Council of,

- (a) the number of cases in which the recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) found jobs and changed to the low income CSSA category; and
- (b) the number of cases in which the recipients ceased receiving CSSA, with a breakdown by reasons for the cessation,

since January of last year?

(10) 劉江華議員 (書面答覆)

據報，當局計劃重新設計某些交通標誌。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 當局曾考慮甚麼因素和根據甚麼準則，以決定哪些交通標誌須予重新設計；
- (二) 當局在重新設計某些交通標誌時，曾否參考其他國家的同類交通標誌；
- (三) 由於採用新設計而需予以更換的現存交通標誌總數為何；及
- (四) 重新設計及安裝該等交通標誌的費用估計為何？

(10) Hon LAU Kong-wah (Written Reply)

It has been reported that the Administration plans to redesign certain traffic signs. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of its considerations and the criteria adopted in deciding which traffic signs need to be redesigned;
- (b) whether, in redesigning the traffic signs, reference has been made to similar traffic signs used in other countries;
- (c) of the total number of existing traffic signs to be replaced upon adopting the new design; and
- (d) of the estimated costs involved in redesigning and installing these traffic signs?

#(11) 羅致光議員 (書面答覆)

據悉，車輛使用芥花籽油作燃料時較使用柴油排放較少的黑煙，但同時卻排放較多氮氧化物。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 認可車輛廢氣測試中心所使用的底盤式測功機，能否有效量度車輛的氮氧化物排放量；若否，當局會否添置有關設備；及
- (二) 當局會否考慮制定法例，禁止售賣未經環境保護署認可為符合環保標準的汽車燃料？

(11) Hon LAW Chi-kwong (Written Reply)

It is learnt that vehicles fuelled by rapeseed oil emit less smoke but more nitrogen oxides than those fuelled by diesel. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council whether:

- (a) the chassis dynamometers used at authorized vehicle emission testing centres can effectively measure the amounts of nitrogen oxides emitted by vehicles; if not, whether additional equipment will be procured for this purpose; and
- (b) it will consider enacting legislation to prohibit the sale of motor vehicle fuel which has not been accredited as meeting the environmental standards by the Environmental Protection Department?

#(12) 譚耀宗議員 (書面答覆)

社會福利署自去年起嚴格執行下述規定：申領綜合社會保障援助(“綜援”)須以家庭為單位作出；因此，與家人同住的長者不可獨立申領綜援。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 自該署去年嚴格執行該規定以來，有多少名與家人同住的長者因下列原因遭終止發放綜援：
 - (i) 家庭總收入超出規定；
 - (ii) 未能提供各家庭成員的入息證明；及
 - (iii) 其他原因，請按原因列出分項數字；
- (二) 當局因嚴格執行該規定而接獲的投訴個案數目；及
- (三) 有否計劃檢討上述規定，使未獲同住家人提供經濟支援的長者能獨立申領綜援；若有，詳情為何；若否，原因為何？

(12) Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Written Reply)

Since last year, the Social Welfare Department has strictly enforced the rule that applications for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") have to be made on a household basis. Consequently, elderly persons living with their family may not apply for CSSA on their own. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) since the strict enforcement of the above rule by the Department last year, of the number of elderly persons living with their families who had their payments curtailed for the following reasons:
 - (i) total household income exceeded the prescribed limit;
 - (ii) unable to provide proof of income of family members; and
 - (iii) other reasons, please provide a breakdown by the reasons;
- (b) of the number of complaints received arising from the strict enforcement of the rule; and
- (c) whether there is any plan to review the above rule so that elderly persons who do not receive financial support from family members living with them can apply for CSSA on an individual basis; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

(13) 陳國強議員 (書面答覆)

政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 是否知悉，哪些法定機構的僱員聘用合約訂明，倘僱員被法庭宣告破產，僱主可立即終止聘用該僱員；所涉及的僱員所屬的職位及職級為何，以及該等機構根據甚麼準則選定該等職位及職級；及
- (二) 有否透過向法定機構發出指引或其他方式，規範該等機構在聘用合約內所訂定的條款？

(13) Hon CHAN Kwok-keung (Written Reply)

Will the Government inform this Council whether:

- (a) it knows the statutory bodies which have specified, in their employment contracts, that the employer may terminate immediately the service of an employee who has been declared bankrupt by the Court; of the posts and ranks of the employees involved, and of the criteria adopted for determining the selected posts and ranks; and
- (b) it has, through issuing guidelines to these statutory bodies or by other means, regulated the terms of the employment contracts laid down by these bodies?

(14) Hon Bernard CHAN (Written Reply)

The Mandatory Provident Fund ("MPF") System will commence on 1 December this year. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council whether it knows:

- (a) the latest enrolment position of the MPF schemes;
- (b) if the latest enrolment position is in line with the enrolment schedule designed by the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority; and
- (c) the measures that the Authority will take or has taken to urge employers to enrol their employees in a MPF scheme as soon as possible?

(14) 陳智思議員 (書面答覆)

強制性公積金(“強積金”)制度將於本年 12 月 1 日開始實施。就此，政府可否告知本會是否知悉：

- (一) 強積金計劃的最新參與情況；
- (二) 最新參與情況是否與強制性公積金計劃管理局(“積金局”)所設計的進度吻合；及
- (三) 積金局將會／曾經採取何種措施，促請僱主盡快為其僱員選定強積金計劃？

(15) 李華明議員 (書面答覆)

據報，中央人民政府駐香港特別行政區聯絡辦公室(“中聯辦”)曾囑咐天主教香港教區(“教會”)的負責人，低調處理有關梵蒂岡教廷於本月 1 日冊封 120 名百年前在中國被殺的傳教士及他們的追隨者為聖人的慶祝活動；而該教會隨後更表示，一些原訂與國內有關教會進行的宗教交流活動已暫停，相信原因涉及上述封聖事件。就此，政府可否告知本會：

- (一) 有否評估中聯辦囑咐教會低調處理封聖事宜的做法有否超越其既訂的職能；
- (二) 就上述交流活動停頓問題，當局會否向該教會提供協助；若否，原因為何；及
- (三) 當局在此事上可採取哪些措施，捍衛香港居民根據《基本法》第 32 條可享有的宗教信仰自由？

(15) Hon Fred LI (Written Reply)

It was reported that the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("the Liaison Office") asked leaders of the local Catholic diocese to adopt a low key approach in handling activities in celebration of the Vatican's canonization on October 1 of 120 Catholic missionaries and their followers who had been killed in China a hundred years ago. The diocese later disclosed also that some scheduled religious exchange activities with its Mainland counterparts had been put on hold, probably due to the said canonization. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) whether it has assessed if the Liaison Office's act of asking the diocese to adopt a low key approach in respect of the canonization is beyond its prescribed function;
- (b) in respect of the cessation of the above exchange activities, whether it will offer assistance to the diocese; if not, of the reasons for that; and
- (c) of the measures it may take in this particular case to defend the freedom of religious belief that can be enjoyed by Hong Kong residents under Article 32 of the Basic Law?

(16) 蔡素玉議員 (書面答覆)

為向訪港遊客提供更佳的服務，政府可否告知本會，會否與香港旅遊協會及的士業團體等有關組織商討，以實施下列建議：

- (一) 在各個旅遊景點設置電子顯示板，以多種語文提供附近的街道圖、該等景點的有關資料和消費情報；
- (二) 向不諳英語的的士司機提供英語翻譯機，協助他們與說英語的遊客溝通；及
- (三) 在的士上安裝電子道路信息系統，以便更快捷地把遊客送抵目的地？

(16) Hon CHOY So-yuk (Written Reply)

In order to provide better services to visitors to Hong Kong, will the Government inform this Council whether it will discuss with relevant organizations such as the Hong Kong Tourist Association and associations of taxi operators the implementation of the following proposals:

- (a) the installation of electronic display boards at tourist attractions to provide, in several languages, road maps of nearby areas and relevant information about such attractions, as well as advice for consumers;
- (b) the provision of English translation machines to taxi drivers who are not fluent in English so as to facilitate their communication with English-speaking visitors; and
- (c) the installation of an electronic road information system on taxis so that visitors can be taken to their destinations more quickly?