

**Replies to Supplementary Oral Questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06**

[Controlling Officer : Private Secretary to Chief Executive]

[Session No. : 8] [File name : S-CEO-e.doc]

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-CEO01	SV17	Margaret NG	21	2101 – Chief Executive’s Office
S-CEO02	SV18	Margaret NG	21	2101 – Chief Executive’s Office
S-CEO03	SV26	Emily LAU	21	2101 – Chief Executive’s Office

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-CEO01

Question Serial No.

SV17

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: 2101 – Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

The Administration was requested to confirm whether there was a policy regarding the official residence for the Chief Executive. If the answer was in the affirmative, the Administration should explain the policy and confirm who/which was the authority to decide the official residence for the Chief Executive.

Asked by: Hon. Margaret NG

Reply:

The Administration has the responsibility to make the necessary preparation for the new Chief Executive to discharge his duty as soon as he assumes office. Along this general policy, we have the responsibility to provide a suitable residence as soon as possible for the new Chief Executive. Since we have no plan to build a new residence, Government House is the only suitable option as an official residence cum office for the new Chief Executive. All this preparation work including election legislation, flows necessarily from the legal requirement that the election of the Chief Executive will take place on July 10, no later.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Robin Ip

Post Title _____ Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Date _____ 18 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-CEO02

Question Serial No.

SV18

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: 2101 – Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

The Administration was requested to provide information on the usage, utilization situation and management costs of the Government House for years 2003-04 and 2004-05. The level of details for the reply should be comparable to the Administration's reply no. CEO007 for last year's Special Finance Committee meeting.

Asked by: Hon. Margaret NG

Reply:

The details on the usage, utilization and management costs of the Government House for years 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as below-

	2003-04	2004-05
Number of functions hosted by the former CE for dignitaries, VIPs of different sectors and countries and senior officials	102 (including 51 meetings, 43 lunches/ dinners and 8 receptions)	107 (including 53 meetings, 48 lunches/ dinners and 6 receptions)
Number of Open Days	6	6
Number of functions organized by Non-government Organizations (NGOs)	25 (organized by 25 NGOs) (including 11 dinners, 9 ceremonies, 3 receptions and 2 performances)	26 (organized by 24 NGOs) (including 11 dinners, 7 ceremonies, 3 receptions, 4 performances and 1 conference)
Number of functions organized by Government Bureaux/ Departments	16 (organized by 9 bureaux/ departments) (including 5 lunches/ dinners, 5 receptions, 4 ceremonies and 2 conferences)	18 (organized by 14 bureaux/ departments) (including 1 lunch, 11 receptions, 2 ceremonies and 4 conferences)
Management Costs	\$3.817M	\$3.825M

Signature _____

Name in block letters Robin Ip

Post Title Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Date 18 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-CEO03

Question Serial No.

SV26

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: 2101 – Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

The Administration is requested to provide the estimates for carrying out renovating work on Government House.

Asked by: Hon. Emily LAU

Reply:

The Architectural Services Department (ASD) is assessing the amount and cost of renovation work required to re-establish Government House as the official residence of the Chief Executive.

All necessary works, when authorised, will be carried out in the most cost-saving manner and in accordance with all financial control regulations. The decision to proceed with such renovation work will have to await until after the new Chief Executive has been appointed following the election on 10 July.

Meanwhile, the ASD has proceeded with the updating of the security, communications, electrical and ventilation facilities of Government House as part of normal maintenance, which has hitherto not been fully carried out.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Robin Ip

Post Title _____ Private Secretary to Chief Executive

Date _____ 18 April 2005