

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
Session No. : 3**

| Reply Serial No. | Question Serial No. | Name of Member | Head | Programme |
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| <u>S-FSTB(FS)01</u> | S068 | CHAN Yuen-han | 26 | Social Statistics |
| <u>S-FSTB(FS)02</u> | S069 | CHAN Yuen-han | 26 | Social Statistics |

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

Reply Serial No.

S-FSTB(FS)01

Question Serial No.

S068

Head: 26 Census and Statistics Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Social Statistics

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Census and Statistics

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

Would the Administration please advise:

According to the reply, the Administration is conducting a General Household Survey to collect comprehensive data on persons with disabilities and chronic diseases. However, the results of this survey will not be available until 2008. What is the reason for that?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

The Census and Statistics Department is conducting a special topic enquiry on persons with disabilities and chronic diseases via the General Household Survey. Since the prevalence rates of some disability types are expected to be low in Hong Kong, the sample size of the household survey has to be sufficiently large (say, around 40 000 households) for detailed statistical analysis on persons with different types of disability. In order to secure a sufficiently large sample, the Department has started in the 4th quarter of 2006 to collect disability data from household samples for five consecutive quarters. The raw data will then be available in early 2008 for further data processing and analysis. It is expected that the survey results could be released in 2008.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ FUNG Hing-wang _____

Post Title _____ Commissioner for Census and Statistics _____

Date _____ 23.3.2007 _____

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

Reply Serial No.

S-FSTB(FS)02

Question Serial No.

S069

Head: 26 Census and Statistics Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Social Statistics

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Census and Statistics

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

Would the Administration please advise:

On top of the comprehensive data collected from the said General Household Survey, will the Administration compile any employment data on disabled persons on regular basis (e.g. quarterly) to facilitate the formulation of relevant policies? If so, what will be the manpower and expenditure incurred? If not, what are the justifications?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

As there is currently no database of persons with disabilities in Hong Kong, it is necessary to rely on a household survey to identify persons with disabilities residing in domestic households. In view of the low prevalence rate of some disability types in Hong Kong, a sufficiently large sample size of the household survey is required for detailed statistical analysis on persons with different types of disability. It would not be cost-effective if a dedicated survey is to be mounted regularly (say, on a quarterly basis) on this specific subject.

A more cost-effective approach is to collect the information in several consecutive quarters in the form of a supplementary enquiry module in the General Household Survey conducted by the Census and Statistics Department in order to secure a sufficiently large sample for detailed statistical analysis on persons with different types of disability. This is in line with the existing practice of some advanced economies (such as the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ FUNG Hing-wang _____

Post Title _____ Commissioner for Census and Statistics _____

Date _____ 23.3.2007 _____