

**Replies to Supplementary Questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs
Session No. : 15**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-HAB01	SV025	Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	53	Social Harmony and Civic Education
S-HAB02	SV026	Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	Director of Bureau's Office
S-HAB03	S060	Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd	53	Culture
S-HAB04	S051	Hon. WONG Kwok-kin	53	Social Harmony and Civic Education
S-HAB05	S050	Hon. WONG Kwok-hing	63	Local Environmental Improvements
S-HAB06	SV024	Hon. NG Margaret	94	Litigation Services
S-HAB07	S049	Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert	94	Processing of Legal Aid Applications
S-HAB08	SV022	Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	95	Recreation and Sport
S-HAB09	SV023	Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

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

S-HAB01

Question Serial No.

SV025

Head : 53 – GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What are the specific measures to be taken to nurture more social entrepreneurs?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Home Affairs Department implements a Social Enterprises Partnership Programme which comprises the matching forum and mentorship scheme to provide a platform to enhance and facilitate partnership among different sectors of the community. It has been providing an effective means to enrich the entrepreneurial skills of social enterprise (SE) operators by having business entrepreneurs / professional offering advisory service to them. We will continue our effort in this regard and arrange sharing sessions to further enhance our support to SE operators.

In 2007-08 and 2008-09, we commissioned business plan writing competitions which provided training to tertiary students to help them turn their ideas into viable business models. Having regard to the positive feedback, we will consider commissioning similar business plan writing competition in 2009-10 and with more emphasis on the implementation of these business plans.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs CARRIE YAU

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 27 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

Reply Serial No.

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

S-HAB02

Question Serial No.

SV026

Head : 53 – GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration is requested to provide details on the number of Government staff who will attend the 2nd World Buddhist Forum to be held from 26 March to 2 April 2009 in Wuxi and Taipei, and the associated expenditures involved.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Secretary for Home Affairs' party to the 2nd World Buddhist Forum includes the Secretary, the Administrative Assistant and the Press Secretary. The party is also accompanied by two Information Officer grade officers to assist in media related work. The estimated amount of expenditure funded by the Government, including hotel accommodation, air passage and other related expenses, is about \$61,000. Some of the expenses of the trip are sponsored by the forum organisers, including part of hotel accommodation, air passage, meals and local ground transportation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Mrs CARRIE YAU

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

30 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

S-HAB03

Question Serial No.

S060

Head : 53 – GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In the reply (Serial No. HAB069) to a question raised in the Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10, it was stated that the Administration commissioned the Centre for Cultural Policy Research of the University of Hong Kong to conduct A Study on Creativity Index in 2004. The study constructed a theoretical framework for measuring and evaluating the status of creativity in a place and the Creativity Index comprising 88 indicators tabulated from different data sources. Would the Administration inform this Committee:

1. What are the 88 indicators tabulated from different data sources? Please specify. What is the weighting of each indicator?
2. What was the Creativity Index derived by using these indicators from 1999 to 2008?
3. From 1999 to 2008, were there any changes in these 88 indicators? Please indicate in chronological order and table form.

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The Study on Creativity Index was conducted in 2004 using the historical data from 1999-2004. The Creativity Index is a statistical framework for measuring the status of creativity and the determinants of the growth of creativity in a place. The 88 indicators forming the Creativity Index are listed in Chapter IV of the study report and now attached at **Annex**. The weighting of each indicator is the same.

The overall Creativity Index for Hong Kong during 1999-2004 has shown a positive growth pattern. We have no information on the changes in the Creativity Index after 2004.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs CARRIE YAU

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 27 March 2009

Annex

Indicators of Creativity Index

Outcomes of Creativity Index
Economic contribution of Creativity
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Value added of Hong Kong's creative industries as percentage of gross domestic product (GDP)2. Number of persons engaged in creative industries as percentage of total employment3. Share of cultural goods relative to total export trade in goods4. Share of culture goods relative to total import trade in goods5. Percentage of business receipts from selling goods, services or information through electronic means
Inventive activity of economic sector
<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. The ability of local enterprises to sell branded products in international market7. The ability of local enterprises to acquire new technologies8. Total number of patent applications per capita9. Percentage of patent applications originated from local applicants relative to gross number of patent applications
Other outcomes of creative activity
<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Daily circulation of newspaper per capita11. Total number of book and periodical titles newly registered per capita12. Total number of music titles composed per capita13. Total number of lyrics written per capita14. Total number of films produced per capita15. Total number of film shows presented by government cultural services per capita16. Total number of performances by government cultural services per capita17. Gross floor area of new buildings per capita

Sub-total : 17

Structural / Institutional Capital Index
Independence of the legal system
1. Enumerated data about independence of the legal system
Corruption perceptions in Hong Kong
2. Percentile scoring in Corruption Perceptions Index
Freedom of expression
3. Percentile scoring on freedom of press
4. Percentile scoring on freedom of speech
Infrastructural conditions of information and communication technologies
5. Percentage of establishments using personal computers
6. Percentage of establishments with internet connection
7. Percentage of establishments with web page/web site
8. Percentage of households using personal computers
9. Percentage of households with internet connection
10. Mobile phone subscribers per population
Robustness of social and cultural infrastructure
11. Total number of non-government organisations (NGOs) per capita
12. Registered public library users per capita
13. Number of books in public libraries per capita
14. Total number of seats in all government cultural services' performance venues per capital
15. Number of declared monuments per city
16. Total number of museums per city
Availability of community facilities
17. Number of community halls and community centres per capita
18. Total number of civic centre per capita
Financial infrastructure of Hong Kong
19. Number of listed companies per capita
20. Capitalization of stock market (in local currency) per GDP
21. Venture capital under the place's management (in local currency) per GDP
Robustness of entrepreneurship
22. Share of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to total number of establishments
23. Percentile scoring in Labour Productivity Index (Whole Economy)

Sub-total : 23

Human Capital Index
Research & development (R&D) expenditure & educational expenditure
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. R&D expenditure (business sector) as percentage of GDP 2. R&D expenditure (higher education) as percentage of GDP 3. R&D expenditure (public) as percentage of GDP 4. Public expenditure in education as percentage of GDP
Population of knowledge workers
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Share of population aged 15 and above with educational attainment at tertiary level (non-degree) 6. Share of population aged 15 and above with education attainment at tertiary level (degree and above) 7. Number of R&D personnel as percentage of total working population
Transience / mobility of human capital
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Total number of visitor arrivals per population 9. Total number of residents departures per population 10. Estimated number of emigrant per population 11. Number of working visas per working population

Sub-total : 11

Social Capital Index

Development of social capital

1. Amount of approved charitable donations allowed under Salaries Tax (in local currency) as percentage of GDP
2. Amount of approved charitable donations allowed under Profits Tax (in local currency) as percentage of GDP
3. Expenditure on “social welfare” as percentage of total public expenditure

Network quality: norms & values from World Value Survey

4. Indicator on generalized trust
5. Indicators on institutional trust
6. Indicators on reciprocity
7. Indicators on sense of efficacy (on control)
8. Indicators on cooperation
9. Indicators on attitude towards diversity
10. Indicators on acceptance of diversity
11. Indicators on attitude towards human rights
12. Attitude towards rights and wrongs of foreign immigrants
13. Attitude towards foreigners’ life style
14. Indicators on moderns vs traditional values
15. Indicators on self-expression vs survival

Network quality: social participation from World Value Survey

16. Interest in public affairs
17. Participation in social organization
18. Social contact with acquaintance
19. Social contact with community
20. Indicators on sense of efficacy (on what you did)
21. Total number of volunteers per capital

Sub-total :21

Cultural capital Index
Cultural expenditure
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expenditure on “arts & culture” as percentage of total public expenditure 2. Household expenses on designated cultural goods & services as percentage of total household expenses
Attitude towards arts, cultural and creative activities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Value placed on creative activity 4. Value placed on school-aged children’s creative activity 5. Value placed on arts and cultural activities 6. Value placed on school-aged children’s arts and cultural activities 7. Community leader to be a strong advocate for advancing the arts and culture of the place
Environmental factors for cultural and creative activities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Evaluation on milieu that encourages creative activities 9. Evaluation of milieu that encourages cultural participation 10. Value placed on the morality to buy pirated or counterfeit goods
Network quality: cultural participation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Number of library books borrowed per year per population 12. Royalty fees paid to copyright fees collecting agents (excluding revenue from overseas) (in local currency) per population 13. Average hours per week spent on internet for personal use as percentage of 168 hours 14. Number of visits to government cultural services’ museums per population 15. Number of attendance to performances by government cultural services per population 16. Number of attendance to film and video shows presented by government cultural services per population

Sub-total :16

Total : 88

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

Reply Serial No.

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

S-HAB04

Question Serial No.

S051

Head : 53 – GS: Home Affairs Bureau Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

It is stated in Reply Serial No. HAB109 that the Administration will only provide secretariat support services for the Family Council, and that only \$5 million has been earmarked to promote the family core values. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the number of meetings, work progress and scope of discussion of the Family Council for the past two years?
- (b) The promotion of family-friendly practices and family core values involves efforts on various fronts, including labour, social welfare, education, etc, yet, the Family Council is only provided a budget of \$5 million for the promotional and publicity work. What are the reasons?
- (c) Since services and initiatives to support families are provided by different service providers and agents, please advise whether and how the Family Council is able to monitor that such initiatives and services adhere to its recommendations.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply :

(a) The Family Council was set up in December 2007. Six meetings have been held. The Council has had in-depth discussions about the family core values; ways to achieve a pro-family environment and family-friendly employment practices; better enhancement and co-ordination of family and parental education; and recommendations on better synergy between the Family Council and other stakeholders and advisory bodies. To advocate for cherishing the family as a main driver for social harmony, the Council has also rolled out territory-wide promotional activities to promote family core values.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

S-HAB05

Question Serial No.

S050

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Local Environmental Improvements

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration has stated in the Reply Serial No. HAB 161 that the Rural Public Works (RPW) projects are not solely or directly related to works arising from the rainstorms in 2008. Regarding the incidents of flooding and landslips caused by the rainstorms last year, please advise the number of projects to be implemented in the coming year for the restoration and protection of the affected areas and the prevention of flooding and landslips. How much resources will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

During the rainy season in 2008, there were incidents of severe flooding in the rural areas of the New Territories. The Home Affairs Department (HAD) assisted to implement some of the restoration works under the RPW Programme. For example, in Islands district which was most affected by the rainstorms last year, we have carried / will carry out various works under the RPW Programme to restore local facilities damaged by flooding or landslips. These include reconstruction/improvement to drainage channels, stream course/ embankments, footpaths, footbridges and piers etc. Two projects have commenced and another nine will commence in the coming financial year. The total estimated project costs amount to some \$20 million.

Apart from the RPW programme, HAD also carried out restitution/emergency works and minor district improvement works to rural facilities damaged by rainstorms and typhoons under the Local Public Works (Maintenance) Programme and the District Minor Works programme in 2008-09. These include removing from footpaths debris resulting from landslips, desilting, reconnecting water pipes/ restoring water supply at villages and reinstallation of damaged railings.

In 2009-10, we plan to implement 38 improvement projects at a total cost of about \$30 million in the rural areas of the New Territories so as to prevent / alleviate flooding problems under the RPW Programme. These projects include erection of floodgates, improvement / construction of drainage channels and improvement to stream courses and stream embankments. As for works in relation to the prevention of landslip, they will be implemented by other works departments as HAD does not have the required geo-technical expertise.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Miss Adeline WONG

Post Title Director of Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 27 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

S-HAB06

Question Serial No.

SV024

Head : 94 – Legal Aid Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Litigation Services Legal Aid

Controlling Officer : Director of Legal Aid

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Administration is requested to provide information on the provision earmarked for the anticipated increase in criminal legal aid fees for 2009-10.

Asked by: Hon. NG Margaret

Reply:

The Administration put forward a revised proposal on criminal legal aid fee rates to the Law Society for consideration in December 2008, which, if accepted by the Law Society, represents an increase of about 70% from the current level of rates and the estimated increase in remuneration for solicitors engaged in criminal legal aid work will be about 120% to 400%, depending on the length and complexity of individual cases. The overall expenditure on criminal legal aid costs is expected to increase by around \$90 million per annum. The Administration has made provision in 2009-10 for the anticipated increase in legal aid fees.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Benjamin CHEUNG

Post Title Director of Legal Aid

Date 30 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

S-HAB07

Question Serial No.

S049

Head : 94 – Legal Aid Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Processing of Legal Aid Applications

Controlling Officer : Director of Legal Aid

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Please provide information for questions (a) and (b) for 2006, 2007 and 2008:

- (a) For cases involving a breach of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance or an inconsistency with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Director may grant legal aid to an applicant even if his/her financial resources exceeded the prescribed financial eligibility limit. Please give the number of such cases and the amount of money involved; and
- (b) With respect to criminal cases, the Director may grant legal aid to an applicant even if his/her financial resources exceeded the prescribed financial eligibility limit. Please give the number of such cases and the amount of money involved.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply:

The information requested for in (a) and (b) is as follows:

(a)	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
(i) No. of certificates granted	Nil	1	1
(ii) Amount of legal aid costs involved	Nil	Nil*	Nil [#]

* Litigation concluded leaving costs to be resolved

Litigation is still ongoing

(b)

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
(i) No. of certificates granted	14	15	17
(ii) No. of cases in (b)(i) concluded with accounts finalised	12	10	10
(iii) Amount of legal aid costs involved for cases in (b)(ii)	\$1.46 million	\$0.95 million	\$0.65 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters Benjamin CHEUNG

Post Title Director of Legal Aid

Date 30 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

S-HAB08

Question Serial No.

SV022

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide a breakdown on the distribution of about \$20 million set aside in 2009-10 for the National Sports Associations of 23 sports to prepare for the 2009 East Asia Games.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Hong Kong will host the 2009 East Asian Games in December 2009. To enable our athletes to achieve high levels of performance in the events, the Government has provided \$19.4 million for the National Sports Associations (NSAs) to prepare the athletes for the Games, of which \$17 million is provided for enhancement of training and preparation programmes whilst \$2.4 million is for organising test events. A breakdown of the distribution of subventions disbursed to the NSAs of the 23 sports that will be contested at the Games is at the Annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters THOMAS CHOW

Post Title Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date 30 March 2009

**Subvention to National Sports Associations
for Preparation for the 2009 East Asian Games**

Item	National Sports Association	Subvention for Enhancement of Training Programmes (\$)	Subvention for Organising Test Events (\$)	Total Subvention (\$)
1.	Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association Limited	960,000	282,949	1,242,949
2.	Hong Kong Badminton Association	1,250,000	-	1,250,000
3.	Hong Kong, China Rowing Association	1,070,000	200,000	1,270,000
4.	Hong Kong Cycling Association	1,360,000	-	1,360,000
5.	Hong Kong Squash	1,180,000	200,000	1,380,000
6.	Hong Kong Table Tennis Association	1,410,000	200,000	1,610,000
7.	Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress Limited	1,170,000	-	1,170,000
8.	Hong Kong Wushu Union	1,590,000	200,000	1,790,000
9.	Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong	1,560,000	-	1,560,000
10.	Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association	500,000	200,000	700,000
11.	Hong Kong Basketball Association	500,000	-	500,000
12.	Hong Kong Billiard Sports Control Council Company Limited	500,000	200,000	700,000
13.	Hong Kong China Bodybuilding and Fitness Association	500,000	-	500,000
14.	Hong Kong DanceSport Association	500,000	200,000	700,000
15.	Hong Kong Football Association	250,000	-	250,000
16.	Hong Kong Hockey Association	500,000	-	500,000
17.	Hong Kong Rugby Football Union	500,000	200,000	700,000
18.	Hong Kong Shooting Association	250,000	200,000	450,000
19.	Hong Kong Taekwondo Association	500,000	-	500,000
20.	Hong Kong Tennis Association	250,000	125,256	375,256
21.	Hong Kong Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association	215,480	200,000	415,480
22.	Judo Association of Hong Kong, China	250,000	-	250,000
23.	Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China	250,000	-	250,000
Total :		17,015,480	2,408,205	19,423,685

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

S-HAB09

Question Serial No.

Head : 53 – GS: Home Affairs Bureau Subhead (No. & title) :

SV023

Programme : (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration is requested to provide details on the expenditures incurred separately by Hong Kong Tourism Board and Home Affairs Bureau in respect of overseas publicity and promotion on the 2009 East Asian Games.

Asked by : Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply :

The Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) will promote the 2009 East Asian Games (EAG) through various channels, including its website, publications and visitor centres. It will provide EAG volunteers with Hong Kong tourism information to help them look after the visiting athletes, VIPs and tourists. Its worldwide offices will work with the tourism trade and related organisations in the EAG's participating countries and regions to incorporate EAG events into the travel itineraries. During the EAG period, the HKTB will organise activities for the visiting media to showcase Hong Kong's attractions. The work will be implemented by the HKTB within its overall marketing budget for overseas promotion.

The Information Services Department (ISD) works closely with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the 2009 East Asian Games Company and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland and overseas to promote the EAG through a variety of publicity programmes for EAG. In 2009-10, ISD will allocate about \$3 million for promoting EAG outside Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs CARRIE YAU

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 30 March 2009