

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members  
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security**

**Session No. : 14**

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

Reply Serial No.

S-SB01

Head : 151 Government Secretariat:  
Security Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

SV13

Programme : (3) Immigration Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

The Administration is requested to provide the following information:

- (a) The repayments made by the United Nations (UN) to Hong Kong so far in respect of reimbursement of expenses incurred by Hong Kong on maintenance of Vietnamese refugees/migrants;
- (b) The outstanding sum owed by UN to Hong Kong on maintenance of Vietnamese refugees/migrants; and
- (c) The Administration's effort and plan in recovering the outstanding sum owed by UN.

Asked by : Hon. CHIM Pui-chung

Reply :

- (a) Before 1998, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had made annual repayments to reimburse Hong Kong for the expenditure incurred on the maintenance of Vietnamese refugees/migrants. The last repayment, amounting to HK\$3.9 million, was received in February 1998. Since then, no repayment has been made and the UNHCR has repeatedly indicated that, due to budget constraint and the need to cope with other more pressing refugee and humanitarian issues, it is not optimistic that further donations earmarked for the repayment of outstanding advances owed to Hong Kong will be received.
- (b) The outstanding sum owed by the UNHCR to Hong Kong on the maintenance of Vietnamese refugees/migrants stands at \$1.162 billion.
- (c) The Government has been urging the UNHCR to repay the outstanding advances and to appeal to other countries for donations for this purpose. We will continue such efforts through appropriate channels.

Signature

Name in block letters Stanley YING

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 16 April 2005

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB02**

Question Serial No.

SV29

Head: 151 Government Secretariat: Security Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Administration to provide information on the resources incurred in its liaison with the Ministry of State Security of the Mainland.

Asked by: Hon. Andrew CHENG

Reply: As is the case for other law enforcement and security agencies outside Hong Kong with which we maintain contact, there is no separate breakdown in the resources incurred in the liaison with the Ministry of State Security.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Stanley YING

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 18.4.2005

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

**Reply Serial No.**

**S-SB03**

Head : 70      Subhead (No. & title) :

Question Serial No.

Programme : (1) Pre-entry Control

SV28

Controlling Officer : Director of Immigration

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

The Administration to provide a breakdown on the legal costs, number of court days and resources (inclusive of staff resources from Immigration Department and Department of Justice) incurred in processing the 150 outstanding appeals/judicial reviews relating to Certificate of Entitlement to right of abode in Hong Kong.

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

There remain 157 outstanding right of abode (ROA) cases pending the Court of First Instance's findings on disputes of facts. The court has reserved its diary from 7 March 2005 to mid June 2005 for some 50 cases.

In processing the outstanding appeals/judicial reviews relating to these ROA cases, the Department of Justice incurred a total briefing out expenditure of about \$3.6 million in 2004-2005. The number of court days involved was 43. Legal advice on the cases was provided within the available resources of the Department of Justice.

The Immigration Department has been handling these cases through redeployment of resources. At present, the number of staff involved is 16, comprising 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Senior Immigration Officers, 6 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Immigration Assistant, 1 Senior Immigration Assistant, 2 Immigration Assistants and 2 Clerical Assistants. The full year provision is about \$5.9 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ T K LAI

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Immigration

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 16 April 2005

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

Reply Serial No.

S-SB04

Head : 35 Government Secretariat: Beijing Office

Question Serial No.

Subhead (No. & title) :

S65

Programme : (2) HKSAR Immigration-related Matters

Controlling Officer : Director, Beijing Office

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Regarding the replies in relation to the Estimates of Expenditure (Reply Serial Nos. SB144 and 146), will the Administration inform this Council of the following:

The number of requests for assistance received in 2004 from persons who were in danger, involved in traffic accidents, injured or whose relatives had passed away in the Mainland almost doubled that in 2003. What were the details of those cases involving “persons who were in danger” ? Did they cover kidnapping or unlawful detention? If so, how many such cases were there in the last two years? What follow-up actions were usually taken? How many cases have remained unresolved so far?

Asked by : Hon.LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

- a) Cases involving “persons who were in danger” include rape, suspected unlawful detention, wounded after being attacked and being threatened.
- b) The Beijing Office received 4 and 1 requests for assistance in cases involving suspected unlawful detention in 2003 and 2004 respectively. The Beijing Office had not received any request for assistance in cases involving kidnapping.
- c) Upon receiving requests for assistance in cases involving suspected unlawful detention, the Beijing Office first pacifies the assistance seekers and then gathers details of their cases. Thereafter, the Beijing Office counsels the assistance seekers and assists them to report their cases to the relevant local Public Security authorities as soon as possible or to request assistance from other relevant Mainland authorities. The Beijing Office will maintain close contact with the assistance seekers and relevant Mainland authorities until their cases have been resolved satisfactorily.
- d) All cases of suspected unlawful detention had been resolved.

Signature    Signed on Chinese version

Name in block letters    BOWEN LEUNG

Post Title    Director, Beijing Office

Date    18 .4.2005

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

Reply Serial No.

S-SB05

Head : 35 Government Secretariat: Beijing Office

Question Serial No.

Subhead (No. & title) :

S66

Programme : (2) HKSAR Immigration-related Matters

Controlling Officer : Director, Beijing Office

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Regarding the replies in relation to the Estimates of Expenditure (Reply Serial Nos. SB144 and 146), will the Administration inform this Council of the following:

As shown in the information provided, the requests for assistance received by the Beijing Office from Hong Kong residents in the Mainland involved detention in various places throughout the country. What were the respective numbers of requests sought by the assistance seekers in person to the Beijing Office and in written form via our Security Bureau in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon.LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

In the past three years, the respective number of requests for assistance received directly by the Beijing Office (BJO) and via the Security Bureau are tabulated as follows:-

Year	Requests for assistance direct to BJO	Requests for assistance via Security Bureau to BJO
2002	123(22) cases	86(86) cases
2003	137(19)cases	82(77) cases
2004	204(22) cases	93(67) cases

Remark:- ( ) denotes the number of detention cases.

Signature Signed on Chinese version

Name in block letters BOWEN LEUNG

Post Title Director, Beijing Office

Date 18.4.2005