

香港特別行政區政府

商務及經濟發展局
工商及旅遊科

香港金鐘道八十八號
太古廣場第一期二十九樓



COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM BRANCH
COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC
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GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

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Our Ref. : CITB 07/09/18

21 January 2009

Ms Yue Tin-po
Clerk to the Panel
LegCo Panel on Commerce and Industry
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yue,

**Panel on Commerce and Industry
Follow-up to the meeting on 16 December 2008**

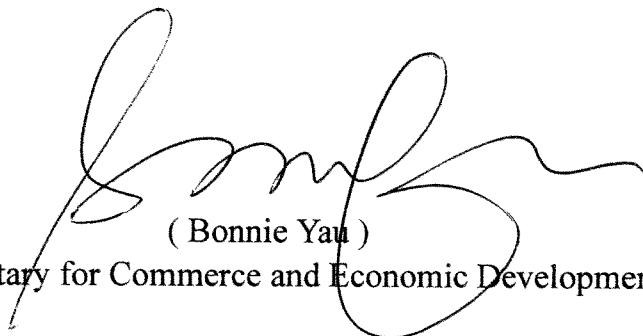
At the Panel meeting held on 16 December 2008, Dr. Hon Samson Tam sought information on the number of licences granted by the collecting societies representing the book and newspaper publishing industry. The ensuing paragraphs set out the requested information.

Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society (HKRRLS) is a collecting society representing major book and journal publishers. It offers “blanket” and “transactional” copying licences covering about 1.7 million publications published in Hong Kong and overseas to various types of organisations, including businesses, government bodies and educational establishments. According to HKRRLS, it granted various licences to over 1,100 licensees in 2008, among which a few were business organisations.

For the newspaper industry, Hong Kong Copyright Licensing Association (HKCLA) has been authorized by 15 Hong Kong newspapers and 19 Hong Kong magazines to offer collective licensing services. It offers a range of licences (e.g. photocopying licence, email licence etc) for internal reference, instruction (applicable to kindergartens, primary and secondary schools under prescribed conditions) and news monitoring purposes. According to HKCLA, over 350 licences were granted in 2007-08.

It should be noted that the figures mentioned above merely cover the licensing schemes operated by the two collecting societies. Individual publisher may also grant licences to users direct upon request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bonnie Yau', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

(Bonnie Yau)

for Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

- c.c. Chairperson of Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society
(Attn: Ms Dillys Yu)
Chairperson of Hong Kong Copyright Licensing Association
(Attn: Ms Joanne Law)