

1. In respect of the concern about whether there is an over-supply of student places, please provide the figures on supply and demand of student places each year from 2004/05 to 2007/08 respectively.

There are currently 20 post-secondary institutions providing full-time accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes. According to the information provided by these institutions, the number of student places at sub-degree and degree intake levels and the corresponding actual intakes per year between the 2004/05 and 2007/08 academic years are shown below:

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Estimated intake places available	18 284	25 544	22 571	23 741
Actual intake	18 430	-	-	-

As the institutions have yet to submit their returns on intake figures for the 2005/06 to 2007/08 academic years, we are unable to provide the relevant information at this stage.

2. Please provide the annual repayment figures of each institution and the student numbers of the respective years.

So far, we have approved a total of 22 loan applications from 14 institutions under the Start-up Loan Scheme. The annual repayment figures of the approved loan applications are set out at Annex. However, we are unable to disclose the actual enrolment figures of full-time accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes by institution given that such information is for the internal use of the respective institutions only. The total student enrolments of full-time accredited self-financing programmes provided by these institutions are shown as follows for reference:

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Student enrolments	9 813	13 613	23 040*

* Unlike the actual intake figure of 18 430 in the 2004/05 academic year as shown in the reply to Question 1, this figure refers to the total student enrolment of the respective year.

3. Have the institutions provided the student places as committed in their loan applications? Is there any case which the enrolment of an institution exceeds or falls below the estimated target? If yes, please provide the figures respectively.

In the 2004/05 academic year, the total student enrolments of full-time accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes provided by the relevant institutions which had obtained start-up loan(s); and the total student places as committed in their respective loan applications are shown below:

	2004/05
Student enrolment	23 040
Committed student places	9 471

The above figures may not truly reflect whether the institutions have been able to achieve the estimated target of providing the additional student places as committed in their loan applications. This is because many institutions have been making use of their existing premises and resources to provide additional student places pending the completion of their purpose-built campuses financed by the start-up loans; and the student places as committed in the loan applications will increase gradually when the new premises are put into operation in the 2005/06 to 2009/10 academic years.

4. In respect of the concern that the students are “paying the mortgage” and bearing the repayments of loans for institutions, will the Government consider extending the repayment periods for needy institutions so as to relieve the financial burdens of the institutions and students, and to enable institutions retaining more resources for provision of a better campus life and more support to students?

Most institutions could provide sound financial plans based on a ten-year repayment period for the purpose of applying start-up loans. As extending the repayment period of interest-free loans involves additional public resources, the Administration must evaluate the full justifications

and financial implications of extending the loan repayment period, and other factors such as whether this may undermine the competitiveness of existing borrowers, etc. before taking a view on whether the suggestion is feasible.

The Education and Manpower Bureau is currently conducting a Review of the Post-secondary Education Sector, and is prepared to discuss the findings of the Review at the Education Panel meeting on 13 February 2006. We look forward to exchanging views with Members on all aspects of the development of post-secondary education sector.

Education and Manpower Bureau
12 January 2006

Yearly Repayment Schedule by Institutions for Start-up Loans Approved

Institution	Total loan amount approved (\$'000)	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
		Yearly repayment schedule (\$'000)																	
Caritas Bianchi College of Careers ⁽¹⁾	203,000		1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	20,300	20,300	20,300	20,300	18,800	18,800	18,800	18,800	18,800	18,800	
City University of Hong Kong ⁽¹⁾	644,256			4,476	4,476	4,476	4,476	4,476	64,426	64,426	64,426	64,426	64,426	59,950	59,950	59,950	59,950	59,950	
Hong Kong Baptist University ⁽¹⁾	445,401		8,620	8,620	8,620	8,620	44,540	44,540	44,540	44,540	44,540	44,540	35,920	35,920	35,920	35,920			
Hong Kong Institute of Technology	7,148		715	715	715	715	715	715	715	715	715	715							
Lingnan University ⁽¹⁾	216,332			1,060	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	21,633	20,573					
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	135,274		13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527	13,527							
The CUHK-TWGHs Community College	346,050						34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605	34,605			
The HKUSPACE-PLK Community College	254,000								25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400	25,400
The Hong Kong Institute of Education	15,000			1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500						
The Hong Kong Learning Community College ⁽²⁾	4,000		400	400	3,200														
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University ⁽¹⁾	915,514			3,270	3,270	3,270	3,270	3,270	45,741	91,551	91,551	91,551	91,551	88,281	88,281	88,281	88,281	88,281	45,810
The Open University of Hong Kong	120,000								12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
The University of Hong Kong ⁽¹⁾	490,782	17,612	21,152	21,152	21,152	21,152	49,078	49,078	49,078	49,078	49,078	31,466	27,926	27,926	27,926	27,926			
Vocational Training Council	266,400				26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640	26,640					
Total	4,063,157	17,612	45,914	56,220	106,233	103,033	201,484	201,484	360,105	405,915	405,915	388,303	360,401	350,095	302,882	302,882	204,431	204,431	45,810

Note:

- (1) The relevant institutions have obtained more than one loan and as a result have an accumulated loan-repayment period over 10 years
(2) The relevant institution has ceased operation in the 2005/06 academic year and has repaid the outstanding loan amount in the same year.