

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 June 2014

The Council met at Eleven o'clock

MEMBERS PRESENT:

THE PRESIDENT

THE HONOURABLE JASPER TSANG YOK-SING, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ALBERT HO CHUN-YAN

THE HONOURABLE LEE CHEUK-YAN

THE HONOURABLE JAMES TO KUN-SUN

THE HONOURABLE CHAN KAM-LAM, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LEUNG YIU-CHUNG

DR THE HONOURABLE LAU WONG-FAT, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE EMILY LAU WAI-HING, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE TAM YIU-CHUNG, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ABRAHAM SHEK LAI-HIM, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE TOMMY CHEUNG YU-YAN, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE FREDERICK FUNG KIN-KEE, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT FANG KANG, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE WONG KWOK-HING, B.B.S., M.H.

PROF THE HONOURABLE JOSEPH LEE KOK-LONG, S.B.S., J.P., Ph.D.,
R.N.

THE HONOURABLE JEFFREY LAM KIN-FUNG, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ANDREW LEUNG KWAN-YUEN, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE WONG TING-KWONG, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE RONNY TONG KA-WAH, S.C.

THE HONOURABLE CYD HO SAU-LAN

THE HONOURABLE STARRY LEE WAI-KING, J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE LAM TAI-FAI, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHAN HAK-KAN, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHAN KIN-POR, B.B.S., J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE PRISCILLA LEUNG MEI-FUN, S.B.S., J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE LEUNG KA-LAU

THE HONOURABLE CHEUNG KWOK-CHE

THE HONOURABLE WONG KWOK-KIN, B.B.S.

THE HONOURABLE IP KWOK-HIM, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE MRS REGINA IP LAU SUK-YEE, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE PAUL TSE WAI-CHUN, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ALAN LEONG KAH-KIT, S.C.

THE HONOURABLE LEUNG KWOK-HUNG

THE HONOURABLE ALBERT CHAN WAI-YIP

THE HONOURABLE WONG YUK-MAN

THE HONOURABLE CLAUDIA MO

THE HONOURABLE MICHAEL TIEN PUK-SUN, B.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE JAMES TIEN PEI-CHUN, G.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE NG LEUNG-SING, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE STEVEN HO CHUN-YIN

THE HONOURABLE WU CHI-WAI, M.H.

THE HONOURABLE YIU SI-WING

THE HONOURABLE GARY FAN KWOK-WAI

THE HONOURABLE MA FUNG-KWOK, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHARLES PETER MOK

THE HONOURABLE CHAN CHI-CHUEN

THE HONOURABLE CHAN HAN-PAN

DR THE HONOURABLE KENNETH CHAN KA-LOK

THE HONOURABLE CHAN YUEN-HAN, S.B.S., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LEUNG CHE-CHEUNG, B.B.S., M.H., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE KENNETH LEUNG

THE HONOURABLE ALICE MAK MEI-KUEN, J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE KWOK KA-KI

THE HONOURABLE KWOK WAI-KEUNG

THE HONOURABLE DENNIS KWOK

THE HONOURABLE CHRISTOPHER CHEUNG WAH-FUNG, J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE FERNANDO CHEUNG CHIU-HUNG

THE HONOURABLE SIN CHUNG-KAI, S.B.S., J.P.

DR THE HONOURABLE HELENA WONG PIK-WAN

THE HONOURABLE IP KIN-YUEN

DR THE HONOURABLE ELIZABETH QUAT, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE MARTIN LIAO CHEUNG-KONG, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE POON SIU-PING, B.B.S., M.H.

THE HONOURABLE TANG KA-PIU

DR THE HONOURABLE CHIANG LAI-WAN, J.P.

IR DR THE HONOURABLE LO WAI-KWOK, B.B.S., M.H., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHUNG KWOK-PAN

THE HONOURABLE CHRISTOPHER CHUNG SHU-KUN, B.B.S., M.H., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE TONY TSE WAI-CHUEN

MEMBER ABSENT:

THE HONOURABLE FRANKIE YICK CHI-MING

PUBLIC OFFICERS ATTENDING:

THE HONOURABLE JOHN TSANG CHUN-WAH, G.B.M., J.P.
THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

THE HONOURABLE RIMSKY YUEN KWOK-KEUNG, S.C., J.P.
THE SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE

PROF THE HONOURABLE ANTHONY CHEUNG BING-LEUNG, G.B.S.,
J.P.
SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AND HOUSING

THE HONOURABLE TSANG TAK-SING, G.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS

THE HONOURABLE MATTHEW CHEUNG KIN-CHUNG, G.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR LABOUR AND WELFARE

PROF THE HONOURABLE K C CHAN, G.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY

THE HONOURABLE GREGORY SO KAM-LEUNG, G.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE HONOURABLE RAYMOND TAM CHI-YUEN, G.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS

THE HONOURABLE LAI TUNG-KWOK, S.B.S., I.D.S.M., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR SECURITY

THE HONOURABLE EDDIE NG HAK-KIM, S.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

DR THE HONOURABLE KO WING-MAN, B.B.S., J.P.
SECRETARY FOR FOOD AND HEALTH

THE HONOURABLE WONG KAM-SING, J.P.
SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

MR SHIU SIN-POR, S.B.S., J.P.
HEAD, CENTRAL POLICY UNIT

PROF SOPHIA CHAN SIU-CHEE, J.P.
UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD AND HEALTH

MR KEVIN YEUNG YUN-HUNG, J.P.
UNDER SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

MR LAU KONG-WAH, J.P.
UNDER SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND
AFFAIRS

MR ERIC MA SIU-CHEUNG, J.P.
UNDER SECRETARY FOR DEVELOPMENT

CLERKS IN ATTENDANCE:

MR KENNETH CHEN WEI-ON, S.B.S., SECRETARY GENERAL

MRS JUSTINA LAM CHENG BO-LING, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL

MR ANDY LAU KWOK-CHEONG, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

MISS FLORA TAI YIN-PING, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

MISS ODELIA LEUNG HING-YEE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

(A number of Members rose)

MR LEE CHEUK-YAN (in Cantonese): President, today is the 25th anniversary of the 4 June Incident and I hope you and all the Members of the Legislative Council will observe a moment of silence in the Council to mourn those compatriots who died in the 4 June Incident and to express our wish that the one-party dictatorship in China will end early and a democratic China appears.

President, I invite you to observe a one-minute silence.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Mr LEE, this Council upholds a clear convention on when a moment of silence will be observed. It is only when an incumbent Member of this Council has died or when a political figure who has made significant contribution to Hong Kong has died or when a grave disaster has struck and caused huge fatalities recently that this Council will observe a moment of silence.

MR LEE CHEUK-YAN (in Cantonese): President, those victims of the 4 June Incident made great contribution to the cause of democracy in China and they are definitely more important than any political figure.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): As what you have said does not fall within the convention of this Council on observing a moment of silence, your request cannot be made part of the proceedings of this Council.

MR LEE CHEUK-YAN (in Cantonese): President, we now observe a one-minute silence for our compatriots who died in the 4 June Incident.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now suspend the meeting.

11.01 am

Meeting suspended.

11.03 am

Council then resumed.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table under Rule 21(2) of the Rules of Procedure:

| Subsidiary Legislation/Instruments | <i>L.N. No.</i> |
|---|-----------------|
| Schedule of Routes (Citybus Limited) Order 2014 | 63/2014 |
| Schedule of Routes (Citybus Limited) (North Lantau and Chek Lap Kok Airport) Order 2014 | 64/2014 |
| Schedule of Routes (Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited) Order 2014 | 65/2014 |
| Schedule of Routes (New World First Bus Services Limited) Order 2014 | 66/2014 |
| Schedule of Routes (Long Win Bus Company Limited) Order 2014..... | 67/2014 |
| Patents Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 1) Order 2014..... | 68/2014 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| Registered Designs Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule) Regulation 2014..... | 69/2014 |
| Trade Marks Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 1) Regulation 2014..... | 70/2014 |
| Layout-design (Topography) of Integrated Circuits (Designation of Qualifying Countries, Territories or Areas) (Amendment) Regulation 2014 | 71/2014 |
| Telecommunications (Control of Interference) (Amendment) Regulation 2014..... | 72/2014 |
| Hazardous Chemicals Control Ordinance (Amendment of Schedules 1 and 2) Order 2014 | 73/2014 |

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vocational Education Programmes Offered by Vocational Training Council

1. **MR KWOK WAI-KEUNG** (in Chinese): *President, regarding the vocational education programmes offered by the Vocational Training Council (VTC), will the Government inform this Council if it knows:*

- (1) *the respective numbers of full-time or part-time Diploma in Vocational Education (DVE) and Higher Diploma (HD) programmes offered by VTC in the academic years between 2008-2009 and 2012-2013, and in respect of such programmes, (i) the academic disciplines, (ii) the entry requirements, (iii) the durations of study, (iv) the numbers of places offered, (v) the numbers of students enrolled and (vi) the numbers of graduates, and set out a breakdown, by programme title and academic years, in tables of the same format as the table below;*

Academic year: _____

Level of study: DVE/HD

| <i>Programme title</i> | <i>Full-time/ Part-time day/evening programme</i> | <i>(i)</i> | <i>(ii)</i> | <i>(iii)</i> | <i>(iv)</i> | <i>(v)</i> | <i>(vi)</i> |
|------------------------|---|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

- (2) *the criteria adopted by VTC for determining the ratio of the number of DVE programmes to that of HD programmes; and*
- (3) *whether VTC will consider running more part-time programmes; if it will, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION (in Chinese): President, the Government established the VTC in 1982 under the Vocational Training Council Ordinance (Cap. 1130) to promote the development of vocational education in Hong Kong. The VTC offers a wide range of full-time and part-time vocational education programmes which lead to formal qualifications from post-Secondary Three up to degree levels.

- (1) The VTC offers over 200 DVE and HD programmes annually covering the disciplines of applied science, design, engineering, hospitality, child education and community services, business and information technology.

From the 2009-2010 to 2013-2014 academic years, the numbers of planned places, students enrolled and graduates of DVE (Diploma in Vocational Studies under the old academic structure) and HD by discipline are provided at Annex 1 and Annex 2 respectively.

In the 2013-2014 academic year, the general admission criteria and duration of study of DVE and HD are as follows:

| | <i>General Admission Criteria</i> | <i>General Duration of Study</i> |
|-----|--|---|
| DVE | Secondary Three/Secondary Six leavers | 1 to 4 years (Full-time)/ 2 to 5 years (Part-time) |
| HD | 5 subjects of Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Examination at Level 2 or above, including English Language and Chinese Language; or equivalent (For Secondary Six graduates under the new academic structure) | 2 years (Full-time)/ 3 to 5 years (Part-time) |
| | 5 subjects of Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination at Grade E/Level 2 or above, including English Language and Chinese Language; or equivalent (For Secondary Five graduates under the old academic structure) | 3 to 5 years (Part-time) |

(2) and (3)

The VTC will consider a variety of factors, including Government policies, manpower requirement of the market, development of the industries, number of students enrolled and internal resources in programmes planning. In future, the VTC will continue to offer programmes that meet the needs of the industries and students. For instance, the VTC is planning to launch a pilot training and support scheme for industries with keen demand for labour. It will attract young people and in-service personnel to pursue vocational education and develop a career in the relevant industries by integrating structured apprenticeship training programmes with clear progression pathways.

2009-2010 to 2013-2014 AY
 Numbers of Planned Places, Students Enrolled and Graduates of Diploma in
 Vocational Studies/Diploma in Vocational Education Programmes offered by VTC

| | Disciplines | 2009-2010 | | | 2010-2011 | | | 2011-2012 | | | 2012-2013 | | | 2013-2014 | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates |
| Full-time | Business | 1 220 | 1 271 | 486 | 1 430 | 1 433 | 518 | 1 210 | 1 129 | 89 | 1 910 | 1 856 | 403 | 1 750 | 1 998 | Data is not available as students will graduate in August 2014 |
| | Design | 680 | 766 | 394 | 700 | 724 | 393 | 400 | 426 | 47 | 690 | 746 | 161 | 610 | 769 | |
| | Engineering | 2 770 | 2 733 | 1 368 | 2 920 | 2 723 | 1 565 | 1 670 | 1 637 | 355 | 2 710 | 2 614 | 720 | 2 520 | 2 598 | |
| | Hospitality | 90 | 106 | 52 | 40 | 43 | 35 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 110 | 111 | 1 | 160 | 218 | |
| | Information Technology | 620 | 698 | 251 | 860 | 915 | 284 | 860 | 883 | 58 | 1 320 | 1 334 | 267 | 1 070 | 1 348 | |
| | Total | 5 380 | 5 574 | 2 551 | 5 950 | 5 838 | 2 795 | 4 140 ⁽¹⁾ | 4 078 ⁽¹⁾ | 549 ⁽¹⁾ | 6 740 | 6 661 | 1 552 | 6 110 | 6 931 | |
| Part-time (Day) | Engineering/Services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 700 ⁽²⁾ | 261 | 20 | 490 ⁽²⁾ | 291 | |
| Part-time (Evening) | Business | 0 | 9 | 4 | 60 | 23 | 0 | 50 | 39 | 0 | 50 | 61 | 3 | 80 | 70 | |
| | Design | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | Engineering | 0 | 36 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 84 | |
| | Information Technology | 0 | 1 | 1 | 60 | 29 | 0 | 50 | 44 | 0 | 50 | 57 | 0 | 80 | 65 | |
| | Total | 0 | 56 | 24 | 120 | 52 | 0 | 100 | 86 | 1 | 100 | 118 | 3 | 260 | 219 | |

Notes:

- (1) With the implementation of new academic structure, there were no Secondary Five graduates in 2011 for admission to one-year Diploma in Vocational Education programme in the 2011-2012 AY. Hence, there was a decrease in the total number of planned places, students enrolled and graduates.
- (2) The VTC implemented the Pilot Traineeship Scheme for Services Industries in the 2012-2013 AY. The number of planned places was adjusted in the 2012-2013 AY with regards to the demand.

Annex 2

2009-2010 to 2013-2014 AY

Number of Planned Places, Students Enrolled and Graduates of HD Programmes offered by VTC⁽¹⁾

| | Disciplines | 2009-2010 | | | 2010-2011 | | | 2011-2012 | | | 2012-2013 | | | 2013-2014 | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| | | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates | Planned Places | Students Enrolled | Graduates |
| Full-time | Applied Science | 2 140 | 2 253 | 700 | 2 140 | 2 158 | 689 | 1 910 | 2 239 | 716 | 2 230 | 2 451 | 764 | 2 640 | 2 681 | Data is not available as students will graduate in August 2014 |
| | Business | 10 460 | 10 996 | 3 881 | 9 580 | 9 801 | 3 052 | 8 500 | 8 974 | 3 205 | 8 740 | 7 600 | 3 003 | 7 230 | 6 535 | |
| | Child Education and Community Services | 760 | 884 | 268 | 920 | 1 019 | 336 | 970 | 1 061 | 409 | 1 030 | 1 113 | 412 | 1 200 | 1 341 | |
| | Design | 4 740 | 4 580 | 1 346 | 4 430 | 4 427 | 1 402 | 3 810 | 4 160 | 1 364 | 4 160 | 4 137 | 1 286 | 4 440 | 4 703 | |
| | Engineering | 8 460 | 8 922 | 2 020 | 8 090 | 8 316 | 1 960 | 7 060 | 7 447 | 2 343 | 7 310 | 7 088 | 2 350 | 6 830 | 6 886 | |
| | Hospitality | 3 020 | 3 075 | 1 209 | 2 780 | 2 776 | 990 | 2 370 | 2 569 | 930 | 2 900 | 2 945 | 968 | 3 550 | 3 791 | |
| | Information Technology | 4 740 | 5 115 | 1 220 | 4 500 | 4 842 | 1 221 | 3 580 | 4 120 | 1 213 | 3 970 | 3 601 | 1 210 | 3 250 | 3 278 | |
| | Total | 34 320 | 35 825 | 10 644 | 32 440 | 33 339 | 9 650 | 28 200 ⁽³⁾ | 30 570 ⁽³⁾ | 10 180 | 30 340 | 28 935 | 9 993 | 29 140 | 29 215 | |
| | Part-time (Day) | Engineering | 900 | 907 | 154 | 970 | 1 085 | 64 | 1 290 | 1 406 | 75 | 1 690 | 1 505 | 121 | 1 860 | |
| Part-time (Evening) | Applied Science | 140 | 115 | 20 | 110 | 130 | 18 | 100 | 110 | 23 | 200 | 139 | 26 | 160 | 157 | |
| | Business | 2 130 | 2 502 | 707 | 2 210 | 2 131 | 608 | 1 710 | 1 700 | 389 | 1 430 | 1 328 | 352 | 1 030 | 985 | |
| | Child Education and community services ⁽²⁾ | 110 | 64 | 0 | 120 | 211 | 21 | 240 | 237 | 25 | 250 | 274 | 118 | 180 | 160 | |
| | Design | 1 430 | 1 188 | 250 | 1 210 | 1 039 | 308 | 920 | 804 | 210 | 820 | 679 | 169 | 640 | 522 | |
| | Engineering | 4 350 | 4 433 | 910 | 4 420 | 4 382 | 766 | 4 250 | 4 241 | 776 | 4 320 | 4 178 | 617 | 4 210 | 4 261 | |
| | Information Technology | 770 | 890 | 174 | 900 | 822 | 223 | 790 | 676 | 173 | 620 | 565 | 146 | 490 | 463 | |
| | Total | 8 930 | 9 192 | 2 061 | 8 970 | 8 715 | 1 944 | 8 010 | 7 768 | 1 596 | 7 640 | 7 163 | 1 428 | 6 710 | 6 548 | |

Notes:

- (1) Some HD programmes confer qualifications at multiple exit levels. Students may choose to exit the programmes after completing relevant modules. The above table excludes graduates with qualifications of exit levels other than HD.
- (2) Excluding the former child education HD programmes supported by special funding of the Education Bureau.
- (3) With the implementation of the new academic structure, there were no Secondary Five graduates in 2011 for admission to HD programmes in the 2011-2012 AY. Hence, there was a decrease in the total number of planned places and students enrolled.

Regulation of Trade and Collection of Ivory

2. **DR ELIZABETH QUAT:** *President, the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) (the Ordinance) is the local legislation that gives effect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Under the Ordinance, a licence issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is required for the import, introduction from the sea, export, re-export or possession of ivory. CITES has banned international trade of ivory since 1990, but ivory legally imported into Hong Kong prior to the trade ban may, after being registered with the AFCD and issued with a Licence to Possess by the AFCD, be legally traded in Hong Kong. However, such ivory is not allowed to be re-exported for commercial trade. Regarding the ivory trade in Hong Kong, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *given that it has been recently reported that Hong Kong's top three retailers of ivory have ceased selling ivory products, and that the Government has commenced phased destruction of confiscated ivory by incineration since May 2014 to demonstrate its determination to curb illicit trade in ivory, whether the Government will consider imposing a comprehensive ban on all ivory sales in Hong Kong; if it will not, of the reasons for that;*
- (2) *whether the AFCD will consider implementing a registration system for ivory items held in private collections, which makes use of carbon dating technology to ascertain the age of such items; if it will not, of the reasons for that;*
- (3) *whether the AFCD will consider making public a list of holders of ivory licences, and stating on the application forms for such licences that the personal information entered thereon may be used for such purpose; if it will not, of the reasons for that;*
- (4) *of the following statistics on Hong Kong's legal ivory trade in each of the past five years (set out in the table below); if there is no such information, the reasons for that; and*
 - (i) *the number of ivory licence holders;*
 - (ii) *the quantity of raw and worked ivory legally held as inventory by ivory licence holders (in tonnes); and*

- (iii) *the quantity of raw and worked ivory leaving the inventory of ivory licence holders (in tonnes);*

| <i>Year</i> | <i>(i)</i> | <i>(ii)</i> | <i>(iii)</i> |
|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>2009</i> | | | |
| <i>2010</i> | | | |
| <i>2011</i> | | | |
| <i>2012</i> | | | |
| <i>2013</i> | | | |

- (5) *given the strong demand for ivory products on the Mainland and the surge in Mainland visitor arrivals to Hong Kong in recent years, whether the Government knows if the rate of depletion of the inventory of raw and worked ivory held by ivory licence holders accelerated in the past 10 years correspondingly; if the rate did not accelerate, whether it has assessed the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: President,

- (1) The Ordinance is the local legislation that gives effect to the CITES in Hong Kong. There are two existing elephant species, namely the Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) and African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*). Asian elephant has already been listed in Appendix I to CITES since 1975. African elephant was first listed in Appendix III to CITES in 1976 and uplisted to Appendix I in 1990. Since then, the international commercial trade in elephants, including specimens thereof such as ivory, has been virtually banned, except under certain specific and stringent circumstances permitted under CITES.

Given the history of Hong Kong as a trade centre of ivory in the Asian region in the 1980s, substantial amount of ivory had been legally imported into Hong Kong during that period. Such ivory, which was imported before the international trade ban in 1990, was registered by the AFCD. Hong Kong has put in place a strict licensing system to regulate the domestic sale of such ivory. The control regime in respect of trade in endangered species, including elephant ivory, is in line with CITES and is comparable to other countries. The licensing system has been effective. There is no plan to deviate from this well established system. The Government

endeavours to fully implement the CITES provisions, and will continue our efforts on public education and publicity to enhance public awareness on protection of endangered species.

(2) and (3)

According to the Ordinance, possession of elephant ivory for commercial purpose requires a Licence to Possess issued by the AFCD. In line with CITES, the Ordinance provides for exemption from the licensing requirement regarding possession of ivory as personal effect or for non-commercial purpose. There is no plan to require registration of such possession.

The holders of ivory possession licenses include companies and individuals holding ivory for commercial purpose. Personal information is collected from the application form when an applicant applies for a Licence to Possess. The Ordinance has no explicit provision for the disclosure of the personal data collected through the application of Licence to Possess. Given the recent public interest and attention on this matter, we will consider making available to the public a list of holders of ivory possession licences subject to legal advice on privacy of personal data.

(4) The statistics on Hong Kong's ivory trade in the past five years are shown in the table below. The figures are the amount of registered ivory under valid Licences to Possess held for commercial purpose, and exclude those inactive stock held for non-commercial purpose.

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Number of licence holders</i> | <i>Quantity of registered ivory stock under Licences to Possess (tonnes)</i> |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 2009 | 609 | 177.9 |
| 2010 | 465 | 121.1 |
| 2011 | 431 | 116.5 |
| 2012 | 436 | 118.7 ⁽¹⁾ |
| 2013 | 447 | 117.1 |

Note:

(1) In 2012, there was a net increase of 2.2 tonnes of registered ivory from non-commercial to commercial purpose, and thus the quantity of registered ivory under Licences to Possess increased to 118.7 tonnes.

- (5) CITES does not prohibit local trade in pre-Convention ivory and ivory registered before the international trade ban in 1990. The decreasing trend of the registered ivory stock is mainly due to local consumption as personal effect or for non-commercial purpose.

Pedestrian Facilities for Residents of Lam Tin

3. **MR PAUL TSE** (in Chinese): *President, at present, there is an indoor escalator system (the escalator system) connecting Exit A of MTR Lam Tin Station with the Sceneway Garden and the hillside areas near Ping Tin Estate, which comprises three sections each having three escalators. Some residents and District Council members from the Lam Tin district have complained that the escalator system is overcrowded due to a rather high utilization rate, and the air is stuffy due to inadequate fresh air generated by the air-conditioning system. Besides, the escalator system often has to be partly or wholly shut down for repairs because of its ageing parts, making the system even more overcrowded and frequently giving rise to accidents. On the other hand, the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) has endorsed the implementation of a district minor works project called "A stone staircase link between Ping Tin Estate and Lei Yue Mun Road" (the staircase project) to facilitate the working people living in Lam Tin to travel to and from the bus-stops for cross-harbour buses at the Toll Plaza of the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC). Yet, it is learned that the works of the project are yet to commence as the Civil Engineering and Development Department, responsible for the works of the project, has failed to reach an agreement with the Kwun Tong District Office on the issue of works supervision. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *of the Policy Bureau/government department which is responsible for monitoring the operation of the escalator system, and the design capacity as well as the current actual loading of the system; whether it has assessed the loading of the system during periods of repairs and maintenance, and whether such loading has exceeded the design capacity; if it has assessed, of the outcome and the improvement measures in place; if not, whether it will conduct such an assessment immediately;*
- (2) *of the number of occasions, in each of the past three years, on which the escalator system was partly or wholly shut down due to*

malfunctioning of the system, and the repair and maintenance costs of the system;

- (3) whether it has plans to upgrade the escalator system (including the air-conditioning system and standard of its mechanical parts) to reduce the frequencies of system failures and service suspensions for repair works; if so, of the details, as well as the estimated costs for the related works, and the time needed; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (4) how the Government will resolve the conflicts between the two aforesaid departments on the staircase project, and which department will be assigned to be responsible for the project and of the expected time for commencement of the works; and*
- (5) as the Transport Department (TD) has indicated in its reply to KTDC on the 8th of last month that there is no need to implement the proposed staircase project because its estimated utilization rate is not high, but the residents of Ping Tin Estate and Yau Lai Estate hold contrary views, of the statistics and justifications based on which the TD has given such a view, and whether the TD has consulted the residents of the two districts and the District Council members concerned; if so, of the results; if not, the reasons for that, and whether it will conduct such a consultation immediately?*

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AND HOUSING (in Chinese): President, my reply to Mr Paul TSE's question is as follows:

- (1) Lam Tin Station was completed in 1989 for operation. There are a total of nine escalators at entrance/exit A, divided into three sections by groups of three each, connecting Lam Tin Station with Kai Tin Road. Escalators are regulated by the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Cap. 618) (Ordinance), the enforcement of which is carried out by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD). The EMSD points out that the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) is the owner of the abovementioned escalators. Under section 44 of the Ordinance, the MTRCL must ensure that these escalators and their associated equipment or machinery are kept under proper repair and in safe working order.

The current design of the nine escalators at entrance/exit A of Lam Tin Station can each handle 120 commuters per minute. The MTRCL does not have the statistics for the actual escalator throughput. But, according to its observation, the escalators at present generally meet the needs of commuters as reflected by their utilization. No passenger has to wait in queue to ride on the escalators.

- (2) The MTRCL points out that in the past three years, the nine escalators at entrance/exit A of Lam Tin Station functioned normally in more than 99% of their operational time. During the period, there were on average around eight failures per month for all of these nine escalators combined. The frequency of failure is comparable to that of other similar MTR escalators. According to the MTRCL's record, these failures were mostly caused by external factors such as foreign objects caught at the edge of the steps.

The MTRCL has attached great importance to the repair/maintenance of escalators. They are regularly checked and repaired, and their condition is closely monitored. According to the record of the MTRCL, numerous components of the nine escalators have been replaced, including inspection of bearing, replacement of handrail chain, motor, floorplate, step and step wheel, as well as applying lubrication, so as to ensure proper operation of the escalators. The annual repair/maintenance expenditure of these nine escalators exceeds \$700,000.

- (3) In general, escalators inside MTR premises have a design lifespan of over 40 years. At around their 25th year of use, the escalators will undergo a major mid-life refurbishment by the MTRCL. The MTRCL plans to carry out major refurbishment for all nine escalators at entrance/exit A of Lam Tin Station by batches between 2015 and 2019 at a cost of about \$2 million per escalator. Different from the daily repair/maintenance, contractors have to repair and maintain each component of the whole escalator thoroughly during the major refurbishment. Worn-out components will have to be replaced as well. Each major refurbishment takes around three months, with one escalator undergoing the refurbishment at a time, so as to minimize the impact to passengers. During the refurbishment, the MTRCL will closely monitor the work progress and passenger flow at concerned locations. Corresponding arrangements will be in place if necessary to ensure smooth passenger flow.

(4) and (5)

Given the scope, complexity and technical requirements of the "stone staircase link between Ping Tin Estate and Lei Yue Mun Road" project, particularly the responsibilities of slope management and maintenance, the Home Affairs Department considers the implementation of the project not suitable under the District Minor Works Programme (Programme) after completing the initial project planning under the Programme. On 27 March 2014, the Kwun Tong District Office explained the above to the District Facilities Management Committee of the KTDC.

The proposed "stone staircase link between Ping Tin Estate and Lei Yue Mun Road" aims at linking up Ping Tin Estate and the section of Lei Yue Mun Road near Lei Yue Mun Road/Kai Tin Road roundabout. The connection point at Lei Yue Mun Road is about 500 m away from the cross-harbour bus stops outside the EHC portal and St. Antonius Girls' College. Besides, the staircase is to be built along a very steep slope of a gradient of 30 to 60 degrees and at a height of about 40 m, with as many as 260 steps or so. It is also expected that the construction of the staircase requires felling or replanting of quite a number of trees.

At present, residents of Ping Tin Estate can travel via On Tin Street and Kai Tin Road to Lei Yue Mun Road. Residents can also access Lam Tin Public Transport Interchange (PTI) from Kai Tin Road via MTR Lam Tin Station to take public transport or ride on MTR for trips to and from various districts in Hong Kong. Also, a bus route (No. 603) operated inside On Tin Estate runs to and from Central and Western District on Hong Kong side via the EHC. The TD anticipates that most residents will still use the existing footpath(s) and MTR station facilities for travelling between On Tin Street and Lei Yue Mun Road or Lam Tin PTI. The TD is of the view that the passenger flow of the proposed staircase will be much lower than that of public pedestrian facilities in general. As such, from the traffic and transport perspective, the TD considers it not necessary to construct the proposed staircase pedestrian link. As the original proposal was raised by KTDC, the TD has already conveyed its assessment to KTDC directly.

Pilot Scheme on Municipal Solid Waste Charging

4. **MR CHAN HAK-KAN** (in Chinese): *President, on 7 April, the Environment Bureau announced the implementation of a pilot scheme in seven housing estates for a period of six months to accumulate practical experience in respect of the three quantity-based charging modes (that is, Weight-based by buildings, Volume-based by buildings and Volume-based by households), which will be used as reference for the implementation of municipal solid waste (MSW) charging in future. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *how the authorities determined the types of housing estates participating in the pilot scheme and the scale of the pilot scheme;*
- (2) *how the authorities recruited and selected the participating housing estates;*
- (3) *how the authorities publicize and promote the pilot scheme to the residents of the relevant housing estates at present;*
- (4) *of the operational details of the pilot scheme, including the respective dates on which the pilot scheme will start and cease to be implemented in various housing estates;*
- (5) *given that the pilot scheme adopts only a mock waste charge for the trial run, and the residents concerned are not required to pay any charge based on the volume of waste they dispose of, whether the authorities have assessed how the results of the pilot scheme can reflect residents' behavioural pattern when MSW charging is implemented in future; and*
- (6) *given that the pilot scheme covers only multi-storey residential buildings, whether the authorities will implement pilot schemes on MSW charging in other types of buildings (for example, commercial/residential buildings, commercial buildings, industrial buildings and village houses); if they will, of the details?*

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (in Chinese): President, the Environment Bureau announced on 7 April 2014 that seven housing estates will participate in a pilot scheme on MSW charging (the Pilot Scheme) organized by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). The Pilot Scheme will collect further public opinions and accumulate experience for the future implementation of MSW charging.

My reply to the question is as follow:

(1) and (2)

Over 90% of the Hong Kong people reside in housing estates that are managed by property management companies (PMCs). The targeted housing type under the Pilot Scheme will be housing estates (public or private) that are managed by PMCs. It aims to test out the situation in mainstream residential buildings after how MSW charging is implemented. Through the liaison with the property management sector and other means, the EPD has secured the participation in the Pilot Scheme by seven housing estates of different types, including Amoy Gardens, Chai Wan Estate, Chun Seen Mei Chuen, Island Resort, Kwong Tin Estate, Tak Tin Estate and The Orchards. We will maintain the Pilot Scheme at its current scale, mainly to ensure that we have the capability to provide the necessary support to each participating estate.

- (3) The EPD is maintaining close liaison (including meetings) with the relevant PMCs and owner/resident organizations so as to introduce to them the latest developments on MSW charging and details of the Pilot Scheme. We have also appointed contractors to provide the participating estates with the necessary support, including analysis and compilation of waste disposal statistics, enhanced provision of resource recycling facilities, and provision of relevant publicity and public education on environmental protection, and so on. Through press release and other means, we have also provided members of the public with updates on latest developments of the Pilot Scheme.
- (4) The Pilot Scheme will last for six months during which waste disposal statistics of the participating estates will be collected for analysis. A baseline survey will be conducted in the first month.

Thereafter, each participating estate will test out the quantity-based charging options of their choice, that is, "Weight-based by Buildings", "Volume-based by Buildings" and "Volume-based by Households". During the Pilot Scheme, the EPD will provide assistance and necessary support services. Operational details of the Pilot Scheme are set out at Annex.

- (5) The mock waste charge in the Pilot Scheme is determined on the basis of the amount of waste being disposed of, at the rate of \$1 per 10 litre. Although technically there are constraints to impose a mandatory charge at the trial phase, the waste disposal statistics collected and the stated mock charge will also provide indications on the behavioural change of the households and the operation of the Pilot Scheme.
- (6) At this stage, our trial will focus on housing estates that are managed by PMCs. The experiences accumulated will be applicable to the majority of Hong Kong people. Whether to conduct trial for other housing types in future will depend on need and practical circumstances.

Annex

Pilot Scheme on MSW Charging: Operational Details

Implementation Timetable

| | <i>Housing Estate</i> | <i>Baseline Survey</i> | | <i>Formal Trial</i> | |
|----|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | | <i>Start</i> | <i>End</i> | <i>Start</i> | <i>End</i> |
| 1. | Amoy Gardens | 23 April | 22 May | 23 May | Late October |
| 2. | Island Resort | 24 April | 31 May | 1 June | Late October |
| 3. | Chun Seen Mei Chuen | 28 April | 31 May | 1 June | Late October |
| 4. | The Orchards | 5 May | 31 May | 1 June | Late October |
| 5. | Tak Tin Estate | 15 May | 30 June | 1 July | Late November |
| 6. | Chai Wan Estate | 1 July | Late July | Early August | Late December |
| 7. | Kwong Tin Estate | 1 July | Late July | Early August | Late December |

Operational Details

- "Weight-based by Buildings": The PMC will pay a mock waste charge based on the weight of waste disposed of by the whole building so as to provide incentives to the estate and residents for waste reduction. With reference to the prevailing charging level in Taipei City, the recommended mock charge is \$500 per tonne. The following housing estates will try out this charging mechanism: Amoy Gardens, Chai Wan Estate, Island Resort, Kwong Tin Estate and Tak Tin Estate.
- "Volume-based by Buildings": The PMC will pay a waste charge based on the volume of waste (in terms of the number of refuse collection bins that have been filled) disposed of by the whole building. With reference to the prevailing charging level in Taipei City, the recommended mock charge is \$66 per bin (with a volume of 660 litres). The following housing estates will try out this charging mechanism: Amoy Gardens, Chun Seen Mei Chuen, Island Resort, Kwong Tin Estate, Tak Tin Estate and The Orchards.
- Volume-based by Households: Individual households will purchase designated garbage bags (in three sizes — 5 litre, 10 litre or 15 litre) and use them for waste disposal. With reference to the prevailing charging level in Taipei City, we recommend to price the bags at \$0.1 per litre on average. The following housing estates will try out this charging mechanism: Amoy Gardens, Chai Wan Estate, Island Resort, Kwong Tin Estate and Tak Tin Estate. But taking into account practical circumstances, individual housing estates may devise slightly different charging arrangements in order to dovetail with their daily operation.

Support Services

- The EPD has appointed service contractors to provide the participating estates with the necessary support services. Such services include the enhancement of recycling support within the estates, free supply of designated garbage bags, daily measurement of waste disposal and amount of recyclables, monitoring of compliance within the estates, analysis and compilation of waste disposal statistics and trends of the mock charges, provision of publicity and environmental education as well as carrying out of opinion surveys.

Use of Temporary Structures as Offices by Government Departments

5. **MR WU CHI-WAI** (in Chinese): *President, I have learnt that government departments, such as the Highways Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department, erect temporary structures on construction sites from time to time for use as offices. Such temporary structures will be demolished and not be reused after the completion of the works, thus generating a substantial quantity of construction waste. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *of the number of temporary structures erected on construction sites for use by personnel of government departments as well as the expenditure so incurred in each of the past five years, with a breakdown by the names of departments;*
- (2) *of the number of such temporary structures demolished and quantity of construction waste (in tonne) so generated in each of the past five years; and*
- (3) *whether there are any policies or guidelines currently in place that require or encourage government departments to use recyclable building materials as far as possible for the erection of such temporary structures; if so, of the details, and whether it has monitored the implementation of such policies and guidelines by the government departments concerned; if there is no policy or guideline, whether the authorities will consider formulating the relevant policies or guidelines?*

SECRETARY FOR DEVELOPMENT (in Chinese): President, the Government is committed to reducing the generation of construction and demolition (C&D) waste⁽¹⁾ in public works. To this end, we have applied the concepts of standardization, simplification and single integrated element, and used prefabricated components as far as possible during the design and construction of works. When metal formwork is used for manufacturing these elements and prefabricated components, they can be used repeatedly to reduce

(1) "C&D waste" refers to the non-inert C&D materials generated in construction works and disposed of at landfills.

disposal of waste formwork material. Contractors are also required to submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to the Architect/Engineer for approval under the public works contracts. In addition to waste reduction measures and targets, the EMP provides for sorting of the C&D materials on site to facilitate recovery and recycling.

According to the statistics of the Environmental Protection Department, about 3 440 tonnes of C&D waste was disposed of at landfills each day in 2012 on average. We conducted a rough survey of the C&D waste generated by public works in December 2013. The result indicates that the C&D waste generated by public works and disposed of at landfills in that month averaged about 180 tonnes a day and, by inference, accounted for about 5% of the total C&D waste.

My reply to the three parts of the question raised by Mr WU is as follows:

- (1) The following is a breakdown by department of the number of resident site staff offices erected for public works projects and the expenditure incurred each year over the past five years:

| <i>Works Departments</i> | <i>Year</i> | <i>Number of offices erected</i> | <i>Expenditure (HK\$ million)</i> |
|--|-------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Architectural Services Department | 2009 | 24 | 15.6 |
| | 2010 | 19 | 12.9 |
| | 2011 | 6 | 2.9 |
| | 2012 | 12 | 17.0 |
| | 2013 | 12 | 33.0 |
| Civil Engineering and Development Department | 2009 | 18 | 20.7 |
| | 2010 | 15 | 35.4 |
| | 2011 | 24 | 25.4 |
| | 2012 | 10 | 17.4 |
| | 2013 | 12 | 52.5 |
| Drainage Services Department | 2009 | 15 | 85.7 |
| | 2010 | 19 | 47.3 |
| | 2011 | 15 | 64.7 |
| | 2012 | 15 | 85.8 |
| | 2013 | 14 | 86.3 |

| <i>Works Departments</i> | <i>Year</i> | <i>Number of offices erected</i> | <i>Expenditure (HK\$ million)</i> |
|---|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Electrical and Mechanical Services Department | 2009 | - | - |
| | 2010 | - | - |
| | 2011 | 1 | 4.3 |
| | 2012 | - | - |
| | 2013 | 1 | 4.6 |
| Highways Department | 2009 | 7 | 7.2 |
| | 2010 | 7 | 17.9 |
| | 2011 | 5 | 5.2 |
| | 2012 | 14 | 146.6 |
| | 2013 | 7 | 138.1 |
| Water Supplies Department | 2009 | 16 | 42.1 |
| | 2010 | 6 | 20.6 |
| | 2011 | 9 | 86.7 |
| | 2012 | 13 | 19.3 |
| | 2013 | 6 | 170.4 |

- (2) The number of resident site staff offices demolished in public works projects and the amount of C&D waste generated each year over the past five years are listed below:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Number of offices demolished</i> | <i>Approximate quantity of C&D waste (tonnes)</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2009 | 28 | 392 |
| 2010 | 48 | 703 |
| 2011 | 53 | 650 |
| 2012 | 47 | 697 |
| 2013 | 41 | 933 |

The above C&D wastes are mainly decoration debris generated from the demolition of resident site staff offices, including unserviceable or damaged vinyl floor sheeting, carpets, partitions, false ceiling grids, window glasses, insulation fibres, and so on, which could not be reused.

- (3) The Project Administration Handbook for public works stipulates that the works departments concerned should consider the possibility of re-using resident staff offices of completed projects before

erecting any such offices for new works projects. If construction of new resident site offices is necessary, they should consider using prefabricated components to allow reuse in future and reduce C&D waste. Moreover, we are promoting green site offices. Apart from measures for energy saving, emission reduction and greening, a green site office also adopts modular building design and use recyclable materials to facilitate their reuse as far as possible when the offices are demolished to reduce generation of C&D waste. The Architectural Services Department has recently pioneered the use of green site office in a primary school project at the Kai Tak Development. We will continue to promote the concept of using green site offices in public works projects.

Improvement to Access to Information Regime

6. **MR CHARLES PETER MOK** (in Chinese): *President, in its direct investigation report on the regime for access to information (ATI) in Hong Kong released in March this year, the Office of The Ombudsman has identified a number of inadequacies of the regime, and recommended that the Government should consider introducing a law to underpin the citizens' right of ATI, and setting up an independent body with law-enforcement powers to monitor the work relating to ATI. In addition, the report has also recommended that the authorities should, before the enactment of such a law, take nine improvement measures, some of which involve the administration of the Code on Access to Information (the Code). In response to the report, the Government has pointed out that the Law Reform Commission (LRC) has started a comprehensive comparative study on the relevant laws in overseas jurisdictions, with a view to considering whether measures to improve the ATI regime should be implemented in Hong Kong and, if so, how these measures should be implemented. The Government has also indicated that it will study any recommendation the LRC may have on this and then consider the way forward. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *of the specific timetable for studying the implementation of the recommendations made in the aforesaid report, and when it will report to the Panel on Constitutional Affairs of this Council on the progress of such work; whether it will consult the stakeholders (including universities and the media) on the relevant matters; if it will not, of the reasons for that;*

- (2) *whether it will implement the aforesaid nine improvement measures before LRC completes the aforesaid comparative study; if it will, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (3) *among the requests for information made in writing received by various policy bureaux/government departments (B/Ds) in the past three years, of the respective numbers of those requests made without citing the contents of the Code and those made without using the application form contained in the Code; and*
- (4) *whether it has plans to increase the transparency of the ATI regime, such as improving the website contents of the Code, and regularly publishing in digital format the data on the requests for information received by various B/Ds; if it has such plans, of the details?*

SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS (in Chinese): President, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSARG) has all along endeavoured to provide necessary information to the public. In fact, since the Code came into effect in March 1995, up to the end of 2013, over 97% of the requests for information were met in full (95.5%) or in part (2.1%); and less than 3% of requests were refused for reasons as set out in Part 2 of the Code. The Ombudsman conducted a comprehensive direct investigation in 2009-2010 on the effectiveness of Government's administration of the Code and put forward 11 recommendations⁽¹⁾, all of which have already been implemented.

Our reply to the different parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) The 11 recommendations are (1) to organize more and timely training for Access to Information Officers; (2) to work with departments to organize more training for other staff; (3) to arrange regular publicity on the Code; (4) to add a Chinese version of the Guidelines to the webpage on the Code; (5) to require all departments' homepages to introduce the Code briefly and to be hyperlinked to the webpage on the Code; (6) to prepare a dossier on the findings of The Ombudsman's inquiries and investigations for reference in staff training; (7) to update and re-circulate regularly relevant circulars; (8) to update the list of frequently asked questions and precedent cases; (9) to provide advice to departments to ensure that departmental guidelines are clear, correct and up-to-date; (10) to keep the format of the quarterly return under regular review; and (11) to follow up with other public bodies within The Ombudsman's purview for them to adopt the Code or some similar guide.

(1), (2) and (4)

Further to the direct investigation conducted in 2009-2010, The Ombudsman released another direct investigation report on the ATI regime in Hong Kong in March this year. Regarding the recommendation on enacting legislation, since the LRC is now conducting a detailed study on the topic of "ATI", the HKSARG will await completion of the study and carefully consider any recommendations which LRC may put forward, before deciding on the way forward. As for the other recommendations of The Ombudsman, including increasing the transparency of the ATI regime and improving the content of the Code's webpage, and so on, we will consult stakeholders as necessary and then follow up as appropriate. We plan to report to the Panel on Constitutional Affairs around the end of the year.

(3) We have all along been collecting and releasing the number of requests for information made under the Code. Requests not made under the Code cover a wide scope including requests and enquiries from different media organizations, bodies and individual citizens to different bureaux and departments. Moreover, such requests are numerous and could also be sent to government departments concerned by mail, email or through telephone hotline or other channels. At present, the Government does not classify the cases by their form of enquiry or record the number of such cases.

Business Conditions of Small and Medium Brokers

7. **MR CHRISTOPHER CHEUNG** (in Chinese): *President, according to the Financial Review of the Securities Industry for the year ended 2013 (the Review) published by the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC), Category C brokers (that is, brokers ranked 66th or after by monthly turnover on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong) recorded a total net profit of \$1.758 billion last year, which was 3.95 times higher than that of 2012. Quite a number of small and medium brokers have questioned the credibility of the aforesaid statistics. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council if it knows:*

- (1) *whether the SFC compiled statistics, broken down by the capital background of the brokers, on (i) the number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a profit and (ii) the number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a loss, in each of the past three years; if the SFC did, set out the statistics in tables of the same format as the table below;*

Year: _____

| <i>Capital background</i> | <i>(i)</i> | <i>(ii)</i> |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|
| <i>Foreign-funded</i> | | |
| <i>Mainland-funded</i> | | |
| <i>Local Chinese-funded</i> | | |
| <i>Others</i> | | |

- (2) *the types of income included in the item "Other income" in Table 2 of the Review; and*
- (3) *whether the SFC will amend the definition of Category C brokers or create a new category in order to reflect more accurately the actual business conditions of small and medium brokers?*

SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY (in Chinese): President, the "Financial Review of the Securities Industry" report (the Report) is issued by the SFC on a half-yearly basis. It provides information and financial highlights relating to securities dealers and securities margin financiers. The financial data provided in the Report are headline summary data, which are compiled based on the information submitted by the relevant organizations to the SFC pursuant to the Securities and Futures (Financial Resources) Rules.

"Table 2" of the Report sets out the financial performance of three Categories of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (SEHK) participants. SEHK participants are classified by the SEHK into Categories A, B and C based on their monthly turnover on the SEHK. Category A SEHK participants refer to the top 14 brokers by market turnover; Category B participants refer to those ranked 15th to 65th and the remainder is grouped under Category C. According to this classification system, Category C participants are not only restricted to small and medium-sized brokers.

As regards the further analysis of the data contained in the Report, the information provided by the SFC is as follows:

- (1) The breakdown of shareholder background is based on the country of the controlling shareholder reported to the SFC by the brokers. It is broadly classified into overseas, Mainland China and Hong Kong. The information currently available to the SFC does not enable them to classify the background of Hong Kong controlling shareholders of brokers further into local Chinese or other nationalities.

The breakdown of the profit and loss position of Category C brokers (classified by shareholder background) in the past three years is set out below.

For the year of 2013

| <i>Shareholder background</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a profit</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a loss</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Overseas | 37 (8%) | 33 (7%) |
| Mainland China | 21 (4%) | 14 (3%) |
| Hong Kong | 165 (35%) | 205 (43%) |

For the year of 2012

| <i>Shareholder background</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a profit</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a loss</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Overseas | 18 (4%) | 55 (11%) |
| Mainland China | 16 (3%) | 17 (4%) |
| Hong Kong | 147 (31%) | 225 (47%) |

For the year of 2011

| <i>Shareholder background</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a profit</i> | <i>The number and percentage of Category C brokers recording a loss</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Overseas | 32 (7%) | 39 (8%) |
| Mainland China | 12 (3%) | 16 (3%) |
| Hong Kong | 157 (34%) | 208 (45%) |

- (2) The breakdown of "Other income" of Category C brokers under "Table 2" for the year of 2013 per the report is set out below.

| <i>Items involved in other income</i> | <i>\$' million</i> |
|---|--------------------|
| Net commission income from futures and options dealing | 814 |
| Income arising from underwriting | 699 |
| Income arising from advising on securities and/or futures contracts | 928 |
| Income arising from advising on corporate finance | 226 |
| Income arising from management fees charged on group companies or other related parties | 1,613 |
| Others ^{Note} | 2,027 |
| Total | 6,307 |

Note:

The information submitted by the brokers to the SFC did not provide detailed breakdown.

- (3) The classification of the brokers constituency into Categories A, B and C has been adopted by the SEHK in the past two decades. The financial industry is familiar with such classification. The SFC has no intention to create a new category at this stage.

Service Statistics of Hospital Authority

8. **DR LEUNG KA-LAU** (in Chinese): *President, in its Annual Plan 2014-2015 published last month, the Hospital Authority (HA) set out for the first time the actual numbers of the patients served by various Hospital Clusters (Clusters) in 2012-2013, broken down by patients' district of residence, but it did not set out the corresponding populations in the catchment areas of the Clusters as it did in the Annual Plans of previous years. Moreover, in reply to a question raised by a Member of this Council in respect of the Estimates of Expenditure 2014-2015, the authorities pointed out that HA had adjusted "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" of the Kowloon East Cluster (KEC)/New Territories East Cluster (NTEC) and the Hong Kong East Cluster (HKEC)/Kowloon West Cluster (KWC) in view of the commissioning of the Tseung Kwan O Hospital (TKOH) and the North Lantau Hospital (NLTH).*

Regarding the service statistics of HA, will the Government inform this Council whether it knows:

- (1) *the details of HA's adjustment to "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" of various Clusters;*
- (2) *the specific method for calculating "the actual numbers of patients served" by various Clusters; whether patients who used services provided by more than one Cluster were counted separately in the "actual numbers of patients served" by the Clusters concerned;*
- (3) *the actual numbers of patients served by various Clusters in each year from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014 after "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" was adjusted and, among such patients, the percentage of those aged 65 or above (set out in tables of the same format as Table 1 below); and*

Table 1: Year _____

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <i>HKEC</i> | | |
| <i>Hong Kong West Cluster (HKWC)</i> | | |
| <i>...</i> | | |
| <i>Overall</i> | | |

- (4) *the following data of each Cluster in each year from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014 after "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" was adjusted (set out in tables of the same format as Table 2 below):*
 - (i) *the population of the catchment area;*
 - (ii) *the percentage of people aged 65 or above in the population of the catchment area;*
 - (iii) *the number of patients in the catchment area;*

- (iv) *the percentage of patients aged 65 or above in the number of patients in the catchment area;*
- (v) *among the population of the catchment area, the percentage of those people who used the general and the specialist out-patient services provided by the Cluster;*
- (vi) *the average median monthly income of the households in the catchment area; and*
- (vii) *among the population of the catchment area, the number and percentage of the people from those households with an average monthly income less than half of the median monthly household income of all domestic households in Hong Kong?*

Table 2: Year

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>(i)</i> | <i>(ii)</i> | <i>(iii)</i> | <i>(iv)</i> | <i>(v)</i> | <i>(vi)</i> | <i>(vii)</i> |
|----------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>HKEC</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>HKWC</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>...</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Overall</i> | | | | | | | |

SECRETARY FOR FOOD AND HEALTH (in Chinese): President,

- (1) Following the changes in the utilization of services by patients after the commissioning of the TKOH and the NLTH, the HA has adjusted "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" of the KEC/NTEC and the KWC/HKEC. The adjusted arrangements are as follows:
 - (i) In the past, the catchment area of the KWC only covered the northern part of the Lantau Island, while services for the southern part of the Lantau Island were provided by the HKEC. With the commissioning of the NLTH under the KWC, the catchment area of the KWC has been extended to cover the entire Lantau Island;

- (ii) Since the commissioning of the TKOH under the KEC, the number of residents in the Sai Kung District using the services of that hospital has been increasing. As a result, "the statistical delineation of the geographical populations" of the KEC extended from only covering the Tseung Kwan O new town in the past to covering the population of the entire Sai Kung District.
- (2) In the Annual Plan 2014-2015 of HA, "the actual numbers of patients served" by the cluster means the number of patients who had used any service (including Accident and Emergency (A&E), in-patient, specialist and general out-patient services, and so on) provided by the cluster concerned in 2012-2013. If the patient had used the services provided by more than one cluster, he/she would be counted in the actual number of patients served by those clusters separately.
- (3) The actual number of patients served by various clusters of HA from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014 and the percentage of the patients aged 65 or above are set out in the following tables.

The HA provides different kinds of public healthcare services throughout the territory to enable patients to have convenient access to these services according to their needs. The public usually visit nearby medical facilities so as to facilitate the follow-up of their conditions and the provision of community support. Nevertheless, individual patients may have other considerations when they choose a medical facility for medical treatment. For instance, they may choose to receive medical treatment at a specialist or general out-patient clinic in a district not of their residence for the convenience of travelling to and from their work place. In addition, patients may also be transferred to an acute hospital in the proximity to the pick-up location having regard to the ambulance route. As such, "the actual number of patients served" by various clusters reflect the overall utilization patterns of the medical services of each cluster, including the residents living in or outside the cluster.

2006-2007

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 369 100 | 26.7% |
| HKW | 283 700 | 23.7% |
| KC | 443 000 | 29.2% |
| KE | 412 700 | 23.0% |
| KW | 814 800 | 24.4% |
| NTE | 531 100 | 20.0% |
| NTW | 397 500 | 16.6% |
| Overall [#] | 2 797 800 | 22.3% |

2007-2008

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 364 700 | 27.2% |
| HKW | 285 100 | 23.8% |
| KC | 442 300 | 29.4% |
| KE | 406 300 | 23.7% |
| KW | 805 100 | 25.1% |
| NTE | 528 500 | 20.5% |
| NTW | 396 300 | 17.2% |
| Overall [#] | 2 789 000 | 22.8% |

2008-2009

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 362 600 | 26.8% |
| HKW | 286 200 | 23.7% |
| KC | 450 000 | 29.1% |
| KE | 415 600 | 23.8% |
| KW | 811 600 | 25.3% |
| NTE | 537 000 | 20.3% |
| NTW | 409 700 | 17.2% |
| Overall [#] | 2 836 300 | 22.9% |

2009-2010

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 367 800 | 26.6% |
| HKW | 285 200 | 23.9% |
| KC | 448 800 | 29.3% |
| KE | 425 000 | 24.0% |
| KW | 832 300 | 25.3% |
| NTE | 550 600 | 20.3% |
| NTW | 422 700 | 17.4% |
| Overall [#] | 2 894 500 | 22.9% |

2010-2011

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 375 000 | 26.6% |
| HKW | 292 100 | 23.7% |
| KC | 460 600 | 29.2% |
| KE | 437 000 | 24.3% |
| KW | 839 600 | 25.7% |
| NTE | 558 200 | 20.7% |
| NTW | 441 600 | 17.4% |
| Overall [#] | 2 955 400 | 23.1% |

2011-2012

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 377 900 | 26.8% |
| HKW | 299 000 | 23.9% |
| KC | 467 200 | 29.2% |
| KE | 452 100 | 24.5% |
| KW | 853 100 | 25.7% |
| NTE | 565 100 | 21.2% |
| NTW | 452 500 | 17.6% |
| Overall [#] | 3 009 400 | 23.2% |

2012-2013

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 388 500 | 27.2% |
| HKW | 306 000 | 24.5% |
| KC | 473 400 | 29.5% |
| KE | 469 000 | 24.7% |
| KW | 873 800 | 26.0% |
| NTE | 588 500 | 21.3% |
| NTW | 463 400 | 18.2% |
| Overall [#] | 3 091 400 | 23.6% |

2013-2014 (provisional figures)

| <i>Cluster</i> | <i>Actual number of patients served*</i> | <i>Percentage of patients aged 65 or above</i> |
|----------------------|--|--|
| HKE | 390 400 | 28.2% |
| HKW | 311 600 | 25.3% |
| KC | 475 000 | 30.1% |
| KE | 486 000 | 25.0% |
| KW | 891 600 | 26.5% |
| NTE | 595 000 | 22.2% |
| NTW | 470 800 | 18.9% |
| Overall [#] | 3 139 400 | 24.3% |

Notes:

- * The "actual number of patients served" refers to the number of patients who had used any service (including A&E, in-patient, specialist and general out-patient services) provided by the cluster in the year.
- # Number of patients in various clusters may not add up to overall total as one patient may attend hospitals/clinics in more than one cluster.

Abbreviations

Cluster:

HKE — Hong Kong East

HKW — Hong Kong West

KC — Kowloon Central

KE — Kowloon East

KW — Kowloon West

NTE — New Territories East

NTW — New Territories West

(4) (i) to (v)

The following tables set out the population in various districts, the percentage of people aged 65 or above in the districts, the number of patients and the percentage of patients aged 65 or above who had used any service (including A&E, in-patient, specialist and general out-patient services) provided by the HA, as well as the percentage of people in the districts who had used the specialist and general out-patient services in their corresponding clusters and other clusters from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014.

2006-2007

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 778 600 | 14.2% | 306 800 | 26.5% | 31.6% | 27.4% | HKE |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 525 200 | 12.9% | 197 700 | 25.6% | 30.8% | 26.9% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 473 600 | 14.2% | 179 900 | 27.1% | 30.6% | 23.9% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 993 900 | 12.8% | 415 200 | 21.8% | 33.5% | 26.7% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 871 900 | 14.5% | 785 300 | 24.7% | 34.0% | 27.2% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 181 800 | 10.1% | 483 400 | 19.3% | 32.4% | 28.8% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 036 200 | 8.6% | 414 300 | 15.6% | 32.9% | 29.6% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 6 864 300 [^] | 12.4% | 2 797 800 [#] | 22.3% | 32.8% | N.A. | |

2007-2008

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 787 800 | 14.8% | 305 100 | 27.1% | 31.1% | 27.1% | HKE |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 535 600 | 13.4% | 198 900 | 25.8% | 30.6% | 27.1% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 478 300 | 15.0% | 181 600 | 27.6% | 30.7% | 24.5% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 994 100 | 12.9% | 409 000 | 22.4% | 33.2% | 26.7% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 885 100 | 14.5% | 785 200 | 25.2% | 33.9% | 27.1% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 197 400 | 10.3% | 483 100 | 19.8% | 31.9% | 28.5% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 035 600 | 8.5% | 412 200 | 16.2% | 32.1% | 28.8% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 6 916 300 [^] | 12.6% | 2 789 000 [#] | 22.8% | 32.5% | N.A. | |

2008-2009

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 798 500 | 14.8% | 306 800 | 27.2% | 30.9% | 27.1% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 542 900 | 13.3% | 199 500 | 25.8% | 30.6% | 27.3% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 479 100 | 14.9% | 185 500 | 27.1% | 31.4% | 25.4% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 997 700 | 13.0% | 417 100 | 22.6% | 34.1% | 27.7% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 892 000 | 14.5% | 797 500 | 25.2% | 34.4% | 27.6% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 202 500 | 10.4% | 494 400 | 19.7% | 32.7% | 29.4% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 042 900 | 8.7% | 422 100 | 16.3% | 31.8% | 28.6% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 6 957 800 [^] | 12.7% | 2 836 300 [#] | 22.9% | 32.8% | N.A. | |

2009-2010

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 789 600 | 15.0% | 311 800 | 27.1% | 31.4% | 27.5% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 535 800 | 13.4% | 198 300 | 25.9% | 30.2% | 26.9% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 487 600 | 14.8% | 185 900 | 26.9% | 30.1% | 24.4% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 1 016 100 | 13.3% | 432 400 | 23.1% | 34.2% | 27.7% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 891 900 | 14.8% | 812 600 | 25.1% | 34.6% | 28.1% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 206 900 | 10.6% | 507 700 | 19.7% | 33.0% | 29.7% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 043 100 | 9.0% | 432 300 | 16.5% | 31.7% | 28.6% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 6 972 800 [^] | 12.9% | 2 894 500 [#] | 22.9% | 32.9% | N.A. | |

2010-2011

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 788 900 | 15.2% | 317 100 | 27.2% | 32.4% | 28.5% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 537 500 | 13.6% | 202 100 | 25.8% | 31.2% | 27.9% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 491 500 | 15.1% | 188 500 | 27.1% | 30.7% | 25.1% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 1 037 000 | 13.5% | 444 800 | 23.4% | 34.9% | 28.3% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 893 800 | 14.9% | 822 900 | 25.3% | 35.3% | 28.7% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 221 700 | 10.9% | 516 500 | 20.1% | 33.7% | 30.5% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 052 400 | 9.1% | 449 100 | 16.6% | 33.2% | 30.0% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 7 024 200 [^] | 13.1% | 2 955 400 [#] | 23.1% | 33.8% | N.A. | |

2011-2012

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 776 500 | 15.6% | 320 100 | 27.4% | 33.3% | 29.2% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 530 200 | 14.0% | 204 200 | 26.0% | 32.1% | 28.8% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 500 200 | 15.5% | 191 100 | 27.1% | 30.7% | 25.3% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 1 058 800 | 13.3% | 459 800 | 23.6% | 35.7% | 29.2% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 907 500 | 15.2% | 834 900 | 25.4% | 35.7% | 29.1% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 231 300 | 11.1% | 524 900 | 20.5% | 33.9% | 30.6% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 066 000 | 9.6% | 458 900 | 16.9% | 33.6% | 30.5% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 7 071 600 [^] | 13.3% | 3 009 400 [#] | 23.2% | 34.2% | N.A. | |

2012-2013

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 780 200 | 16.1% | 324 000 | 28.1% | 34.3% | 30.3% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 533 600 | 14.4% | 209 500 | 26.3% | 32.8% | 29.4% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 508 700 | 15.9% | 193 700 | 27.6% | 31.0% | 25.6% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 1 074 900 | 13.6% | 478 100 | 23.8% | 36.8% | 30.4% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 929 300 | 15.5% | 856 800 | 25.6% | 36.4% | 29.8% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 246 500 | 11.6% | 542 900 | 20.9% | 35.1% | 31.9% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 080 300 | 10.0% | 469 800 | 17.5% | 34.0% | 30.9% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 7 154 600 [^] | 13.7% | 3 091 400 [#] | 23.6% | 35.1% | N.A. | |

2013-2014 (Provisional figures)

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Eastern District, Wan Chai, Islands (excluding Lantau) | 777 600 | 17.0% | 328 400 | 28.9% | 35.2% | 31.1% | HKE |

| Districts | (i) to (ii) Population | | (iii) to (iv) Actual number of patients served | | (v) Percentage of people in the district who had used the general and the specialist out-patient services | | Corresponding cluster |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Number | Percentage of patients aged 65 or above | Include all clinics of the HA | Only include clinics in the corresponding cluster | |
| Central and Western District, Southern District | 534 100 | 15.1% | 211 100 | 27.1% | 33.4% | 30.0% | HKW |
| Kowloon City, Yau Tsim | 508 800 | 16.8% | 197 500 | 28.3% | 32.0% | 26.3% | KC |
| Kwun Tong, Sai Kung | 1 088 100 | 13.9% | 491 500 | 24.2% | 37.7% | 31.4% | KE |
| Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Lantau | 1 931 800 | 15.8% | 867 600 | 26.2% | 37.0% | 30.4% | KW |
| Sha Tin, Tai Po, Northern District | 1 258 200 | 12.1% | 550 800 | 21.7% | 35.6% | 32.4% | NTE |
| Tuen Mun, Yuen Long | 1 088 300 | 10.5% | 476 400 | 18.2% | 34.6% | 31.4% | NTW |
| Hong Kong | 7 187 500 [^] | 14.2% | 3 139 400 [#] | 24.3% | 35.8% | N.A. | |

Notes:

The above population figures are based on the population estimates of the Census and Statistics Department.

Given the new services provided to the nearby districts following the commissioning of TKOH and NLTH, HA adjusted the population figures of KEC/NTEC and KWC/HKEC. The figures from 2006-2007 onwards in the above tables have been adjusted for easy comparison.

[^] Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding and inclusion of marine population.

[#] The number of patients of various districts may not add up to the total due to rounding and inclusion of patients from places outside Hong Kong and with unknown addresses.

N.A.: Not applicable

(vi) to (vii)

The following tables set out the median monthly household income by District Council districts and the number and

percentage of people from households with monthly income less than 50% of the median monthly household income of all domestic households of the same household size according to the statistics of the General Household Survey conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

(vi) Median Monthly Household
(excluding domestic helpers) Income (HKD)

| <i>Corresponding cluster</i> | <i>District Council Districts</i> | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| HKW | Central and Western District | 25,500 | 25,000 | 27,500 | 26,100 | 26,000 | 30,000 | 31,500 | 33,800 |
| | Southern District | 21,700 | 20,000 | 22,000 | 20,500 | 20,300 | 23,300 | 24,800 | 26,400 |
| HKE | Eastern District | 21,000 | 21,000 | 22,000 | 21,000 | 22,000 | 23,000 | 24,100 | 26,000 |
| | Wan Chai | 25,000 | 26,700 | 30,000 | 28,000 | 29,000 | 30,000 | 32,000 | 32,000 |
| | Islands* | 16,000 | 18,000 | 18,300 | 19,000 | 18,000 | 18,000 | 22,000 | 24,500 |
| KW | Wong Tai Sin | 14,100 | 14,300 | 15,200 | 14,800 | 15,000 | 16,000 | 18,000 | 19,200 |
| | Sham Shui Po | 13,100 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 15,400 | 17,000 | 17,500 |
| | Kwai Tsing | 14,100 | 14,900 | 15,000 | 14,900 | 14,900 | 15,800 | 17,500 | 19,200 |
| | Tsuen Wan | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,600 | 20,000 | 20,900 | 22,100 | 24,000 | 26,000 |
| | Yau Tsim Mong [#] | 15,000 | 16,900 | 17,700 | 17,600 | 18,500 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 21,500 |
| KC | Kowloon City | 19,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,500 | 22,000 | 23,500 | 25,000 |
| KE | Kwun Tong | 14,200 | 14,500 | 15,000 | 14,400 | 14,000 | 15,500 | 16,100 | 17,400 |
| | Sai Kung | 20,000 | 21,000 | 22,700 | 23,000 | 23,000 | 25,000 | 26,000 | 28,800 |
| NTE | Northern District | 15,000 | 16,600 | 17,000 | 16,000 | 17,500 | 18,000 | 20,000 | 21,300 |
| | Tai Po | 16,700 | 18,600 | 19,000 | 19,500 | 20,000 | 21,000 | 23,500 | 25,000 |
| | Sha Tin | 19,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 21,700 | 23,000 | 24,500 |
| NTW | Tuen Mun | 14,500 | 15,000 | 16,000 | 15,100 | 16,000 | 17,000 | 18,500 | 20,000 |
| | Yuen Long | 13,700 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 17,000 | 18,800 | 20,000 |
| Overall | | 16,700 | 17,500 | 18,100 | 17,700 | 18,000 | 19,600 | 20,500 | 22,200 |

Notes:

* The corresponding cluster for Lantau is KWC, whereas that for other outlying islands is HKEC.

The corresponding cluster for Mong Kok is KWC, whereas that for Yau Tsim is KCC.

(vii) The number and percentage of people from those households with an average monthly income less than 50% of the median monthly household income of all domestic households of the same household size (excluding domestic helpers) in Hong Kong

| Corresponding cluster | District Council Districts | 2006 | | 2007 | | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | 2011 | | 2012 | | 2013 | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** | ('000) | (%)** |
| HKW | Central and Western District | 23.3 | 10.5 | 26.9 | 11.9 | 28.0 | 12.0 | 26.0 | 11.4 | 23.3 | 10.5 | 26.9 | 11.9 | 28.0 | 12.0 | 26.0 | 11.4 |
| | Southern District | 31.9 | 12.8 | 32.3 | 12.7 | 33.4 | 13.3 | 32.9 | 13.1 | 31.9 | 12.8 | 32.3 | 12.7 | 33.4 | 13.3 | 32.9 | 13.1 |
| | Eastern District | 69.8 | 12.7 | 76.1 | 13.8 | 72.4 | 13.0 | 73.3 | 13.3 | 69.8 | 12.7 | 76.1 | 13.8 | 72.4 | 13.0 | 73.3 | 13.3 |
| | Wanchai | 17.1 | 12.5 | 14.4 | 10.6 | 16.2 | 11.5 | 16.0 | 11.5 | 17.1 | 12.5 | 14.4 | 10.6 | 16.2 | 11.5 | 16.0 | 11.5 |
| HKE | Islands* | 27.1 | 21.6 | 25.5 | 19.7 | 30.6 | 21.9 | 28.8 | 20.8 | 27.1 | 21.6 | 25.5 | 19.7 | 30.6 | 21.9 | 28.8 | 20.8 |
| | Wong Tai Sin | 76.1 | 18.6 | 81.6 | 20.0 | 83.0 | 20.4 | 78.3 | 19.4 | 76.1 | 18.6 | 81.6 | 20.0 | 83.0 | 20.4 | 78.3 | 19.4 |
| | Sham Shui Po | 76.0 | 22.1 | 72.5 | 20.9 | 81.8 | 23.9 | 76.7 | 22.1 | 76.0 | 22.1 | 72.5 | 20.9 | 81.8 | 23.9 | 76.7 | 22.1 |
| | Kwai Tsing | 98.1 | 19.9 | 97.5 | 19.8 | 105.2 | 21.3 | 103.0 | 21.0 | 98.1 | 19.9 | 97.5 | 19.8 | 105.2 | 21.3 | 103.0 | 21.0 |
| KW | Tsuen Wan | 39.2 | 14.5 | 40.8 | 14.8 | 42.8 | 15.4 | 43.2 | 15.6 | 39.2 | 14.5 | 40.8 | 14.8 | 42.8 | 15.4 | 43.2 | 15.6 |
| | Yau Tsim Mong# | 44.6 | 17.0 | 44.9 | 16.8 | 48.3 | 17.5 | 45.6 | 16.3 | 44.6 | 17.0 | 44.9 | 16.8 | 48.3 | 17.5 | 45.6 | 16.3 |
| | Kowloon City | 50.0 | 15.2 | 50.2 | 15.3 | 46.1 | 14.1 | 49.0 | 14.7 | 50.0 | 15.2 | 50.2 | 15.3 | 46.1 | 14.1 | 49.0 | 14.7 |
| | Kwun Tong | 111.1 | 19.8 | 116.3 | 20.8 | 113.4 | 20.4 | 118.7 | 20.7 | 111.1 | 19.8 | 116.3 | 20.8 | 113.4 | 20.4 | 118.7 | 20.7 |
| KF | Sai Kung | 52.9 | 14.0 | 51.6 | 13.4 | 49.8 | 12.8 | 53.2 | 13.6 | 52.9 | 14.0 | 51.6 | 13.4 | 49.8 | 12.8 | 53.2 | 13.6 |
| | Northern District | 59.7 | 22.4 | 58.3 | 21.0 | 60.0 | 21.0 | 61.1 | 21.0 | 59.7 | 22.4 | 58.3 | 21.0 | 60.0 | 21.0 | 61.1 | 21.0 |
| | Tai Po | 55.9 | 20.4 | 46.8 | 16.9 | 41.0 | 14.9 | 43.8 | 16.0 | 55.9 | 20.4 | 46.8 | 16.9 | 41.0 | 14.9 | 43.8 | 16.0 |
| | Sha Tin | 89.7 | 15.7 | 85.0 | 14.8 | 88.1 | 15.3 | 86.5 | 15.1 | 89.7 | 15.7 | 85.0 | 14.8 | 88.1 | 15.3 | 86.5 | 15.1 |
| NTE | Tuen Mun | 104.4 | 22.0 | 101.5 | 21.4 | 95.0 | 20.0 | 96.1 | 20.4 | 104.4 | 22.0 | 101.5 | 21.4 | 95.0 | 20.0 | 96.1 | 20.4 |
| | Yuen Long | 126.8 | 24.9 | 123.7 | 24.2 | 122.4 | 23.7 | 121.8 | 23.3 | 126.8 | 24.9 | 123.7 | 24.2 | 122.4 | 23.7 | 121.8 | 23.3 |
| | Overall | 1 153.6 | 18.0 | 1 145.8 | 17.7 | 1 157.5 | 17.8 | 1 154.0 | 17.7 | 1 153.6 | 18.0 | 1 145.8 | 17.7 | 1 157.5 | 17.8 | 1 154.0 | 17.7 |
| | | Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

** The number of people from those households as a percentage of the total number of households in those District Council districts.

* The corresponding cluster for Lamau is KWC, whereas that for other outlying islands is HKIC.

The corresponding cluster for Mong Kok is KWC, whereas that for Yau Tsim is KCC.

Handling of Occupy Central Movement

9. **MR WONG TING-KWONG** (in Chinese): *President, some people have initiated the Occupy Central movement, and one of the actions of which is to gather more than 10 000 people to block the roads in Central this year (Occupy Central), with the intent to force the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the Central Authorities to accept the proposal for the selection of the Chief Executive by universal suffrage approved of by these people. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *whether the police have, in response to the recent discussions on constitutional development and the social atmosphere, conducted a new round of assessment of Occupy Central; if they have assessed, of the outcome, including the police manpower needed to be deployed for Occupy Central, the impacts of the deployment on the police manpower of other police districts, as well as the impacts of Occupy Central on the traffic and the economy, and so on; if they have not, the reasons for that;*
- (2) *as it has been reported that the police recently issued an internal circular requiring all police officers to cancel their leave during the period from 22 June to 5 July this year and make themselves ready for deployment when necessary, whether this arrangement is one of the plans that the authorities have worked out in preparation for Occupy Central; if so, of the specific arrangements of the plan; and*
- (3) *as it has been reported that some organizations have indicated that they may occupy or encircle some landmark locations in Hong Kong, including the Legislative Council Complex, the Central Government Offices, and the building of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, of the corresponding measures the authorities will adopt, including how they will work in co-ordination with the personnel responsible for the management of such locations?*

SECRETARY FOR SECURITY (in Chinese): *President, Hong Kong residents enjoy the rights of assembly, procession and demonstration according to the law.*

The police always handle public meetings, demonstrations and processions in a fair, just and impartial manner in accordance with the law. The enforcement policy of the police is to endeavour to strike a balance by facilitating all lawful and peaceful public meetings, demonstrations and processions on the one hand, and on the other hand, reducing the impact of such activities on other members of the public or road users, and ensuring public order and public safety.

In consultation with the relevant bureaux, the consolidated reply to the Member's question is as follows:

(1) and (2)

The Administration is very concerned about the Occupy Central movement initiated by some members of the community. According to reports, some members of the community hope to rally a large number of people to occupy and obstruct trunk roads in Central as a means to express their aspirations. We understand that there are concerns from quite a number of organizations and individuals over the impact of the Occupy Central movement on the community, including possible disruption of social order, damage to the local economy and the business environment, undermining of Hong Kong's competitiveness and, consequently, withdrawal of business by the multinational corporations.

As far as traffic is concerned, in view of the hectic road traffic on the Hong Kong Island, particularly in the areas around Central, any obstructions that occur on the roads may critically impede the traffic nearby and affect the major trunk roads and other accesses connecting to the district. Currently, the eastbound and westbound of Connaught Road Central and Harcourt Road are the major roads in the Central Business District. Based on experience, minor traffic accidents or incidents occurring on the major roads or in its vicinity often result in congestion on the road network. Any traffic blockages around Central will quickly give rise to severe impact on other districts and major roads. In addition to Central, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai, Causeway Bay and the Happy Valley would experience acute congestion, and other major trunk roads including Connaught Road, Gloucester Road, the Island Eastern Corridor, the

Cross-Harbour Tunnel at Hung Hom and the Western Harbour Crossing would be gravely affected. The congestion may be extended to Kowloon.

As regards the economy, based on information provided by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, financial regulators, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited/clearing houses, and individual financial institutions have put in place contingency plans, with a view to coping with various situations which may affect the normal operation of business. This is to ensure that when an emergency arises, the relevant organizations will be able to adopt appropriate contingency measures, so as to reduce any impact on the operation of their core businesses. Notwithstanding the above, since Central is the core business district of Hong Kong where most of the major financial institutions, infrastructure and regulators are located, any large-scale road blockage action in the district may inevitably affect Hong Kong's financial and related activities. It will also disrupt relevant services used by members of the public. If the situation persists such that the Central Business District could not operate in a normal manner for a prolonged period, notwithstanding that the relevant institutions would have put in place contingency measures, the chain reaction caused by and derived from occupation and blockage of trunk roads in Central will bound to have an impact on the financial business.

Similar to handling other large-scale public activities, the police shall conduct risk assessments on various aspects of the event in question and formulate plans, as a means to devise corresponding deployment and contingency measures. The police shall, in accordance with their deployment arrangements, take decisive actions in the light of the prevailing circumstances. Given the confidential nature of the police operational deployment, the Administration will not disclose its details.

- (3) We have to reiterate that when expressing their views, participants of public meetings, demonstrations or processions should observe the laws of Hong Kong and conduct such activities in a peaceful and orderly manner. Members of the public shall not engage in any

behaviour to the detriment of public safety and public order. The Hong Kong Police Force is a professional law-enforcement agency and it shall decisively take corresponding measures against any contravention of the law, breach of the peace or public order, so as to ensure that public safety and public order are not to be jeopardized.

The police are capable of and experienced in handling large-scale demonstrations, processions and meetings. With comprehensive strategies in manpower resources management, front-line police services will not be compromised despite individual incidents or events. At this stage, the police shall keep a close watch on the development of such an event, and make appropriate deployments and rearrangements. Any person who wishes to organize any public order event shall notify the police and provide details in accordance with the relevant law.

It is against the law to paralyse the traffic and block road accesses, which will seriously jeopardize public safety and public order, and will also affect the daily life and business operations of other members of the public, and will even severely hamper emergency services. Participants shall carefully consider the adverse impact of the event on public safety and public order, as well as the legal responsibilities that it may entail.

Provision of Public Rental Housing for Singletons with Disabilities

10. **DR FERNANDO CHEUNG** (in Chinese): *President, quite a number of singletons with disabilities have relayed that as they live in cubicle apartments and sub-divided units without ancillary facilities for the disabled, they encounter inconvenience in their living and are exposed to potential hazards (for example, difficulties to escape in the event of fire). Worse still, apart from the burden of high rentals, they have to meet various medical and rehabilitation expenses, and they therefore wish to be allocated with public rental housing units (PRH) as early as possible. Yet, like other non-elderly singleton applicants, they have to wait for quite a long time for the allocation of PRH under the Quota and Points System for non-elderly one-person applicants (QPS). On the other hand, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) has put in place the Single Elderly Persons*

Priority Scheme (the Priority Scheme), under which a shorter average waiting time (AWT) target has been set for priority allocation of PRH to elderly singletons. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has compiled statistics on the number of singletons with disabilities who are currently living in accommodations with appalling conditions (including cubicle apartments, sub-divided units, bedspaces, and so on), together with a breakdown by type of disabilities and accommodations;*
- (2) of the number of persons with disabilities among the applicants under QPS in each of the past five years;*
- (3) of the number of singletons with disabilities who were recommended in each of the past five years by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for compassionate rehousing and, among them, of the respective numbers of those whose applications for compassionate rehousing were approved and rejected by the Housing Department (HD); and*
- (4) whether it will, by drawing reference from the Priority Scheme, implement measures to shorten the waiting time for allocation of PRH to singletons with disabilities; if it will, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AND HOUSING (in Chinese): President, the HA has put in place an application system for PRH. For general applicants (that is, family and elderly one-person applicants), our target is to maintain the AWT of about three years⁽¹⁾. For non-elderly one-person applicants, their applications are processed in accordance with the QPS. The target of maintaining the AWT of around three years is not applicable to applicants under the QPS.

- (1) Waiting time refers to the time taken between registration on the waiting list and first flat offer, excluding any frozen period during the application period (for example, when the applicant has not yet fulfilled the residence requirement; the applicant has requested to put his/her application on hold pending arrival of family members for family reunion; the applicant is imprisoned, and so on). The AWT for general applicants refers to the average of the waiting time of general applicants housed to PRH in the past 12 months.

If a single elderly with disability wishes to apply for PRH, he/she can apply as a general applicant. If he/she is not an elderly, he/she needs to apply under the QPS. If a non-elderly single applicant with disability wishes to be allocated with a PRH unit as quickly as possible, he/she may consider applying through the Express Flat Allocation Scheme.

The HA has also put in place Compassionate Rehousing (CR) to provide PRH for individuals or families who have pressing housing needs on social or medical grounds. Under CR, the SWD recommends cases to the HD. The HD will immediately arrange for PRH allocation after completion of the normal procedures. Unless the applicant has special allocation request, such as the need to reside in a particular district/estate, in general the HD can offer a PRH unit to the applicant for consideration within a short period of time.

My replies to the questions raised by Dr Fernando CHEUNG are as follows:

(1) and (2)

The HD does not have the number of single persons with disabilities who are currently inadequately housed, nor have breakdown figures of the non-elderly single persons with disability under the QPS of the past five fiscal years. Nevertheless, we understand that the Census and Statistics Department is conducting the Survey on Persons with Disabilities and Chronic Diseases. Findings of the survey are planned to be publicized in end 2014.

(3) In the past five fiscal years, the number of one-person applicants with disability who were housed to PRH through CR as recommended by SWD were 63 cases in 2009-2010; 81 cases in 2010-2011; 58 cases in 2011-2012; 54 cases in 2012-2013; and 35 cases in 2013-2014. Disabled persons include those who depend on non-temporarily wheelchair for mobility; lost a limb, being tetraplegic, blind, or deaf. The HA draws up the PRH Allocation Plan annually and we reserved 2 000 PRH units for CR in the past few years in drawing up the PRH Allocation Plan. We have to stress that this is only a guiding figure for the allocation work and is not a quota. Our policy is that for any CR cases recommended by SWD which meet other eligibility criteria for PRH, we will arrange

for allocation and this is not subject to any quota. As a matter of fact, the HD has no refusal record on CR cases recommended by SWD.

- (4) As mentioned above, there are various channels in which single persons with disability can apply for PRH, including the CR. Under CR, single persons with disability may apply through the Integrated Family Services Centres or Social Security Field Units of the SWD; or Medical Social Services Units of subsidized hospitals; or non-government organizations approved by SWD; or Probation Orders Offices of the SWD. The SWD will recommend eligible CR cases to the HD and the HD will arrange allocation of suitable PRH units to the applicants as soon as possible.

Parking Spaces for Bicycles

11. **MR JAMES TIEN** (in Chinese): *President, it has been reported that more and more people prefer to commute by bicycle, but due to insufficient parking spaces for bicycles, illegal parking of bicycles has become a problem in a number of districts, and the problem is more acute in new towns in the New Territories. In 2010, the Government conducted studies on introducing double-deck bicycle parking racks to replace some of the existing parking facilities and implemented a pilot scheme late last year of providing such parking racks beside the MTR Fanling Station. Yet, some members of the public have relayed that such parking racks are too few in number, and that a cyclist needs more physical strength to load the bicycle onto the upper deck of the parking rack, causing inconvenience to the elderly and children. In addition, some experts have pointed out that such facilities are too costly and not cost-effective. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *of the respective numbers of public bicycle parking spaces in various District Council (DC) districts in New Territories East (NTE) at present;*
- (2) *whether it assessed in the past three years the supply and demand situation of parking spaces for bicycles in various DC districts in NTE; if it did, of the assessment outcome; if not, the reasons for that;*

- (3) *of the number of abandoned bicycles removed by the authorities from public bicycle parking areas in NTE in each quarter of the past three years, with a tabulated breakdown by DC district;*
- (4) *whether it has assessed the actual effectiveness of the aforesaid double-deck bicycle parking racks; if it has, of the assessment outcome; if not, the reason for that; and*
- (5) *whether the authorities, apart from providing double-deck parking racks, have any new initiative to tackle the problem of insufficient parking spaces for bicycles; if they have, of the details; if not, the reason for that?*

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AND HOUSING (in Chinese): President, my reply to the various parts of Mr James TIEN's question is as follows:

- (1) The number of public bicycle parking spaces currently available in various DC districts of NTE is detailed at Annex 1.
- (2) Under the Traffic and Transport Consultancy Study on Cycling Networks and Parking Facilities in Existing New Towns in Hong Kong (the Study), which was completed in March 2013, the Transport Department (TD)'s consultant had looked into the supply and demand situation in certain new towns (including Sha Tin/Ma On Shan, Tai Po, Fan Ling/Sheung Shui and Tseung Kwan O of NTE). The Study recommended some improvement measures, such as providing more traditional parking spaces and testing new designs of parking facilities (such as "1-up-1-down parking rack" and "angled parking rack") at selected locations, so that more bicycles can be parked.

Subsequently, the TD has commissioned another feasibility study to further examine the supply and demand situation of parking spaces and the locations requiring improvement in nine new towns (that is, Sha Tin/Ma On Shan, Tai Po, Fan Ling/Sheung Shui, Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan, Tung Chung and Tseung Kwan O). Appropriate improvement proposals, including the provision of

additional bicycle parking spaces, will be formulated for each location. The entire study is expected to be completed before end-2016. The TD will then follow up as appropriate having regard to the findings of the study.

- (3) Relevant government departments (including the TD, Lands Department, Hong Kong Police Force and Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, and so on) take enforcement actions under their respective purviews to clear illegally parked bicycles (that is, bicycles parked at bicycle parking spaces for more than 24 hours). We do not have a breakdown on whether the removed bicycles are abandoned bicycles or not. The number of illegally parked bicycles removed by the Government from public bicycle parking spaces in NTE in the past three years is set out in Annex 2. The Government does not have the quarterly breakdown of the above figures.
- (4) Since the double-deck bicycle parking rack adjacent to the MTR Fanling Station commissioned on a trial basis in October 2013, the TD has monitored and assessed the utilization rate and utilization situation of the facility. The TD notes that the utilization rate has been very high and the operation has been generally smooth, indicating favourable results. In view of the positive results of the Fanling Station trial scheme, the TD is exploring feasible options regarding the operation of the upper parking deck, so that similar facilities installed in future could be more user-friendly. The TD also plans to install double-deck parking racks on a larger scale next to the MTR Sheung Shui Station (that is, underneath the San Wan Road footbridge), which is expected to be opened for public use in the first half of 2015.
- (5) The Government has been closely monitoring the supply and demand situation of bicycle parking spaces, and has been identifying suitable and feasible locations to provide additional public bicycle parking spaces through various consultation channels, including collating comments from various DCs and the community.

To further increase the number of bicycle parking spaces, the TD is testing other new designs of parking racks, such as the "angled

parking racks" and "1-up-1-down parking racks" tested under the Tai Po Pilot Scheme, which are designed to provide more parking spaces within a limited space. The TD will complete the assessment of the effectiveness of these two parking rack designs in the second half of 2014, and will then decide whether these two new rack designs can be extended to other districts.

Annex 1

Number of public bicycle parking spaces in NTE

| <i>DC district</i> | <i>Number of bicycle parking spaces (as at April 2014)</i> |
|--------------------|--|
| Sha Tin | 11 002 |
| Tai Po | 6 075 |
| North | 4 949 |
| Sai Kung | 5 345 |

Annex 2

Number of illegally parked bicycles confiscated by the Government
from public bicycle parking areas

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Sha Tin</i> | <i>Tai Po</i> | <i>North District</i> | <i>Sai Kung</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2011 | 579 | 79 | 521 | 466 | 1 645 |
| 2012 | 573 | 48 | 370 | 525 | 1 516 |
| 2013 | 678 | 130 | 288 | 365 | 1 461 |

Smuggling Activities Conducted by Engagement of Cross-boundary Students

12. **MR LEUNG CHE-CHEUNG** (in Chinese): *President, it has been reported that some lawbreakers engage students who cross the boundary every day to attend school in Hong Kong (students) to conduct smuggling activities. They hide the smuggled goods in the schoolbags of the students in an attempt to bypass inspections by the customs of Hong Kong and the Mainland. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *of the number of cases of students smuggling goods detected by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) at the various immigration control points (control points) in the past three years, and the number of such cases in which prosecutions were instituted against the persons concerned, with a breakdown by age of students, category of goods and control point concerned; as the current minimum age of criminal responsibility is 10 years of age, how the authorities deal with cases of smuggling goods by students who are below the age of 10, and whether they will consider holding the parents and guardians of such students, as well as the escorts who escort such students to cross the boundary, criminally liable; if they will, of the details;*
- (2) *of the measures currently put in place by the C&ED to combat smuggling activities conducted by engagement of students;*
- (3) *whether it knows the number of cases of students smuggling goods detected by the Mainland customs at the various ports in the past three years, and the number of such cases in which prosecutions were instituted against the persons concerned, with a breakdown by age of students, category of goods and the port concerned; if such information is not available, of the reasons for that, and whether it will seek such information from the Mainland customs;*
- (4) *whether it has communicated and discussed with the Mainland customs the making of concerted efforts to combat the smuggling activities of students; if it has, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and*
- (5) *as it has been reported that the Mainland customs require the escorts of students to sign an undertaking to abide by the law, whether it knows the content of such an undertaking, and the penalties meted out by the Mainland customs on those escorts who engage students in smuggling activities?*

SECRETARY FOR SECURITY (in Chinese): President, the Administration's consolidated reply is as follows:

To prevent criminals from making use of students for cross-boundary smuggling, the C&ED have stepped up publicity targeting youngsters at land boundary control points, and education through schools to increase students' awareness of the relevant legislation. The C&ED has also been maintaining close liaison with the Shenzhen Customs through on-site monitoring and an immediate notification mechanism to jointly combat cross-boundary syndicates making use of students for smuggling.

The following is a breakdown of the smuggling cases involving cross-boundary students (under the age of 18 and wearing school uniforms) detected by the C&ED at land boundary control points from January 2011 to April 2014:

| <i>Control Points</i> | <i>Number of Cases</i> | | <i>Age Distribution</i> |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | <i>Involving Duty-not-paid Cigarettes</i> | <i>Involving Infant Formula</i> | |
| Lo Wu | 2 | 3 | 14 to 18 |
| Lok Ma Chau Spur Line | 1 | 1 | 14 |
| Total | 3 | 4 | |

In the above case, the students involved in smuggling duty-not-paid cigarettes were fined \$2,000 in addition to five times the duty payable for the dutiable goods concerned in accordance with the law. The students involved in smuggling infant formula were prosecuted.

The law absolves children under the age of 10 from criminal liability. Nonetheless, where such children are found involved in smuggling offences, the C&ED will notify their parents or guardians as well as their schools for follow-up. The goods involved will also be confiscated. If there is evidence that any person is involved in making use of students for smuggling controlled or prohibited items, the C&ED will take enforcement action according to the law. Such persons may be held criminally liable.

The Authority does not keep any figures on enforcement by the Mainland Customs and would not comment on its enforcement measures.

Financial Viability of Post Office Trading Fund

13. **MR CHAN KIN-POR** (in Chinese): *President, Hongkong Post (HKP) is operating under the trading fund mode on a self-financing basis. In 2012-2013, the operating loss of the trading fund amounted to about \$114 million, representing a significant increase compared with the loss of about \$50 million in 2011-2012. After taking into account other revenues, for example, interest income from notes, placement with the Exchange Fund and bank deposits, the trading fund recorded a small surplus in those two years. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *among the 128 post offices across the territory, of the respective numbers of those operating at a profit and those operating at a loss in 2012-2013, as well as the amount of profit/loss made by each post office; whether the authorities established any new post office and closed down loss-making one in the past five years; if they did, of the details and numbers; whether the authorities have analyzed in detail the reasons for individual post offices incurring substantial loss; whether there is any plan in the coming year to close down post offices operating at a substantial loss; if there is such a plan, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (2) *whether the authorities have assessed in detail the current financial position (including sustainability) of the trading fund and the quality of postal services; if they have, of the outcome; if not, the reasons for that; of the business development plan and measures that the HKP will adopt in the coming year to reduce or reverse the operating loss, in order to avoid affecting the quality of postal services; and*
- (3) *whether the authorities have any plan to develop new businesses in the coming year, for example, re-examining the feasibility of providing deposit and withdrawal services at post offices, in order to increase the sources of revenue and enhance business performance; if they have such a plan, whether the authorities have studied how the new businesses will affect the efficiency of postal services; if they have studied, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (in Chinese): President,

- (1) In 2012-2013, of the 128 post offices (including two mobile post offices) operated by the HKP, 31 of them operated at a surplus and 97 of them operated at a deficit. The details are set out below:

Post offices operating at a surplus

| <i>Surplus</i> | <i>Number of post offices</i> | <i>Amount of Surplus (\$ million)</i> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| > \$5 million | 12 | 235.4 |
| > \$4 million to \$5 million | 2 | 9.0 |
| > \$3 million to \$4 million | 0 | 0.0 |
| > \$2 million to \$3 million | 3 | 7.3 |
| > \$1 million to \$2 million | 7 | 10.8 |
| \$1 million or less | 7 | 3.4 |
| Total | 31 | 265.9 |

Post offices operating at a deficit

| <i>Deficit</i> | <i>Number of post offices</i> | <i>Amount of Deficit (\$ million)</i> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| > \$2 million to \$3 million | 10 | (23.7) |
| > \$1 million to \$2 million | 41 | (54.1) |
| \$1 million or less | 46 | (33.4) |
| Total | 97 | (111.2) |

For those loss-making post offices, the operating revenue could not cover the persistent rise in the major operating costs (for example, staff costs and rental costs).

From 2009 to 2013, the HKP has not closed down any post offices or set up any new ones. Currently, the HKP has no concrete plan to close down post offices in the coming year. However, the HKP will continue to closely monitor the service needs and operating situation of individual post offices, and ensure that limited resources would be efficiently used to provide quality and reliable postal services to the public at affordable prices.

(2) and (3)

In recent years, the major operating costs (including staff costs, air conveyance costs and terminal dues) of the HKP have been increasing. Coupled with the fact that most of the principal postage rates and various postal fees had not been adjusted for years, despite the overall increase in mail traffic, the increase in operating revenue could not offset the escalating operating costs. HKP recorded an operating loss in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013.

To improve the financial position, as a trading fund department, the HKP has been pursuing and would continue to pursue various measures to generate revenue, control costs and increase productivity. On revenue generation, the HKP has been launching new services and enhancing existing services in response to customers' needs, for example, introducing services targeting Internet traders, launching new international express services, enhancing direct mail services, making better use of surplus space in branch offices (for example, letting space to banks for placing automatic teller machines) and revitalizing the philatelic market. On cost control, the HKP has continued its efforts to contain air conveyance costs. Measures include, for instance, reviewing the specifications of tender invitation for air conveyance service in order to encourage more competition. It has also been negotiating bilateral agreements with other postal administrations with a view to reducing terminal dues payments. In addition, the HKP has been enhancing its productivity through automation, streamlining work procedures and improving manpower deployment.

In October and December 2013, the HKP has increased various principal postage rates and postal fees respectively in order to broadly recover the cumulative inflation since the respective last adjustments. However, the one-off increase in the principal postages rates and postal fees would not be sufficient to ensure the longer term financial sustainability of the HKP. Therefore, whilst it would continue to explore new sources of revenue, control costs and enhance productivity, the HKP would periodically review the need to adjust the postage rates having regard to relevant factors such as the HKP's financial position, the prevailing economic conditions and business environment, and the affordability of the public, and so on.

Competitiveness of Hong Kong

14. **MR TONY TSE** (in Chinese): *President, it has been reported that as revealed by the Blue Book of Urban Competitiveness: Report on China's Urban Competitiveness (the Report) published by the National Academy of Economic Strategy and the Social Sciences Academic Press of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences on the 9th of last month, in 2013 for the twelfth consecutive year, Hong Kong ranked first in the Comprehensive Economic Competitiveness Index among the 294 cities including Hong Kong, Macao as well as cities on the Mainland and in Taiwan. Yet, the Report has pointed out that Hong Kong "lacks strength to accelerate and sustain growth" and is gradually losing its edge in areas such as taxation, talents, as well as software and hardware facilities, while being over-reliant on a few industries such as the finance and the real estate industries. Furthermore, Zhuhai has overtaken Hong Kong to become the most livable city in China, with Hong Kong's ranking dropping to the second place. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *targeting at the aforesaid problems faced by Hong Kong as pointed out by the Report, of the authorities' new plans and measures in respect of talents, industry development and taxation, so as to enhance the competitiveness of Hong Kong;*
- (2) *whether it has explored the causes of Zhuhai overtaking Hong Kong to become the most livable city in China; if it has, of the outcome, and whether it will take corresponding measures to maintain Hong Kong's ranking in livable cities of China or even enable Hong Kong to regain the top ranking; if it has not explored the causes, the reasons for that; and*
- (3) *whether it has conducted any analysis and assessment as to whether the Report's comment that Hong Kong "lacks strength to accelerate and sustain growth" is fair, as well as whether the Report has delivered a warning on the decline in Hong Kong's overall competitiveness and economic development; if it has conducted such an analysis and assessment, of the details and outcome, as well as the corresponding measures and follow-up actions; if it has not conducted any analysis and assessment, the reasons for that, and whether it will conduct the relevant analysis and assessment?*

SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (in Chinese): President, the Government has been committed to enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness in order to support the sustainable development of the economy, the society and people's livelihood. Hong Kong's economic accomplishments over the years owe much to its competitive edges, including a free market policy; the free flow of goods, capital and information; a sound legal system and an independent judiciary; the protection of intellectual property rights; a simple tax regime; the prudent management of public finances; and a robust financial regulatory framework. These are Hong Kong's core competitive advantages, which are conducive to maintaining a favourable business environment for enterprises. In addition, strategically located at the heart of Asia, Hong Kong is an ideal investment platform for multinational enterprises, and has been attracting many enterprises to explore business opportunities. In the Blue Book of Urban Competitiveness: the Report, Hong Kong ranked first in the "Comprehensive Economic Competitiveness Index" among all the cities in the country. That said, as an international city, Hong Kong is facing regional and global competition. We must therefore make sustained efforts to enhance our competitiveness. My reply to the three-part question is as follows:

- (1) Hong Kong is a service-driven economy. The four pillar industries, namely, trading and logistics; financial services; tourism; and business and professional services are well established and have clear advantages as well as high competitiveness internationally. These traditional pillar industries have been the major driving forces of Hong Kong's economic development. In the foreseeable future, there is still vast room for these industries to flourish and move up the value chain in pursuit of new areas of growth. The Government will continue to provide support, explore new markets, and chart the direction for the development of these pillar industries so as to consolidate Hong Kong's position as an international business, financial, and logistics hub. The Government will also seek to diversify the economy through supporting emerging industries, in particular, the creative industries and innovation and technology industries. The Economic Development Commission, established by the Chief Executive in 2013, is to provide visionary direction and advice to the Government on the overall strategy and policy to enhance Hong Kong's long-term economic development, study ways to broaden Hong Kong's economic base, and explore and identify growth sectors or clusters of sectors which present opportunities for Hong Kong's further economic growth.

The Government attaches great importance to investment in human capital. The recurrent expenditure on education takes up the largest share of that of the Government. The Government will continue to actively invest in education to nurture talents and promote social mobility. On the other hand, the ageing population is a formidable challenge to Hong Kong. The Government is examining the population policy with a view to addressing the impacts of the ageing population on the labour market in the long run.

As regards taxation, the Government adopts a simple tax regime with low tax rates, and is committed to upholding the taxation principles of fairness and neutrality. This is indeed one of the essential factors underpinning the success of Hong Kong. Among the advanced economies, Hong Kong is also one of the places with the lowest overall tax rate for businesses. The Government will strive to retain the strengths in this regard so as to maintain the long-term competitiveness of Hong Kong.

- (2) As we understand, the Report's competitiveness ranking of the most livable cities has taken into account a number of core indicators including those relating to living conditions and the climate. In fact, the Government has put in place various measures to help improve Hong Kong's living conditions and climate.

For instance, to cool down the overheated property market and to address the home ownership needs of the Hong Kong people, the Government has launched demand-side management measures, including the introduction of the Buyer's Stamp Duty and the enhanced Special Stamp Duty in October 2012 and the doubling of the *ad valorem* stamp duty rates in February 2013. These measures aim at ensuring a healthy and stable development of the property market and according priority to the home ownership needs of Hong Kong's permanent residents in the tight housing supply situation. The Government has also adopted a multi-pronged strategy to increase land supply in the short, medium and long terms through the continued and systematic implementation of measures, including optimizing the use of developed land and creating new land for development, so as to cater for the needs of the growing population in Hong Kong and improve people's living environment.

Regarding the climate, the Government is committed to improving the air quality with a view to rendering Hong Kong a healthy and livable city. In March 2013, the Environment Bureau unveiled "A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong" to comprehensively outline the policies, measures and plans on tackling air pollution. The Government's foci are on to improve roadside air quality, reduce marine emissions and collaborate with the Guangdong Provincial Government to improve regional air quality, with the goal of largely achieving the new Air Quality Objectives by 2020.

- (3) The Government attaches great importance and has been committed to enhancing the competitiveness of Hong Kong. Relative to most cities in the Mainland, Hong Kong is rather mature in terms of economic development. Therefore, it is normal for Hong Kong to enjoy a relatively lower rate of economic growth when compared with the developing cities in the Mainland. It is also understandable that the gap between other Mainland cities and Hong Kong has narrowed.

In the Report, Hong Kong remains the top city in the country in the "Urban Comprehensive Economic Competitiveness Index", and continues to rank first in respect of "Sustainable Competitiveness" and "Business-Friendly City Competitiveness". Moreover, Hong Kong has stable employment conditions and is now in a state of full employment. This notwithstanding, we understand that when facing regional and global competition, we will lag behind if we do not make further progress. Only by moving further towards a high value-added knowledge-based economy can we maintain our lead and create more quality employment opportunities. We strongly believe that Hong Kong's competitiveness can definitely be further enhanced if different sectors of the community can work together and make concerted efforts to promote sustainable economic development in Hong Kong.

Works of MTR Shatin to Central Link

15. **DR CHIANG LAI-WAN** (in Chinese): *President, earlier on, monuments were unearthed at the construction site of the To Kwa Wan Station of the MTR Shatin to Central Link (SCL), thus affecting the progress of the related works. It has been reported that, since the commencement of the SCL works, 50% of the operators of shops along Ma Tau Wai Road have closed down their businesses. Some shop operators are worried that the delay in the completion of the SCL works may result in more shop closures. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *given that an archaeological survey conducted in 2010 in the Sacred Hill Area revealed that the area covered by the SCL works had certain archaeological potential, whether it knows if the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) had conducted any related site investigation and formulated contingency measures before the commencement of the SCL works; if the MTRCL had, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (2) *as it has been reported that the delay in the completion of the SCL works may lead to the loss of public money up to \$1 million each day, whether the authorities have discussed with the MTRCL any proposal to expedite completion of the works so as to reduce the loss of public money and make the railway service available to the public as early as possible; if they have, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (3) *whether it knows if the MTRCL had, before the commencement of the SCL works, explained to the shop operators concerned the possible impacts of the works on them to facilitate them to make corresponding arrangements early; if the MTRCL had, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;*
- (4) *whether it knows the number and the outcome of cases of claims filed with the MTRCL by shop operators whose businesses have been affected by the SCL works, as well as the number of rejected cases among them and the reasons for rejection; if the relevant information is not available, of the reasons for that; and*

- (5) *given that some shop operators have relayed to me that the claims handling mechanism of the MTRCL is very complicated, whether the authorities have assisted those operators whose businesses have been affected by the SCL works in filing claims against the MTRCL; if they have, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AND HOUSING (in Chinese): President, since mid-2008, the Government and the MTRCL have conducted extensive public consultation on the SCL scheme. Eleven District Councils along the railway alignment were consulted by introducing to them the SCL project, reporting on the project progress and seeking their views on the railway scheme. Moreover, various channels were also employed to provide comprehensive information to the public and district consultation activities were organized to brief community groups and residents on the SCL scheme and collect their opinions for further improving the railway scheme.

The statutory consultation stage of the SCL project commenced when the railway scheme was gazetted on 26 November 2010 under the Railways Ordinance. Taking into consideration public concerns and views, the Government proceeded with two stages of scheme amendments gazetted on 15 July and 11 November 2011 respectively and objections were handled in accordance with the statutory procedures. The Chief Executive in Council finally authorized the SCL railway scheme on 27 March 2012 under the Railways Ordinance.

My reply to the five parts of Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's question is as follows:

In conducting the environmental impact assessment (EIA) under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, the consultant appointed by the MTRCL has assessed the impact on cultural heritage arising from the SCL railway scheme, including the potential existence of archaeological finds at the previous location of the Sacred Hill and its vicinity within the To Kwa Wan Station area. The EIA report for the SCL therefore recommended that an

archaeological survey-cum-excavation⁽¹⁾ be carried out at a specified area prior to the commencement of the construction works of the To Kwa Wan Station. After consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment and making available the EIA Report for public inspection and comments, the EIA Report for the SCL was approved by the Director of Environmental Protection in February 2012.

The archaeological survey-cum-excavation within the construction site of the To Kwa Wan Station area was carried out by an independent archaeologist engaged by the SCL contractor and under the close supervision of the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO). The fieldworks commenced in November 2012 at the first archaeological work area (see Annex 1 submitted by the MTRCL for its location). A square-shaped stone well dated to Song Dynasty, which is of very high archaeological value, was discovered at this location. The Government has changed the alignment of the proposed carriageway of Road L9 of the Stage 5 Infrastructure Works in the Kai Tak Development Area, so as to divert the carriageway from the location of the well to facilitate its future display to the public. Having consulted the views from the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB), it is decided to preserve the stone well *in-situ* because the condition of the stone well is intact and it can reflect the traces of people's living in the past. As the location of the stone well is outside the footprint of the station, the preservation of the stone well *in-situ* would not affect the construction works of the station. The other key findings include ceramic shards, coins and remnants of archaeological features dated from Song-Yuan Dynasties and recent epoch. These archaeological finds have been retrieved to facilitate further excavation to deeper levels in search for other cultural relics. The excavation at this work area has reached the sterile layer, 2.3 m to 4.8 m below ground level. The archaeological fieldworks were completed in December 2013.

In relation to the above archaeological survey-cum-excavation, the independent archaeologist has submitted an interim report to the AMO. The

(1) Archaeological survey-cum-excavation is commonly conducted before construction within a specified area with archaeological potential. The archaeological survey is to define the precise horizontal extent and the nature of the archaeological deposits while the excavation is applied to this confined area to retrieve the archaeological data completely. The archaeologist needs to submit a proposal of the archaeological work to the AMO, including the method and the procedure of the archaeological excavation. With the approval of the AMO and support of the AAB, the Antiquities Authority (that is, the Secretary for Development) will issue a licence to the applicant in carrying out the archaeological work in accordance with the proposal of the archaeological work and under the close monitoring of the AMO.

AMO has also kept reporting to the AAB throughout the archaeological work⁽²⁾. All the related documents are available for public viewing at AMO's website. The independent archaeologist is continuing with the study and analysis of the relevant archaeological finds, and is preparing the final report. The final report is expected to be submitted to the AMO by the end of this year. The SCL contractor has resumed the construction works in phases within the first archaeological work area where the archaeological survey-cum-excavation was completed.

Besides, when the SCL contractor was carrying out piling works at the launching shaft location for tunnel boring machines (that is, the second archaeological work area in Annex 1), over 500 coins dated to Song Dynasty were found. The independent archaeologist employed by the SCL contractor then immediately reported the discovery to the AMO. At the request and close supervision of the AMO, an archaeological watching brief (AWB)⁽³⁾ at the launching shaft area (that is, the second archaeological work area) commenced in December 2013. At the moment, the archaeological fieldworks at the second archaeological work area were completed, except for that in the Area T1 which is of about 400 sq m at the south-west corner of the second archaeological work area. The excavation at the rest of the second archaeological work area has reached the sterile layer, which is about 2.6 m to 4.5 m below ground level, and the archaeological fieldworks were completed.

Another square-shaped stone well dated to Song Dynasty and stone building remnants were discovered at the Area T1, but this stone well was not as

- (2) The AMO issued four briefs (in December 2012, March 2013, September 2013 and November 2013) to the AAB regarding the archaeological survey-cum-excavation conducted by the independent archaeological expert. The AMO also arranged a site visit for the AAB members on 27 November 2013 regarding the archaeological finds. At the AAB meeting on 4 December 2014, the AAB has discussed the preservation arrangement and provided views on the future interpretation of the archaeological discoveries. In addition, the AMO subsequently issued two briefs in April 2014 and May 2014 to the AAB regarding the work progress in the second archaeological work area and arranged a site visit for the AAB members on 2 May 2014.
- (3) AWB refers to any archaeological work conducted within a project for non-archaeological purpose. AWB allows archaeological methods to be applied by archaeologists once any archaeological remains are identified in the course of the earth movement works of the development project. A proposal is required to specify the aim, method, and potential mitigation measures for the AWB. AWB could turn into an archaeological excavation if significant archaeological remains are discovered. Once the AWB commences, the archaeologist needs to report any archaeological remains discovered to the AMO. The AMO will then report the related discoveries to the AAB. The AMO will also regularly oversee the related archaeological work.

intact as the previously discovered stone well. At this stage, the MTRCL has implemented suitable measures to protect the stone well and the stone building remnants. Besides, two pits were also found within the Area T1 and its vicinity. The nature and function of these pits have to be confirmed after further investigation.

At present, other than the Area T1 of the second archaeological work area, the archaeological work has been extended to the third archaeological work area upon the request of the AMO (see Annex 1). Under the close supervision of the AMO, the independent archaeologist commenced the archaeological work in April 2014 in areas within the third archaeological work area. The MTRCL has suspended the construction works in this area in order not to affect the archaeological work. It is anticipated that the relevant archaeological work could be completed by the third quarter of this year. After study and analysis, the Government would formulate suitable preservation options and measures for all the archaeological finds discovered. The AMO would then make a more comprehensive and specific conclusion after consultation with the AAB.

The Transport and Housing Bureau has been paying close attention to the archaeological discovery and making the best arrangement in terms of the construction; the MTRCL has suspended the construction works in the area where the archaeological work is ongoing, except for those relating to the archaeological excavation. Under the close supervision of the AMO, the archaeological finds unearthed have been properly protected.

As regards the area where the archaeological work was completed, the MTRCL may resume the works gradually. The archaeological work and discovery have inevitably delayed the construction works with the actual impact subject to detailed assessment. The Highways Department has been studying with the MTRCL the rearrangement of works sequence, modification of originally planned construction method, and formulation of suitable options of modifying the station design, with a view not only to preserving the archaeological discovery, but also minimizing the impact to the works programme.

As regards part (2) of the question, the works of the SCL Ma Tau Wai Station involve the construction of an underground station underneath the densely populated Ma Tau Wai Road with busy traffic. Thus, the works will inevitably bring inconvenience and impact to nearby shops. As the project manager

entrusted by the Government to implement the SCL project, the MTRCL has maintained communication with shop operators in Ma Tau Wai, paid them regular visits, distributed to them works notices to explain the latest progress and arrangement, and made the best possible works arrangement to cater for their needs, with a view to minimizing the impact so caused. Take the hoarding for the works site at the footpath west of Ma Tau Wai Road as an example. Before the hoarding was erected, the MTRCL had maintained dialogue with shop operators in terms of the height and design of the hoarding, the way the names of the shops were displayed, illumination, and so on, in order to maintain the pedestrian environment for minimizing the impact to shops and pedestrians.

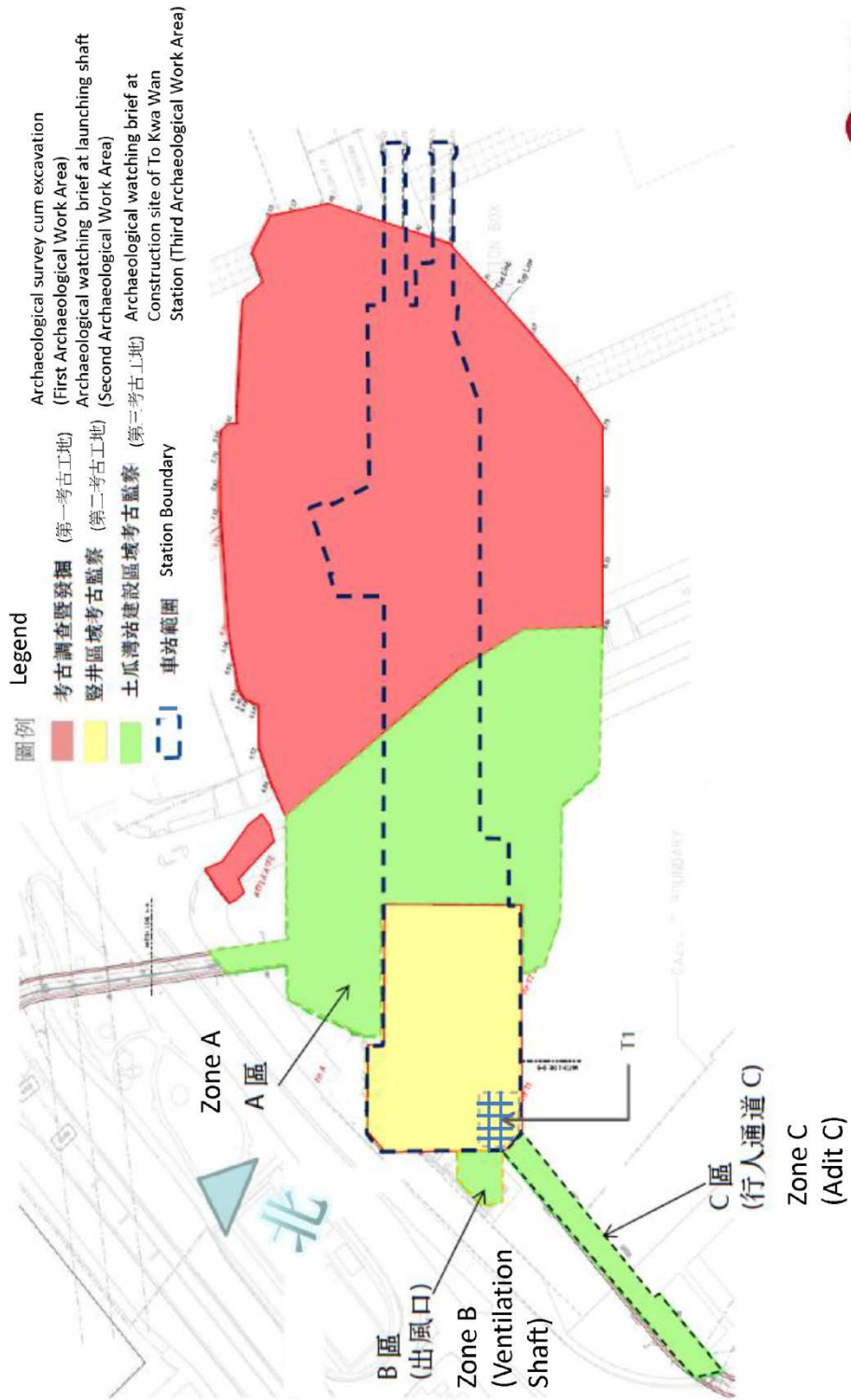
As regards parts (4) and (5) of the question, any person suffering from loss or damage incurred from railway works may serve written notice to the Secretary for Transport and Housing to claim compensation before the expiration of one year from the completion date of the railway works. A claim submitted to the Secretary for Transport and Housing should include information of the claimant, the relevant land or property, the amount of the claim, how the amount claimed is calculated, and so on. Claims can be resolved by negotiations between both parties, not necessarily involving judicial procedures. If agreement cannot be reached on compensation within seven months from the receipt of the claim by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, either party may refer the claim to the Lands Tribunal to launch the judicial procedures for determination. The decision of the Lands Tribunal on the amount of compensation payable is final. Having said that, both parties may appeal against the decision of the Lands Tribunal on a point of law.

From 2012 when the SCL project commenced and up to April this year, the Government received a total of five written claims made under the Railways Ordinance relating to temporary road closure. One claim has been completed and the Government has informed the claimant of the outcome of the claim. The other four claims are being processed.

To help members of the public understand the claims procedures prescribed in the Railways Ordinance, the Government has published "Construction of the Shatin to Central Link — Information Note on Compensation Matters under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519)" (Annex 2). It is available for free at the SCL Information Centre in To Kwa Wan.

附件一

Annex 1



Annex 2



沙田至中環線的建造工程

Construction of Shatin to Central Link

根據《鐵路條例》(第519章)辦理補償事宜須知

**Information Note
on Compensation Matters under
the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519)**

地政總署
鐵路發展組
二零一二年十月
Railway Development Section
Lands Department
October 2012

本小冊子只供一般參考用途。本小冊子並非法律文件，並無法律效力，且絕不應被視為法律文件或具法律效力。任何人士如擬根據《鐵路條例》(第519章)提交補償申索，請參閱該條例的條文。文內提述的政府政策均有可能改變。

This pamphlet is for general information only. It is not a legal document and has no legal effect, and must not be construed as such. Any person who wishes to submit a compensation claim under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519) is advised to refer to the provisions of the Ordinance. Any Government Policy stated herein may be subject to change.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Shatin to Central Link (SCL) consists of two sections namely an extension of the Ma On Shan Line from Tai Wai via Southeast Kowloon to Hung Hom where it will join the West Rail Line and an extension of the East Rail Line from Hung Hom across the Victoria Harbour to Wan Chai North and Admiralty. The SCL is 17 kilometres long with ten stations at Tai Wai, Hin Keng, Diamond Hill, Kai Tak, To Kwa Wan, Ma Tau Wai, Ho Man Tin, Hung Hom, northern Wan Chai and Admiralty.
- 1.2 The SCL has been authorized by the Chief Executive in Council and the notice for the authorization was gazetted on 13 April 2012 and 20 April 2012 under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519). The railway works commenced in August 2012.
- 1.3 This information note provides general information which briefly explains the procedures and arrangements for compensation claim for the resumption of private land, creation of easements and/or other permanent rights over private land and creation of rights of temporary occupation over private land, as well as compensation claims submitted by businesses which are adversely affected and have sustained disturbance as a result of closure of roads. This information note is intended to give guidance and information for making a claim for compensation in these aspects. Any person whose interest is affected by the SCL is advised to refer to the provisions of the Railways Ordinance for details or consult appropriate professionals.

2. Brief details of the construction works

- 2.1 Under the authorized scheme of the SCL, depending on local geology, the railway tunnels will be constructed by bored/mined/drill and blast/cut-and-cover methods while the stations will be constructed by cut-and-cover method. The cross-harbour tunnel connecting Hung Hom and Hong Kong Island section of the SCL will be constructed using a combination of cut-and-cover method and immersed tube tunnel method. Temporary reclamation will be involved at Hung Hom waterfront and Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter.
- 2.2 Throughout the planning and design stage, the MTRCL and Government departments concerned had worked closely to minimize disturbance to the local people. Vehicular and pedestrian accesses to and from all buildings within or adjacent to the railway scheme will be maintained as far as possible. Sufficient width of footpaths fronting the shops and buildings entrances will be provided, and temporary traffic management schemes in various construction stages will be implemented to maintain

traffic flow. The parties concerned will continue to monitor such arrangements throughout the works programme.

3. Compensation under the Railways Ordinance

3.1 According to the authorized scheme of the SCL, resumption of private land, creation of easements and/or other permanent rights over private land, creation of rights of temporary occupation over private land, closure of roads and reclamation of or other works above or upon the Government foreshore or sea-bed will be required to make way for its construction.

3.2 The resumption of private land, creation of easements and/or other permanent rights over private land, creation of rights of temporary occupation over private land, closure of roads and reclamation of or other works above or upon the Government foreshore or sea-bed for the construction of the SCL will be carried out under the Railways Ordinance. Apart from the powers to resume land, create easements and/or other permanent rights over private land, temporarily occupy land and close roads, the Railways Ordinance also provides for payment of compensation for losses caused by the exercise of such powers.

3.3 Compensation may be claimed under the procedures laid down in the Railways Ordinance which represents the basic legal entitlement of affected persons. S.32 of the Railways Ordinance sets out the right to compensation. Part II of the Schedule to the Railways Ordinance, which should be read with Part I of the Schedule, sets out the matters for which compensation may be claimed; the basis on which compensation is to be assessed; the persons who may claim compensation; and the period within which the claim must be served on the Secretary for Transport and Housing.

3.4 Any person who has a compensatable interest in the land resumed under S.16 of the Railways Ordinance is entitled to claim compensation from the Government for the following :-

- (a) the open market value of the claimant's interest in the resumed land and any building erected thereon at the date of resumption;
- (b) the amount of loss or damage to a business conducted by the claimant due to the removal of the business from that land or building as a result of the resumption; and
- (c) the amount of any expenses reasonably incurred by the claimant in moving from the resumed land or building to, or in connection with the acquisition of, alternative land or building.

The claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date of resumption of the land.

3.5 Any person owning a compensatable interest in the land which an easement and/or other permanent right is created or temporarily occupied under S.20 of the Railways Ordinance is entitled to claim compensation from the Government for the following :-

(a) (i) In the case of an easement and/or other permanent right, the amount of an open market value of the claimant's interest in the land by which it is diminished; or

(ii) In the case of the creation of a right of temporary occupation, the amount of an open market rent for the claimant's interest in the land occupied during the period of the easement; and

(b) a disturbance payment¹.

The claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date on which the easement and/or other permanent right or the temporary occupation of land is created.

3.6 For any land of which underground stratum is resumed under S.16 of the Railways Ordinance or which underground stratum is temporarily occupied under S.20 of the Railways Ordinance, any person owning a compensatable interest in the land is entitled to claim compensation from the Government according to paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5 above.

¹ Pursuant to Part I of the Schedule to the Railways Ordinance, "disturbance payment" means a sum equal to -
(a) the expenditure and loss of money actually and reasonably incurred or to be reasonably incurred and arising from the dispossession of a person of land by reason of the matter for which the claimant is entitled to claim compensation under Part II; and
(b) for disturbance of a trade or business on the land, the expenditure and loss of money actually and reasonably incurred or to be reasonably incurred and arising from the disturbance of that trade or business by reason of the matter for which the claimant is entitled to claim compensation under Part II, but a disturbance payment is not to include any expenditure or loss which would not be recoverable, on the grounds that the expenditure or loss was too remote or was not caused by the disturbance, if that disturbance were a tort.

3.7 For any temporary or permanent closure of road or any reclamation of Government foreshore or sea-bed under S.22 of the Railways Ordinance, any person owning a compensatable interest in the land the access to which is adversely affected by the closure of road or a private right over Government foreshore or sea-bed which is affected by the reclamation or other works is entitled to claim compensation from the Government for the following :-

(a) (i) In the case of access to the land being adversely affected, the expense fairly and reasonably incurred in remedying or mitigating the effect of such closure, as far as may be practicable, and any diminution in the open market value of the claimant's interest in the land after such expense has been incurred; or

(a) (ii) In the case of a private right over Government foreshore or sea-bed being affected by the reclamation or other works, the amount fairly and reasonably assessed to be open market value of the right and, where the claimant has a compensatable interest in contiguous or adjacent land, any diminution in the open market value of that interest; and

(b) a disturbance payment¹.

The claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date of closure, extinction, modification or restriction.

3.8 For physical or structural damage to any land or building resulting from the exercise of power under S.24 of the Railways Ordinance for inspection, preventive and remedial work on land and buildings, compensation will be assessed on the basis of the expense which is fairly and reasonably incurred in repairing, preventing or mitigating the damage and a disturbance payment¹ for disturbance resulting from the exercise of power under S.24. The claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date of completion of the operations carried out under S.24 from which the damage is alleged to have resulted. Similar provision of claims and assessment of compensation is applicable for physical or structural damage to any land or building resulting from the works pursuant to Item 6(a) of Part II of the Schedule to the Railways Ordinance and the claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date of completion of works.

3.9 (a) As regards the exercise of power under S.26 of the Railways Ordinance for the removal of any object or structure which is erected and maintained without the contravention of any Ordinance or Government lease, compensation will be assessed on the basis of diminution in the open market value of the claimant's interest in the land or building; and the expense which is fairly and reasonably

incurred in moving the object or structure and making good that part of the building from which it is removed.

- (b) The basis of assessment of compensation for reinstating an object or structure so removed or replacing the same with a similar object or structure is the expense fairly and reasonably incurred in reinstating or replacing the object or structure.
- (c) The basis of assessment of compensation for the loss sustained in respect of an object or structure so removed which is not to be reinstated or replaced with a similar object or structure is the amount which is fairly and reasonably estimated as the value of the object or structure.
- (d) Compensation may be claimed for a disturbance payment¹ for disturbance resulting from the exercise of power under S.26.

The claim should be made before the expiration of one year from the date of removal, reinstatement or replacement.

3.10 As regards the exercise of power under S.27 of the Railways Ordinance by the Building Authority requiring an amendment of any plan relating to the building works or imposing conditions on the giving of approval to plans or consent to commence building works (other than a condition delaying building works), so as to avoid any incompatibility with the works for the construction of the railway, the basis of assessment of compensation will be the amount which is fairly and reasonably estimated as the loss to the claimant, including :-

- (a) any additional expense fairly and reasonably incurred in carrying out building works; and
- (b) professional fees and expenses,

which loss, expense and professional fees and expenses are attributable solely to compliance with the amendment required or the condition imposed. The owner of the land on which the building works are carried out may submit a claim for compensation before the expiration of one year from the completion of the building works.

3.11 The claimant has a general duty to mitigate the amount of loss or damage to be incurred resulting from land resumption, creation of easements and/or other permanent rights, creation of rights of temporary occupation of land, closure, modification or restriction of roads and reclamation of Government foreshore or seabed as far as practicable.

- 3.12 The claimant is also entitled to claim the costs reasonably incurred in employing professionals to act on his behalf in preparing and submitting the claims, and agreeing the compensation payable.

4. Submission of claim for compensation

- 4.1 The claim should be made in writing and submitted to the Secretary for Transport and Housing within the period specified in the Railways Ordinance. The claim period in general is within one year from the date of resumption or the date of the creation of the easements or the rights or the date of the closure of roads. The claim should also contain the following details :-

- (a) the name of the claimant, and his address for service of notices;
- (b) a full description of the land including any covenants, easements, rights or restrictions affecting the land;
- (c) the nature of the claimant's interest in the land including for a sub-lessee or sub-tenant his landlord's name and address and details of the sub-lease or tenancy;
- (d) details of any mortgage, including the principal still owing and name and address of the mortgagee;
- (e) if the claimant has let the land or any part of it, the name and address of each tenant and details of his lease or tenancy; and
- (f) particulars of the claim showing :-
 - (i) the amount of the claim;
 - (ii) under which item in Part II of the Schedule to the Railways Ordinance the claim is made; and
 - (iii) how the amount claimed under each item is calculated; and
- (g) relevant documents or business records in support of the amount claimed.

- 4.2 In the case of claims for diminution in the open market value of the land, the claimant should state the amount of depreciation in land value or rental value claimed and provide evidence in support.

- 4.3 In the case of claims for business loss or disturbance payment, the claimant should submit business records, supporting documents and information proving the loss incurred.

4.4 For claims of business loss, assessment of the compensation amount relies substantially on the information and documents provided by the claimant as he possesses business information required for the assessment. Examples of documents required to support the claim for general guidance and which are by no means exhaustive are :-

- (a) certified profit and loss accounts;
- (b) trading receipts; and
- (c) invoices and receipts of additional services (if applicable) engaged by the business or statements showing additional operating costs.

4.5 The claimant may engage a professional surveyor to assist him to make a claim. The Railways Ordinance allows payment of costs or remuneration reasonably incurred in employing persons to act in a professional capacity in connection with claim for compensation. However, it should be noted that professional fees are not paid as a matter of course.

5. Assessment of claim

5.1 In considering the claim, the Government may request further particulars from the claimant. It is in the claimant's own interest to make every effort to produce the information requested to substantiate his claim. Compensation will be assessed in accordance with the provisions of the Railways Ordinance.

5.2 Within 6 months of the date of receipt of the claim or further particulars, the Government will notify the claimant of its decision on the claim and the reasons for the decision. The submitted claim may either be accepted or rejected. Where the claim has been rejected, a counter offer may be made by the Government. If a claimant is not satisfied with the amount offered, he may discuss the assessment with the Government and may engage a professional surveyor to assist him.

5.3 If no agreement can be reached on compensation within 7 months from the receipt of the claim by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, either the claimant or the Secretary for Transport and Housing may refer the claim to the Lands Tribunal for determination. The decision of the Lands Tribunal on the amount of compensation payable is final, even if it is less than the Government's offer. Parties may appeal against the decision of the Lands Tribunal on a point of law.

6. Payment of Compensation

- 6.1 Before compensation for land is released to the claimant, he is required to prove that he has good title to the land. He will be required to submit all title deeds and other documents to prove his title.
- 6.2 If any of the title deeds or documents is not available, he may have to make a statutory declaration to explain the circumstances of any loss or non-production of the title deeds or documents.
- 6.3 After the title documents have been checked and the Government is satisfied as to his entitlement to compensation, he will be required to attend the office of the Railway Development Section, Lands Department, or the office of a solicitors' firm to sign an "Agreement as to Compensation and Indemnity" and at the same time to collect the cheque.

7. Enquiries

If you have any queries, please feel free to call the Railway Development Section, Lands Department at 2683 9152 or 2683 9193. The staff of the Railway Development Section will be happy to provide all necessary assistance.

Railway Development Section
Lands Department

October 2012

Education for Children of Hong Kong People Residing on the Mainland

16. **MR DENNIS KWOK** (in Chinese): *President, with the increasingly close relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, more and more Hong Kong people work, study and live on the Mainland. Some Hong Kong people living in Shanghai have pointed out that since the curricula of primary and secondary schools on the Mainland do not articulate with those in Hong Kong, they can only arrange their children to study at local international schools, in order that their children can continue their studies at the international schools in Hong Kong when the whole family moves back to Hong Kong in future. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:*

- (1) *whether it knows the number of Hong Kong people living in Shanghai at present and, among them, the respective numbers of students studying at kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools;*
- (2) *given that since 2008, the Education Bureau and the Shenzhen Municipal Education Bureau have jointly implemented, in Shenzhen for the Hong Kong children there, the scheme under which schools/classes are set up to provide learning programmes mainly following the Hong Kong curriculum (the Scheme) and eligible primary six students who study at such schools/classes may join the "Hong Kong Secondary School Places Allocation System" for allocation of subsidized secondary one places of schools in Hong Kong, whether the Government has plans to extend, in collaboration with the Mainland authorities, the Scheme to other Mainland cities with a relatively high population of Hong Kong people; if it has such a plan, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and*
- (3) *whether it has looked into the provision of financial incentives (such as tax concessions) to encourage Hong Kong private school sponsoring bodies to establish schools on the Mainland for Hong Kong children, so as to offer such Hong Kong children one more option for education; if it has, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?*

SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION (in Chinese): President, in response to the questions raised, our replies are set out below.

- (1) According to the Sixth National Population Census of the People's Republic of China⁽¹⁾ conducted by the Mainland in 2010, as at November 2010, there were approximately 19 300 Hong Kong residents living in Shanghai, amongst which approximately 3 800 were aged zero to 15. But there were no figures on the number of students studying at kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools.
 - (2) In view of the close proximity between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, the Education Bureau and Shenzhen Municipal Education Bureau co-operate to implement education projects to cater for the needs of the development of the two places, one of which being the Scheme of Schools/Classes for Hong Kong Children (the Scheme) implemented in Shenzhen in 2008. The Scheme does not involve any subventions from the Hong Kong Government. From 2010 to 2013, a total of around 160 students were allocated secondary one school places in Hong Kong. At present, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has no plan to extend the Scheme to other Mainland cities. We are willing to collaborate with the governments of other Mainland cities to explore implementation of project similar to the Scheme in their regions if they wish.
 - (3) All along, government subsidies provided to schools are restricted to those within Hong Kong. To the best of our knowledge, several Hong Kong school operators have already established schools under the framework of the "Law of the People's Republic of China on Promotion of Privately-Run Schools" to provide services to students including Hong Kong children. The Education Bureau provides support to the schools joining the Scheme, including conducting briefings to the school teachers on the Hong Kong curriculum and the latest curriculum resource packages produced by the Education Bureau.
- (1) The Sixth National Population Census in 2010 covered all Hong Kong residents staying on the Mainland for at least three months before the census reference moment or those being confirmed to have stayed on the Mainland for at least three months after the census reference moment. Hong Kong residents staying temporarily on the Mainland and for commercial or travel purposes were not included.

BILLS

Council went into Committee.

Committee Stage

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Council is now in Committee to continue with the voting on the remaining amendments to the Appropriation Bill 2014. Before the adjournment of the meeting on 30 May, the Committee had voted on amendments up to No 1137.

(A quorum was not present in the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1138 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2014

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1138 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$393,120 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Mr Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Ms Cyd HO, Mr Alan LEONG, Ms Claudia MO, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Dr KWOK Ka-ki, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 23 were present and 18 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 23 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1139 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1139 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$356,640 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Ms Claudia MO, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 22 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1140 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1140 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$339,780 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher

CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr James TO, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Emily LAU, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 21 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1141 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1141 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$310,950 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher

CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr James TO, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 21 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1142 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1142 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$236,100 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung,

Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr James TO, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Emily LAU, Mr WU Chi-wai, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 21 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1143 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1143 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$236,070 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr James TO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Emily LAU, Mr WU Chi-wai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 20 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1144 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1144 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$227,460 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO, Mr James TO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Emily LAU, Mr WU Chi-wai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 20 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1145 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1145 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$227,460 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr WU Chi-wai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 19 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 12 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1146 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1146 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$227,460 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr WU Chi-wai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 19 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 12 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1147 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1147 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$222,420 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Albert HO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr WU Chi-wai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 20 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 12 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1148 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1148 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$222,420 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK

Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 18 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 12 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1149 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1149 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$222,420 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung,

Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 17 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 19 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 12 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1150 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1151 be passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): You should be moving Amendment No 1150.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$222,420 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 17 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1151 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1151 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$222,420 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

(Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not press the "Present" button)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, please press the "Present" button.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 17 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1152 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1152 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$205,890 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 17 were present and 15 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1153 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1153 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$196,560 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 17 were present and 15 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1154 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1154 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$173,520 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 18 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 18 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 11 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1155 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1155 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$173,520 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment and 11 against it. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1156 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1156 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$173,520 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1157 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1157 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$173,520 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1158 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1158 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$173,520 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 18 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 17 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1159 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1159 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$137,940 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 17 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1160 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1160 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$137,940 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 18 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, 10 against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1161 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1161 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$113,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 18 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1162 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1162 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 186 be reduced by \$86,760 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present and 18 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1163 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1163 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$14,836,917,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1164 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1164 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$313,400,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present and 17 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1165 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1165 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$78,752,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1166 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1166 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$54,365,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kuok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kuok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1167 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1167 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$54,100,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 19 were present and 16 were against the amendment; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1168 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1168 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$37,120,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Dr KWOK Ka-ki did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 20 were present, 16 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1169 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1169 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$19,090,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1170 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1170 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$9,300,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 13 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1171 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1171 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$1,231,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1172 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1172 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$1,130,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 23 were present, 19 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1173 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1173 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$47,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1174 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1174 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 190 be reduced by \$1,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1175 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1175 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$1,429,690,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, seven against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1176 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1176 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$633,660,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1177 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1177 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$533,389,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 14 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1178 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1178 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$339,000,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1179 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1179 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$143,049,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1180 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1180 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$108,524,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, four were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1181 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1181 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$96,832,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1182 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1182 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$89,212,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mrs Regina IP, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 23 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1183 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1183 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$57,339,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1184 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1184 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$21,121,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mr Albert CHAN voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Claudia MO and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, two were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1185 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1185 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$9,327,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1186 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1186 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$5,399,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 15 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, eight against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): As Mr WONG Yuk-man, who intends to move Amendment No 1187, is not present, I now call upon Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung to move Amendment No 1188.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1188 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1188 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$2,423,400 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 17 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1189 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1189 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$1,400,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1190 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1190 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$1,211,700 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP

Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 21 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment, nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now proceed to deal with Amendment No 1191 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, you may now move your amendment.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I move that Amendment No 1191 as set out in Appendix II attached to the Script be passed.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$170,000 in respect of subhead 000."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Ms Claudia MO did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 22 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, three were in favour of the amendment,

nine against it and one abstained. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negatived.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee will now vote on the last amendment. Mr Gary FAN, please move Amendment No 1192.

MR GARY FAN (in Cantonese): Chairman, I now move the last amendment at the Committee stage of the Appropriation Bill 2014, that is, Amendment No 1192, to deduct an amount approximately equivalent to the estimated expenditure of the Water Supplies Department on the purchase of water for the first three months of 2015.

Mr Gary FAN moved the following motion:

"RESOLVED that head 194 be reduced by \$719,880,000 in respect of subhead 223."

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the amendment moved by Mr Gary FAN be passed. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Functional Constituencies:

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Abraham SHEK, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted against the amendment.

Dr LEUNG Ka-lau abstained.

Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che, Mr Charles Peter MOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG did not cast any vote.

Geographical Constituencies:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted for the amendment.

Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr James TIEN, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss Alice MAK, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that among the Members returned by functional constituencies, 23 were present, 18 were against the amendment and one abstained; while among the Members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections, 16 were present, five were in favour of the amendment and nine against it. Since the question was not agreed by a majority of each of the two groups of Members present, he therefore declared that the amendment was negated.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee has finished voting on 1 192 amendments in total. We will now proceed to deal with the remaining proceedings on the Appropriation Bill 2014, including a joint debate on 69 heads to which amendments have been proposed standing part of the Schedule (that is, the seventh joint debate), the vote on the 69 heads standing part of Schedule *seriatim*, and the vote on the Schedule standing part of the Bill which is not subject to debate. Then, Committee will proceed to a joint debate on clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill (that is, the eighth joint debate, which is final), then vote on clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill, and finally proceed to the Third Reading. I will control the duration of the remaining two joint debates and complete all the remaining proceedings just mentioned within today.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the sums for heads 21, 22, 25, 28, 30, 31, 33, 37, 39, 42, 44 to 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 59, 60, 62, 63, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 79, 80, 82, 90, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 100, 112, 116, 118, 121, 122, 136 to 144, 147, 148, 151, 152, 155, 156, 158, 159, 160, 162, 169, 170, 173, 174, 180, 186, 190 and 194 stand part of Schedule.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee now proceeds to a joint debate. Please be reminded that, according to Rule 68(3) of the Rules of Procedure, this debate shall be confined to the policy of the services for which funding is to be provided and shall not deal with the details of any item or subhead. In addition, Members should not repeat any contents already referred to during the previous debates on various amendments.

Committee now proceeds to the seventh joint debate. Does any Member wish to speak?

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, the filibuster has dragged on for 14 days since 30 April. There have been many soliloquies and rebukes on various amendments, they are absolutely meaningless.

I speak in support of the relevant heads standing part of the Schedule. Chairman, however, some \$35.7 million of the people's hard-earned money has been wasted between 30 April and today, 4 June. These amendments could have been avoided so that those \$35.7 million would not have been wasted, but the filibustering Members have tied down all Legislative Council Members and thrown the public money belonging to taxpayers and the people down the drain, just to serve their political purposes.

Do Members have any idea of this \$35.7 million? Last year, I made a comparison between \$38-odd million and the amount that might be incurred to provide free tram rides to all elderly people in Hong Kong, and the result showed that only \$36 million would suffice to provide them with free tram rides for three years. How about the \$35.7 million that has been wasted this year? I find the practice of the League of Social Democrats (LSD) and the People Power extremely selfish as they seek benefits at the expense of others. Chairman, the \$35.7 million can instead be used to buy 2 303 225 cans of luncheon meat and 1 793 969 cans of mud carp for the food bank that looks after the low-income families, and thus relieve their predicament. But regrettably, the money has been wasted.

Also, given that the fee of general out-patient services is \$45 per attendance, the \$35.7 million wasted this time around is equivalent to the consultation fee payable by 793 333 people. Worse still, the delayed funding approval has compelled the Hospital Authority (HA) to place the funding that could otherwise be accounted to the reserves as a short-term deposit, thereby resulting in a loss of \$1 million in interest earning. Furthermore ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, the question is that the sums for the heads already read out stand part of the Schedule, and as I reminded Members just now, this joint debate shall be confined to the policy on the service for which funding is required. So, please speak to this question.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, I am precisely going to make a summary of the various questions and heads, and my speech does bear relevance to the expenditures concerned.

If the wasted \$35.7 million is otherwise spent on providing the Cross-district Transport Allowance at \$600 per person, it could have helped 59 500 people. In the case of the "fruit grant" for elderly people, which is \$1,180 per person, the sum of money could have helped 30 254 elderly people. Regrettably, the money was not reasonably spent but wasted. The last example is the healthcare vouchers. Subject to the Budget being passed, the value of the vouchers will increase from the current \$1,000 to \$2,000. Therefore, if that \$35.7 million had not been wasted, it could otherwise be used to provide healthcare vouchers for 17 850 elderly people.

But regrettably, Chairman, the examination of the Bill has already dragged on for 14 days in the Legislative Council because of the filibuster. Not only has this failed to achieve the purpose of alleviating the hardship of the people and providing assistance to them, it has also wantonly wasted public funds and sent the Government to the edge of a fiscal cliff as a result of delayed appropriation. The delayed appropriation has also affected the HA, the tertiary institutions and the Legislative Council, thereby jeopardizing the people's interests.

Chairman, instead of helping the people, the amendments proposed by the People Power have undermined their interests. Mr LEUNG kwok-hung from the LSD likes wearing the portrait of Che GUEVARA on his body, but from my observation, when reformists or fighters like Che GUEVARA or GANDHI rose to engage in a struggle, they sacrificed the interests of their own or their team in exchange for the people's interests, which is different from those two political groups which have sacrificed the people's interests for their own good. I have therefore written a doggerel for them.

The doggerel reads like this: "'Ten Million Members', 'Ten Million Members', throwing tens of million dollars down the drain without feeling tired, launching endless filibusters wasting tens of million dollars. 'Ten Million Members', when can this be over?" The meaning of this doggerel is certainly related to the various heads proposed to stand part of the Schedule today. While these issues could be campaigned for on other occasions, those Members insisted on shelving all other businesses that should be considered or dealt with in this Council. Now, more than 10 Members' motions have been shelved and there are more than 40 outstanding items of business, and the amount of funding under application for projects that have been delayed also exceeds \$30 million.

The filibuster has wasted some \$30 million, which means that the three core Members engaged in the filibustering have wasted \$10 million each. It can therefore be said that they are "spendthrifts" of the Legislative Council. Being "Ten Million Members", they have squandered tens of million dollars. The filibuster, which is supposed to have ended, seems to be still going on. These Members have vowed to launch another filibuster of a much larger scale next year. Chairman, I sincerely hope that you being the head of Members can further examine how the filibuster can be expeditiously cut off in an effective manner.

Chairman, I believe Members will not forget that last year's filibuster wasted some \$38 million, together with this year's \$30-odd million, the filibusters launched in these two years in this term have wasted a total of \$73.95 million of the hard-earned money of the public ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, you have strayed away from the question. You have spent too much time on this point, so please come back to the question quickly.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, I have heard your advice, but I do not think I have strayed away from the question. Anyway, I will finish this part of my speech as soon as possible. We have tolerated for more than 10 days, so up to this moment, I hope the Chairman will not interrupt me again in the remaining few minutes ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, I must enforce the Rules of Procedure. If Members' speeches do not comply with the Rules of Procedure, I must point it out. During this joint debate, Members are supposed to speak on the policy on the service for which funding is required under the 69 heads to which amendments have been proposed.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, it is precisely because I support the sums for the 69 heads to which amendments have been proposed standing part of the Schedule that I think those 1 000-odd amendments proposed by Members are wasting the time of this Council. So, is this relevant to the

question? Will this harm the people's livelihood? I believe all Hong Kong people will agree with me. Is it necessary for us to spend some \$30 million to engage in meaningless filibusters to debate those 69 heads to which amendments have been proposed? Is it more meaningful to spend days on voting and turning the entire Council into a machine of pressing buttons?

Worse still, this Council has wasted some \$30 million each in 2013 and 2014. As described in the doggerel that I have just read out, the three filibustering Members have become "Ten Million Members", but Mr Albert CHAN and other colleagues still vowed to launch another more well-witted filibuster next year, which I think the Chairman should have heard of as well. In that case, Chairman, you will become an unprecedented "Hundred Million Chairman" next year for wasting more than a hundred million dollars, which is the last thing I would wish to see.

This is the second year in this term that a filibuster was launched in this Council. It is no longer the Legislative Council, but a junk assembly. I think Members, especially the Chairman, should seriously address this problem ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, regardless of whether this is the Legislative Council to you, you must speak in compliance with the Rules of Procedure while I am duty-bound to enforce it. You must not stray away from the question again, or else I will order you to stop speaking.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Therefore, Chairman, I officially propose to reprimand the three Members who engaged in filibustering. I also hope that the Chairman would learn a lesson from this filibuster, which could have been cut off much earlier, and put this Council back onto the right track by all means. Chairman, I eagerly hope that you will never use the term "Syndrome Stockholm"¹ again as this would only hurt the feelings of Members who have stood firm in their positions all along, opposing the filibuster and discharging our duty. What you did could be likened to rubbing salt into our wounds.

¹ Instead of saying "si1 dak1 go1 ji5 mo1 zing3 hau6 kwan4"(斯德哥爾摩症候羣), Mr WONG Kwok-hing has misarranged the order of the last three words and said "si1 dak1 go1 ji5 mo1 hau6 kwan4 zing3"(斯德哥爾摩候羣症).

Chairman, I earnestly hope that you will lead this Council to get back onto the right track and rectify the wrongs, so as to prevent those filibustering Members from wasting any more of the people's hard-earned money.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): The syndrome mentioned by Mr WONG Kwok-hing should be "Stockholm Syndrome".

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Thanks for your correction. But I hope you will not develop this syndrome.

MR KENNETH LEUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I thank Mr WONG Kwok-hing for wasting another 15 minutes of my time. These 15 minutes — my hourly rate is \$10,000 — has wasted me \$2,500. And yet, this is not the way to compute that \$35.7 million, or \$73.95 million. I have no idea how Mr WONG Kwok-hing came up with those figures, but so long as the Earth keeps revolving, the time keeps running and the space remains, money always exists and Members are still paid as much as before. It all depends on what we do.

Chairman, I utterly have no idea why Mr WONG Kwok-hing kept saying that some \$30 million has been wasted. How was the money wasted? What does he mean by that wastage? Many colleagues were engaged in the debate, putting forward their amendments, and even though Members may not agree with the contents, they do merit our thorough consideration. When we calculate the cost, we are calculating the opportunity cost. What more meaningful or constructive thing will a Member do if he chooses not to listen to the debate or attend the meeting? I think even Members do not know as there is no definite answer.

Therefore, Chairman, firstly, I have to state that both Mr Charles Peter MOK and I support that the sums for 69 heads stand part of the Schedule; and secondly, I have to set the record straight because the figures, \$35.7 million and \$73.9 million, actually do not exist, and there is no way we can get these figures with any formula of business computations.

Chairman, I so submit.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR WONG TING-KWONG (in Cantonese): Chairman, concerning the question that the sums for 69 heads stand part of the Schedule, I would like to raise a few questions.

During the debate on the 1 192 amendments to this year's Budget, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Albert CHAN have assumed the roles of "good cop" and "bad cop" alternately. Whenever one indicates support, the other will voice opposition, thereby achieving the purpose of filibustering. When the questions were put to vote, these few "actors" all cast their supportive votes. They have turned this solemn Council into a game house. Let us look at some of the hard facts as follows.

With regard to Amendment Nos 33 and 34 proposed by Mr WONG Yuk-man and Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung respectively to deduct an amount that is approximately equivalent to the estimated expenditure for emoluments of the Convenor of the Non-official Members of the Executive Council for a full year, Mr Albert CHAN indicated opposition in his speech because he considered that LAM Woon-kwong has done a good job. For the details of his speech, Members may refer to the draft version of the Official Record of Proceedings of the Legislative Council for the meetings on 7, 8 and 9 May 2014 (page 290 and 291 of LC Paper No. AS124/13-14). But then when the amendments were put to vote, he cast his supportive votes instead. He indicated opposition in his speech, but then voted in support of them when the amendments were put to vote.

Let me cite another example. Regarding Amendment Nos 96 to 105 proposed by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung to deduct the estimated expenditure for staff emoluments and expenditures for the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED), Mr CHAN Chi-chuen indicated opposition when he spoke for the reason that the issue of parallel goods and the Trade Descriptions Ordinance have significantly increased the workload of the C&ED. A deduction of expenditure or staff emoluments may prompt the C&ED to cut down on manpower, thereby resulting in a significant increase in both workload and pressure, and undermining efficiency. For the details of his speech, Members may refer to the draft version of the Official Record of Proceedings of the Legislative Council for the meetings on 7, 8 and 9 May 2014 (page 418 to 421 of LC Paper No. AS124/13-14).

I have cited these examples to reveal their poor performance in disregard to the interests of the 7 million Hong Kong people. They have been causing damages of all kind, only doing harm to others without doing themselves any good, so I hope the community at large will see and think clearly what their motives are.

With these remarks, I support the Appropriation Bill 2014.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Chairman, I speak to oppose the question that the 69 heads stand part of the Schedule because the amendments or deduction proposals we put forward earlier in respect of various heads have all been negatived.

Mr WONG Kwok-hing's earlier speech clearly shows symptoms of him suffering from mental disorder and schizophrenia. I advise him to see the doctor to avoid that in the next few years ... especially because there have been serious assault cases recently involving mental patients, who have even committed suicide. As his colleague and a professional social worker, seeing that his depression is getting worse, I advise him to consult a psychiatrist so as to avoid causing dangerous situations.

I also wish to thank Mr WONG Ting-kwong for his speech. And yet, perhaps he has not heard me clearly or he has only heard part of my speech but not all. In our speeches, we might have commended or praised certain staff members of some departments or people whom we are familiar with, but when it comes to the voting, we might have to "slay one's blood relation for the sake of justice" because of some principles or unacceptable institutional problems. We will not approve certain funding proposals because of our affinity with certain people.

Unlike the persons-in-charge of the Dragon and Lion Dance Extravaganza, who are members of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong (DAB) and practise cronyism, transfer of benefits ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you have strayed away from the question.

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Chairman, I am only responding to his earlier allegations. Chairman, why do I have to oppose the question that the 69 heads stand part of the Schedule?

One of the major functions of the Legislative Council is to monitor financial and fiscal matters as well as the use of public coffers. With regard to the amendments proposed to various heads, a number of principles were explained when we spoke on them, so I will definitely not repeat them here.

I just want to highlight one principle. If the Government is seen to have made numerous mistakes in its overall financial management in the absence of supervision, or shown abnormalities or irregularities in certain estimated expenditures, we will propose to delete the relevant items and highlight the items that are given exceptionally large increases. For example, if a public officer of a high rank is seen to be given an exceptionally large increase in the overall office expenditure when compared with other departments without justifiable reasons, we will propose to delete the relevant estimate. If the deletion proposal is negated, it would be natural for us to oppose the question that the relevant heads stand part of the Budget as a whole. This is logically consistent.

I just want to point out that the performance of this Council in monitoring government expenditure has been worsening year after year. Referring to the financial estimates prepared by the Government, as many Members (including me) have said time and again in their speeches, the discrepancy found in the estimates is, just like the mental disorder of certain Members, becoming more and more serious.

Such discrepancy has become part of the institution. This is a very serious problem, attributable to a lack of supervision of the Budget on the part of the Government. The absence of supervision has encouraged unscrupulous acts, such as the corrupt acts of Donald TSANG. In the absence of supervision, he accepted red wines as gifts, at first one bottle, then one whole box, and finally an entire truckload. Such acts are cumulative, not confined to acts of corruption but also found in the handling of public money. The question that the 69 heads stand part of the Schedule showed that Members have been careless in monitoring government expenditure.

Although numerous comments were made when we spoke on the amendments, the Government has not responded to them at all. During the first joint debate, a public officer — I remember that it was Secretary TSANG

Tak-sing — made a summary response. Of course, he merely read from the script. Worse still, the content is not under his ambit (that is, home affairs) but relates to other government departments, such as the Chief Executive's Office, the Chief Secretary for Administration, the Financial Secretary and even security issues. Although the response had nothing to do with home affairs, he finished reading out the entire script. However, in the joint debates that followed, the public officers concerned did not make any response at all. There has been no response on whether the allegations are reasonable or whether the criticisms are consistent with the facts. Can we take this as the authorities' tacit admission?

This is a very sacred proceeding, similar to the suggestion made by Mr Paul TSE that the Chief Executive should be no shorter than 5 ft 2 inches when amendments to the Bill on chief executive election was examined. The proposal was discussed at that time, just like our discussion on the Budget.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr LAM Hang-chi for spending time to listen to the debate held in this Chamber. He is much better than many public officers and Members because some Members merely sat here and day-dreamed without listening to any of our speeches. Mr LAM Hang-chi's commendation is the greatest pride in which I can take throughout those many years of participation in parliamentary work. As the Chairman may be aware, I am not good at giving expositions, but the three of us together can achieve the effect of arousing public concern. Particularly, the criticisms hurled at the blunders made by the Government in administration were not only put on record in Hansard, but also received extensive recognition, which is indeed an unexpected effect and outcome.

Coming back to the question that the 69 heads stand part of the Schedule, Chairman, I only hope that ... Although some people are unhappy to hear me mention the Audit Commission all too frequently, I consider that many items under those heads are a waste of public money and inconsistent with the value for money principle. Nor are they in public interest. Many expenditure estimates are nothing but mutual bragging, mutual support and mutual transfer of benefits among the bigwigs. Given that I cannot agree with those spending of public money, I oppose the question that those 69 heads stand part of the Schedule.

Thank you, Chairman.

MR CHAN CHI-CHUEN (in Cantonese): Chairman, I oppose that the 69 heads standing part of the Schedule for three major reasons. But before I expound on these three major reasons, I must respond to the speeches made by the two Members of the pro-establishment camp just now.

First of all, about Mr WONG Kwok-hing's speech. He kept saying that our filibustering this year had wasted \$35.7 million. I thank Mr Kenneth LEUNG for his query from a professional accountant's perspective as to how this sum is computed. In a nutshell, Mr WONG is spinning the numbers statistically in order to create an impression that it is a waste of public money for us to exercise the powers vested by the Rules of Procedure to move amendments at the Committee stage and to speak many times in the debates. However, by putting questions to the Government repeatedly about the amount of expenditure wasted in the previous or coming year, we are in fact helping the Government and the people achieve savings.

Regarding the sum stated, I would like to ask Mr WONG Kwok-hing one question. If he should speak again later, I hope he can give us a clear reply. He said that we have been filibustering for 14 days this year, wasting \$35.7 million. According to the placard on his desk, together with the sum last year, a total of \$73.95 million has been wasted. May I ask Mr WONG Kwok-hing how he arrived at this figure? If his figure is absolutely correct, it means that we have wasted less money compared with last year. Chairman, you should be careful in this regard because this can be used as evidence if we apply for judicial review. This year, the Council has to deal with a greater number of joint debates on the amendments proposed to various heads. But why did you allocate less time or resources this year when compared with last year? Well, first thing first. How did Mr WONG Kwok-hing arrive at the figure claimed by him?

Mr WONG Kwok-hing has cited various examples. For more than five minutes, he had been describing how much this sum of \$35.7 million was by comparing it to, say, canned luncheon meat, canned fried dace in salted black beans, fees of general out-patient services, "fruit grant", the allowance under the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, and so on. I will not discuss those items with him one by one. But I would like to tell him that he has strayed away from the question. The Chairman had been most indulgent and let him speak for over five minutes. Hence, should I digress slightly later, I hope the Chairman can be just as indulgent.

I have proposed 132 amendments this year, a number which is less than the 155 last year. Of course, all of these 132 amendments have been negated. Just now, Mr WONG Kwok-hing has lectured the Chairman on how to be a chairman. In other words, he was criticizing the past practices of the Chairman. I do not agree with him. Of course, lately, many people have lectured the Chairman on how to be a chairman, including LEUNG Chun-ying, Carrie LAM and John TSANG who are members of the top echelon of the SAR Government. I would like to remind these government officials that if they really have such a great interest in the matter, they should resign and then stand for election as Members of the Legislative Council so that they can run for the office of President of the Legislative Council. Should they be elected, they could replace President Jasper TSANG and demonstrate their ... If they consider that the Chairman has performed poorly in presiding over meetings, they should show us how they would preside over meetings.

I think Mr WONG Kwok-hing's criticisms of the Chairman just now are unfounded. Chairman, if he really thinks he is right, he should in fact move a vote of no confidence in you so that you can no longer be the Chairman. Then Mr WONG Kwok-hing should run for the office of President of the Legislative Council. In that case, everything would be fine and the sum of \$35.7 million as he claimed could be saved because he would bring a pair of scissors to work. Perhaps he would have "cut" all the 1 192 amendments even before we could propose them. In that case, the problems criticized by him would not have arisen. If he holds that the Chairman's performance was already unsatisfactory last year and is getting worse this year, yet he falls short of acting accordingly, he is an accomplice.

I will now respond to the speech made by Mr WONG Ting-kwong just now. In his speech, Mr WONG made some very detailed observations, including the names of Members who have spoken, the contents of their speeches, how they cast their votes eventually, and so on. His observations are correct. But, Chairman, do you know what happened yesterday? A collusion scam took place at yesterday's meeting of the Panel on Security. It turned out that the Security Bureau had provided certain Members with follow-up questions so that the latter could question the Government on the relevant matters.

I do not know if the observations just made by Mr WONG Ting-kwong, who is a Member of the pro-establishment camp, are truly his own observations, his assistant's observations or the observations provided by the Office of the

Financial Secretary or the office of the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury. I have a question in my mind, and the public can also ... I am sure that those are not Mr WONG Ting-kwong's own observations because he is always sleeping or resting. There is no way he can make such detailed observations. Should his speaking notes be picked up by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung by chance, Mr LEUNG could check if there was any indication in the notes that they were provided by the Office of the Financial Secretary.

Now let me respond to his allegations direct. He said that when I spoke, I would also oppose some of the remarks made by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, but eventually I would vote in support of his amendments. He asked if I was stirring up trouble or creating conflicts? Pardon me, that is hardly creating conflicts or stirring up trouble. That is exactly the outcome of joint debates of the Council. By that, I mean Members should not come to the Chamber with any predetermined views or stands, such that even if they have been told otherwise by other Members for 10 times or 100 times, they still refuse to change at all categorically. This is abnormal and unhealthy. If that is the case, no debate is ever needed in the Council, and we might as well amend the Rules of Procedures to provide that Council need only proceed to vote for each motion right away.

Chairman, the point I am trying to make really is that due to various objective factors such as the large number of Members and time constraints, Members are not really having a *bona fide* debate for most of the time in each session of the Legislative Council because the mover of motions can only speak for 15 minutes, the mover of amendments 10 minutes, and other Members seven minutes. If Members have spoken in the early part of the debate, they neither have the time nor opportunity for rebuttal even if they hear some specious or unreasonable arguments subsequently; they do not have the opportunity ... In other words, they are not having a debate. As such, some hold that Members of the Legislative Council are only giving speeches in the Council, instead of having a debate. In other words, the speaker is just making a soliloquy.

But it is different when it comes to the examination of the Appropriation Bill each year because there is no restriction on the number of times Members may speak during the Committee stage. Hence, Members can truly exchange their views on specific issues. For instance, during our earlier debate on the funding provisions concerning the tourism industry, Mr James TIEN had also spoken a number of times, and we had also responded to ... I think people who have been following the Council's proceedings will find that the debate was

meaningful. But it is certainly another subject for debate as to whether this is the right time to hold such a debate. Nonetheless, the truth is that many Members have come to the Chamber with an unchanging stance. They will never change their voting preference no matter how long they have been listening to the debate, say, 10 hours, 20 hours or 30 hours. Some Members would like to debate with us, yet they do not speak. For instance, Ms Claudia MO suggested that ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you have strayed too far. I have allowed you to respond to the points just raised by Mr WONG Kwok-hing and Mr WONG Ting-kwong against you in their speeches, but you have spoken for almost eight minutes now. Please speak in relation to the question under this joint debate.

MR CHAN CHI-CHUEN (in Cantonese): Thank you, Chairman.

A case in point is the proposed deduction of financial provisions concerning animal euthanasia as mentioned by me. Many Members of the pro-establishment camp are animal lovers. After the meeting, I asked them how could they claim themselves animal lovers if they opposed the proposal to deduct the financial provisions for animal euthanasia? A Member of the pro-establishment camp told me that there was a logical fallacy with my theory. He said that if it was not A, it was not A; if it was not A, it did not mean it should be B. Of course, he is most welcome to debate his theory with me in the Council. But he has not done so.

Chairman, let me come back to the question, that is, the three major reasons why I oppose the 69 heads standing part of the Schedule. Of course, the first reason is that all the 132 amendments proposed by me have been negated. The second reason is about your goodself, Chairman, as you have not handled the five joint debates on the amendments properly. During the second joint debate, you cut off the filibuster, or drew the line, or set a time limit, or whatever, such that the said debate could only continue for two more hours, while only eight hours of speaking time would be allowed for each of the remaining three joint debates. As we could not speak fully in the joint debates concerning the 1 192 amendments, and other Members have not fully listened to our explanation and

analyses, I hold that it is unfair to us if Members are required to vote under such circumstances. Therefore, I oppose the 69 heads standing part of the Schedule.

Besides, Chairman, while you had given permission for us to move 1 1192 amendments, you only set aside eight hours of debating time for each of the remaining joint debates, which is quite insufficient. As I have said before, many controversial policies are involved in the fourth and fifth joint debates, especially the fourth one, as they cover the four "disaster zones" of transport, housing, land, and so on.

The third reason was also mentioned by Mr Albert CHAN just now, that is, the Government has not listened to our speeches at all. In this connection, I would like to thank the Chairman for listening to our speeches carefully over the past two months, or 14 days in Mr WONG Kwok-hing's words. The Chairman has never ceased listening to our speeches just because other people regard the proceedings in this Committee as "filibustering" or are just concerned about whether Members who proposed the amendments would admit to filibustering.

I would also like to thank the Chairman for acknowledging the contents of our speeches as he considers that at least some of them are professional, serious, meaningful and well-prepared, and that we did not just rise and talk nonsense. Chairman, although you have not said so categorically, the inadequacies of the SAR Government, especially that of Financial Secretary John TSANG, have been highlighted. He refrained from talking because of the matter. Once he regards the matter as filibustering, he just ignores all our speeches, views, criticisms and suggestions. He just turns a deaf ear to them all. But honestly, I would like to tell Members that the Financial Secretary has actually listened to our speeches although he may not have listened to as many as the Chairman has. But he has actually listened to our speeches. I was told this by people around him. But it would be politically incorrect for the Financial Secretary to do the same as the Chairman and admit that some of our speeches are meaningful.

But as just pointed out by Mr Albert CHAN, even if it was a show, the government officials concerned should have at least spoken for eight to 10 minutes before the conclusion of each joint debate. I know that they had the so-called "cue cards", and depending on the need and time ... Perhaps they were afraid that the meeting might be adjourned due to a lack of quorum or the occurrence of other circumstances, government officials would always be

prepared to stand up and speak so that more Members could return to the Chamber. Government officials did speak towards the end of the first joint debate on the amendments. But after that, they did not even bother to speak at all. Is this some sort of tacit agreement for they need not waste any effort on rebuttal, or a form of self-deception and refusal to acknowledge what I said just now about ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you are still not speaking on the policies of the services for which funding is required under these 69 heads.

MR CHAN CHI-CHUEN (in Cantonese): That is right. As they have not listened and responded to our debate on the 1 192 amendments, I oppose the 69 heads standing part of the Schedule.

That is all I wish to say for now.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I support the 69 heads to which amendments have been proposed standing part of the Schedule. How can I not support it, buddy? As such, my speech will surely make no repetitions. As Members of the Legislative Council, we are obliged to assist the Government; otherwise, what are we doing here? If the Government gives us a "cue card", we will just read it out, right? Today, I also picked up a "cue card" issued by the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions, instructing Mr WONG Kwok-hing to scold us.

Chairman, I support the proposal that the 69 heads stand part of the Schedule because Hong Kong people will have a hard time without the said financial provisions. Meanwhile, the Government cannot apply for supplementary appropriation arbitrarily because such a move will only give credit to people like "Long Hair". We should never allow this to happen, right? If Members do not support the proposal, they are doing a disservice to Hong Kong people — don't you think so? It is good enough if the elderly can have luncheon meat and fried dace with salted black beans. How dare they ask for the luxury

of having green vegetables! Do you not know that green vegetables are very expensive nowadays? Hence, all the statements made by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen are wrong; we must uphold the Government. Secretary Prof KC CHAN, isn't that right? Have you issued any "cue cards" today?

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, please speak on the policies concerning the services to be provided with the financial provisions under the 69 heads.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): I support the proposed question. Is it not correct even if I support the Government? Is it not correct even if I support the proposed question? Then what about supporting the Chief Executive ... Okay, that is head 21 which is about supporting the Chief Executive's governance, buddy. When attending the Question and Answer Session, the Chief Executive had brought along a "cue card", and he was all set to make a condemnation statement before the reporters and then leave the Chamber. One can imagine how good the administration by this Chief Executive is, for he even sat down immediately to revise his "cue card", buddy, not to mention the creative Chinese expression "深痛惡絕"² he taught us. To tell the truth, I was having milk tea at the time, and I almost choked on hearing this funny term ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, you have strayed away from the question.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): ... Then there is the provision for Carrie LAM. She managed to say the idiom "深惡痛絕" correctly, yet she does not understand its meaning. She really has no idea what it actually means because she has not looked up the origin of the term. The idiom "深惡痛絕" means that a person is so abhorrent and disgusting that I do not even want to see him ...

² Instead of "深痛惡絕", the correct Chinese idiom should read "深惡痛絕" (meaning utter abhorrence and disgust) with the order of the second and third characters reversed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, you have strayed away from the question.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): I am singing praises of Carrie LAM in support of the financial provisions for the Office of the Chief Secretary for Administration. In other words, my speech is related to head 142.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Your speech should be confined to the policies of the services for which the funding is to be provided under these 69 heads.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): ... I oppose Mr Albert CHAN ... Chairman, we cannot oppose the Government, but is it not correct even if I oppose Mr Albert CHAN? Does Carrie LAM deserve it if head 142 does not stand part of the Schedule? She has painstakingly made the "achievement"³ of uttering that idiom at the right moment and even ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, the idiom you just mentioned should read "苦心孤詣".

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): ... but in her case, it was an "achievement", and she cannot die, buddy. Either way, Carrie LAM has killed two birds with one stone. As I said just now, the Chief Executive will not apologize for his wrongdoing. He could say that "I have not said that I did not say the idiom wrongly", so she came out with an explanation and "set the tune with one beat of the gong". In my view, the Chief Secretary is most well-mannered among the various public officers ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, please stop any further digression.

³ Instead of the idiom "苦心'孤'詣" (meaning to make painstaking efforts), Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung uttered the expression "苦心'造'詣". The term "造詣" means an achievement.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): ... what digression? This is also regarded as digression? I am just citing some reasons to support the financial provision for the Chief Secretary ... Then Carrie LAM said that she would arrange for a meeting with other Members. Honestly, her plan went on smoothly. But she did not know that her remark about arranging for a meeting with Members was sheer nonsense after she had described her feelings of utter abhorrence and disgust with the idiom "深惡痛絕" because according to its origin, the expression means that a person is so abhorrent and disgusting that one would refuse to answer the door or see his face even if he knocks on one's door thrice. In that case, why did she say that she would meet those Members after uttering that idiom? Isn't her Chinese just terrible? According to the origin of the idiom, I would not invite those persons in even if they walk past my door thrice; but after she had uttered the idiom, she said she was prepared to talk with us. Hence, one should not use the idiom "深惡痛絕" casually because it is meant to describe a person's feelings for the enemy who has killed his father. Why did she talk such nonsense? Nevertheless, the Chief Executive's utterance of "深痛惡絕" is even more embarrassing. Hence, I hold that the provisions for Chief Secretary Carrie LAM should stand part of the Schedule.

(THE CHAIRMAN'S DEPUTY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, took the Chair)

Third, about head 141 ... Is Secretary Matthew CHEUNG in the Chamber now? I think Secretary Matthew's performance is excellent. Never in my life have I seen ... It is wrong for us to withhold the provisions for Matthew CHEUNG because he is fending off all the attacks on himself and the SAR Government. He has told half of the truth as we are fighting for funding to implement universal retirement protection for the elderly. It is not right for some Members to suggest that his salaries be withheld. In particular, he can mobilize Mr WONG Kwok-hing to give examples with carcinogenic and environmentally-unfriendly foods such as canned luncheon meat and fried dace with salted black beans. He told the elders to eat carcinogenic foods. Mr WONG Kwok-hing, what you said is just like a curse, right? Even if Secretary Matthew CHEUNG wants to provide a "cue card", it should be done more properly ... Today, Secretary Prof K C CHAN should appeal to the elders to consume more green vegetables, fruits and health drinks. Honestly, the current practice of promoting the provision of in-kind food assistance by food banks is wrong, and they should stop giving away canned foods which are

carcinogenic to the elderly. Firstly, the Member's kindness is limited. Secondly, the matter is very simple: If Mr WONG Kwok-hing is really so capable ... I have done some calculations just now. He used to be a member of both the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong (DAB) and the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions. His intentions aside, how much loss has been incurred on the part of Hong Kong people by his wrong assessments? For instance, he supported the merger of the two railway corporations. Afterwards, the MTR's fare adjustment mechanism which provides for both upward and downward adjustments has become one that only allows upward but not downward adjustments. His assessment is wrong. He also supported the sale of assets to The Link REIT when "Old TUNG" lamented about the lack of public funds. Deputy Chairman, at that time, the value of assets sold to The Link REIT was only \$20-odd billion while the current value has already exceeded \$190 billion, not to mention the possibility of spin-offs. If only we could take back that \$100-odd billion, the sum would be enough for Mr WONG Kwok-hing to binge on not only fried dace with salted black beans, but caviar.

Hence, it is just a waste of time for Mr WONG Kwok-hing to speak in this Council. He has just squandered away those sums of money. In fact, what is the duty of Members of the Legislative Council when it comes to funding submissions from the Government? It is the duty of Members to question the wrongdoings of the Government; in case there are any further wrongdoings, Members should reprimand the Government; in case such wrongdoings persist, Members should vote against the Government's submissions. The Government has done nothing right, yet you criticized Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung for wasting \$73.9-odd million. How can this sum of \$74 million compare with the value of Mr WONG Kwok-hing's vote? His vote can easily involve tens of billion dollars. In the case of The Link REIT alone, the value of assets has increased from \$20 billion to \$190 billion. In other words, we have lost \$170-odd billion. Buddy, there are other examples as well. On the other hand, Mr TAM Yiu-chung is in the Chamber now. The two Members used to be members of the same party, but he has already left — buddy, you used to promote the setting up of a three-tier retirement protection old age pension scheme, and now you are back to square one. But I can understand that.

In 1991, you demanded that the Government should make an immediate payment of \$2,300 to those people who could not make any contributions. Back in 1991, even when our foreign exchange reserves only amounted to less than

\$100 billion, we could still afford to give the elderly \$2,300 monthly. As so many years have passed, together with the corresponding rate of inflation, the amount should increase by \$1,000 on account of the factor of inflation alone. That is what I ask of you and the Chief Executive today — that is right, the Chief Executive himself once said that he would study the impact of our ageing population on public finance, and he would undertake planning on a timely basis and set aside adequate moneys in a special fund for the elderly — I am just parroting his idea. You also voted for LEUNG Chun-ying, and what I am fighting for today is \$3,000. If we could afford to give the elderly \$2,300 in 1994, we should be able to give them at least \$3,300 now. Isn't that right? Is my demand excessive? Therefore, it is meaningless for you to scold me. Just think about what you said in the past. You are actually scolding yourself, right?

Hence, even though Mr WONG Kwok-him has attacked me, I will not blame him. I would blame the pig or the dog, but not him. But the question is: You should be responsible for what you said in the past. I have not accused you wrongly. More than 20 years ago, I was not acquainted with Mr TAM Yiu-chung; even if I knew him, I would be looking up to him for he was a cadre of the labour union, while I was just an ordinary member, right? Hence, I must retort the verbal attacks from Mr WONG Kwok-hing, not for myself personally, but for the ideas attacked by him because those ideas must be upheld.

Simply, if Mr WONG Kwok-hing really wants to help the elderly, he should support me because John TSANG has, coincidentally, also suggested that the \$220 billion held in the Land Fund — Secretary Prof K C CHAN should know best — be used on infrastructure projects. As the FTU has been requesting the Government to set up a pension fund with the Land Fund, this is a snub to the FTU. Will the FTU ever suggest to the Government that the \$220 billion held in the Land Fund be used to set up the \$50 billion fund as currently suggested by me, so as to give the elderly a "luxurious" treat, which is equivalent to 2000.2 billion cans of fried dace with salted black beans? Although Mr WONG Kwok-hing was snubbed by John TSANG's Budget, he still supports him. Listen up! Somebody has stolen \$220 billion from the FTU, when will you recover it? Mr WONG Kwok-hing, answer me! I have not accused you wrongly, right? The FTU's proposal is still on the table; what is more, it is the latest proposal. While you shit where you eat ... Among Members of the Legislative Council, the FTU or Mr WONG Kwok-hing has suffered the greatest humiliation because the Government is practically saying

that, "Since you want to use that sum of money, I will take it away first." Under the circumstances, how can Mr WONG Kwok-hing say something like that?

Honestly, does he eat rice or shit? All Members including Mr WONG Ting-kwong and Mr TAM Yiu-chung are qualified to scold me, but not Mr WONG Kwok-hing. It is because while the FTU has been requesting the Government to set up a pension fund with the \$220 billion held in the Land Fund, John TSANG is saying that the \$220 billion held in the Land Fund should be used to set up a "Future Fund" for undertaking infrastructure projects, rather than taking care of the elderly. He is not qualified to scold me. If he sits in the Legislative Council and fails to strive for this cause, he will be despised not only by me, but all human beings. The DAB has never said something like that, and I am only asking for \$50 billion. As for Dr Priscilla LEUNG, I just have no idea what she was talking about.

Just now, I was having a meal downstairs, and I had almost finished. I was surprised to hear he scold me. What makes him fit to scold me? The election platform of the FTU has explicitly stated that a pension fund be set up with \$220 billion. Let him eat the election platform! Let me show you, Mr WONG Kwok-hing. Eat it and I will not scold you. If he cannot do it, ask Miss CHAN Yuen-han or Mr WONG Kwok-kin to show up. What is the use of this election platform? Is it only good for use in the toilet? He was still scolding me, even though I thought he would have stopped.

Mr WONG Kwok-hing, you still owe the elderly on that count. Since 1994, the sum should have exceeded \$220 billion, to say the least. Today, somebody has put the sum of \$220 billion to another use, yet you do not even put up a fight in order to get back some of the money. Just bang your head on the wall or eat the election platform, and I will stop scolding you. I will scold nobody but you because other Members have not made such an undertaking, and they still have some sense of shame. But you did actually make those statements.

Secretary Prof K C CHAN, I now ask you these questions: Has the FTU ever put up any fight? Have you been scolded by them? Have they told you to relay to the Financial Secretary that the sum of \$220 billion should actually been used to set up a pension fund? When did they tell you that? Have they hurled a glass at you? Have they hurled hell banknotes at you? Buddy, I have my

reasons for hurling the hell banknotes. I meant to give them to those elderly people who passed away while waiting. I have also received hell banknotes sent from the underworld. The deceased also want to help the Financial Secretary and ask me to pass him the hell banknotes so that the money can be put to good use.

Deputy Chairman, thank you for your indulgence. I will stop for now. Nonetheless, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, I think a man should have some sense of shame; otherwise, retribution will follow your acts of "cursing the emperor at his back". Let me tell you, if you do not come back now, I will scold you again when the opportunity arises. I will not stop scolding until you answer me. Given the FTU's pledge to set up a pension fund with \$220 billion, and John TSANG is putting the sum to other uses, why do you not put up a fight in order to get back some of the money? How many cans of luncheon meat and fried dace with salted black beans can be bought with that sum of money? Mr WONG Kwok-hing, answer me! Or you can eat this election platform, and I will never scold you again. Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR WONG TING-KWONG (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, in their so-called responses to my speech, even Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen have to admit that what I have said is true. Nonetheless, I would like to tell them that notwithstanding their endless nonsensical horseplay, I am one of the Members who have been staying in the Chamber for the longest time. I have observed them and listened to their speeches. I can tell them that they are measuring other people's corn by their own bushel. In fact, people are prone to making wild guesses. Regarding their allegation about obtaining certain information from others, I have installed WhatsApp in my mobile phone. It can show that at 4.59 pm on 29 May, I had told my assistant to check whether there was any discrepancy between their speeches and votes. They must have evidence to support their allegations. Hence, they should not make wild guesses without any proof. Or is it their habit to make wild guesses? Do they find it hard to accept that another Member is working so seriously? I have spoken nothing but the truth so that the public can see clearly what they are up to. Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I only wish to give a brief response to Mr WONG Ting-kwong. If he is so mindful about telling the truth, I think he should check through the election pledges previously made by the DAB over the years. In the beginning, their election pledge was to support the implementation of dual universal suffrage in 2007 and 2008. In the end, they sold out their conscience. Then they pledged to support the implementation of dual universal suffrage in 2012 ... It is a fact cast in iron that the DAB has betrayed the people.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I have to remind Members that the question under discussion now is: That the sums for the 69 heads just read out stand part of the Schedule. While I will allow Members to say a few words in the beginning of their speeches, say, as a criticism or response to other Members, no such leniency shall be applied for the latter part of their speeches. Besides, I will not tolerate Members straying away from the question.

Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR SIN CHUNG-KAI (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, in this session, Members will debate whether the sums for heads to which amendments have been proposed stand part of the Schedule. There are more than 1 190 amendments in total to the Appropriation Bill 2014 (the Bill), and six joint debates have been conducted already. The amendments have been put to vote, and we are now debating whether the sums for the relevant heads should stand part of the Schedule.

Deputy Chairman, I believe that the low-income working family allowance (LIFA) Scheme is one of the two most important initiatives proposed in this year's Budget. The Administration will seek formal approval from the Finance Committee later on. Although the LIFA can address to a certain extent the demand for poverty alleviation from society, this year's Budget is on the whole disappointing.

Although the Democratic Party abstained on the question that the Bill be read the Second time, we in fact opposed the Second Reading of the Bill because we did not support it. There were so many amendments to the Bill because some political parties demanded implementation of universal retirement protection. In this connection, the Government has commissioned Prof Nelson CHOW to conduct a study. Although the report has yet to be published, there have been rumours recently about the Government requesting Prof CHOW to conduct the study afresh because he had conducted it on the basis of a 4% projection on future economic growth while the Government's projection was just 2.8%. Anyway, I hope that Prof CHOW can present a detailed explanation in his report. Whether his report is done on the basis of a 2.8% or 4% projection on future economic growth, I do hope that he can give us a full explanation. In fact, regarding the question of how to tackle the problem of an ageing population by implementing universal retirement protection, we need to build a greater consensus among members of the community. After finishing the procedures of the Bill, we are going debate on a motion not intended to have legislative effect and it is about population ageing as well. So, there will be more and more discussions on this issue.

Deputy Chairman, the Democratic Party does not approve of filibustering, and we did not take part in filibustering either. This year, the Chairman has changed the rules for the joint debate. In our view, we should look into this carefully. Also, he changed the rules again in the middle of the debate by setting a ceiling on the time allowed for the six joint debates. This is tantamount to cutting off the filibuster.

The Democratic Party understands that the Chairman's power of presiding over meetings of the Legislative Council comes from the Basic Law. The Court of Final Appeal will decide in September if leave for appeal will be granted in respect of the so-called mechanism for cutting off the filibuster introduced by the Chairman according to Rule 92 of the Rules of Procedure (RoP). The Democratic Party will wait for the Court of Final Appeal's judgment before considering if the RoP should be amended to regulate or restrict the Chairman in exercising the power under Rule 92 of the RoP to cut off the filibuster, because it seems that the Chairman cut off the filibuster based on logic or a mechanism this year different from that of last year.

We may be well aware of the trend that the 1 192 amendments this year may become 1 500 next year and 1 800 or even 2 000 the year after, in the

absence of universal suffrage. I therefore believe that it is appropriate to formulate a comprehensive mechanism in view of such a regular practice of Members proposing a large number of amendments. Of course, the Democratic Party would like to wait until the Court of Final Appeal has made a decision or judgment before thoroughly examining if there is any enlightenment for this Council. This is because we should never work on two separate issues at the same time.

Regarding the question on the sums for the relevant heads standing part of the Schedule, we will still abstain on it when it is put to vote. When it comes to the question that the Bill be read the Third time, we will oppose the Third Reading of the Bill if we are still here to vote by that time. However, most of our colleagues might not be here to go through the Third Reading procedure of the Bill, as we might have left for the candlelight vigil at the Victoria Park.

I would like to put this on record, hoping that people can understand from the record of the meeting the views of the Democratic Party.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR CHAN HAN-PAN (in Cantonese): The accusations against us of not expressing our views to those filibusterers, not making any response to the problems of the Government, and being negligent in monitoring the financial expenditures of the Government are all untenable. In our view, no matter how great the filibusterers have boasted their arguments in the whole process of filibustering, their main purpose is to "do shows". Given that "doing shows" is their main purpose, it is unreasonable for us to play along. Why did I say they are "doing shows"? Members of the public may be too busy every day with their work, so they may not be very clear about the contents of those amendments. I would like to cite a few "LEUNG Kwok-hung-style" amendments to illustrate how he monitors the expenditure of the Government.

First of all, let me talk about head 37. Amendment No 142 seeks to reduce an amount equivalent to the annual estimated expenditure of the Outreach Dental Care Programme for the Elderly under the operating expenses of the Department of Health, which amounts to \$25.1 million. I believe Members all

know that outreach dental care provides scaling service to the elderly. But surprisingly, he proposed to cut this expenditure. Another one is Amendment No 206 which seeks to amend head 49 by reducing an amount equivalent to the half yearly estimated expenditure on street cleansing services of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. As we all know, we all criticize that our streets are not clean enough but yet he proposed to cut this expenditure. For head 62 to which Amendment No 327 is proposed, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung proposed to reduce an amount equivalent to the annual estimated operating expenses of the Independent Checking Unit of the Housing Department ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, may I remind you that you cannot discuss the details of the subheads. You can only speak on the heads.

MR CHAN HAN-PAN (in Cantonese): Fine.

He proposed to reduce the annual estimated operating expenses of the Independent Checking Unit of the Housing Department. I believe we are all aware that Mr LEUNG is now living in public rental housing. He proposed to reduce such expenses ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you are still speaking on the details of the subheads. Please focus your speech on the heads.

MR CHAN HAN-PAN (in Cantonese): Alright, Deputy Chairman. I will soon end my speech.

In fact we consider all their proposals on reducing expenditures unreasonable and unjustified. All the reductions proposed by them basically belong to these types of expenditures or the annual expenditure of the Government. They even proposed to reduce the old age living allowance. Therefore, we disdain to debate on the amendments proposed by them. That is why we have not made any speech. For almost half a month, we have been stranded in the Chamber and a lot of tasks have been left pending. The whole Council has basically stopped working and remained stagnant. For almost one month, we have seen how they have been blowing their own trumpets. But to

our surprise, our President, who is a man of great wisdom, has developed the Stockholm Syndrome and hailed the filibusterers for their speeches. What is the rationale?

The Chairman surprisingly praised those Members who "do shows", and did not denounce those Members who failed to attend the meeting. There are so many things that I cannot understand. I hope the President, granting the opportunity, can explain to us whether Members' duties, apart from monitoring the Government, also include casting votes in the Chamber. Some Members kept saying during the whole voting process that they objected to filibustering. But in reality, they disappeared when it came to voting on those items that had been subjects of filibustering. Should such conduct not be denounced? In my view, it was a distortion of facts to hail those Members who distorted truths, kept making an issue of things and boasted the filibuster as a great endeavour. How can our younger generation understand the standards of morality in society?

I think the Legislative Council should set a good example and the President should strongly denounce the filibusterers. Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, unfortunately, many Members of this Council, especially those of the DAB, do not understand at all the capacity and role of the President in the Council. They still treat him as if he were the President in the Great Hall of the People. These Hong Kong communists ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you have strayed away from the question.

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN Han-pan criticized the role of the President just now, but you did not stop him.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN, you are not the President, so you need not make any response on his behalf.

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, he is free to make his criticisms, and I am free to do my analysis. You did not stop him just now, yet you are stopping me. You are biased. While I will heed your obstruction, I must point out that such an obstruction is biased. Deputy Chairman, this will be put on record.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Okay. Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I have not finished yet.

Just now, Mr CHAN Han-pan criticized Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's amendments. But when the relevant Member was speaking, he had put on his headphones, without listening to the speeches at all. He just sat there. Throughout the past 10 days or so, he was one of the more diligent Members. He should be given credit for that. But it turned out he was just sitting there, daydreaming. He had put on his red headphones, without listening to the arguments presented by the three of us.

Outsourcing is one of the main reasons why the provisions in relation to street cleaning services should be deducted. As we know very well, the DAB supports outsourcing, and supporting outsourcing means supporting exploitation. As far as certain items are concerned, we agree with the relevant services in principle. Our only complaint is the outsourcing system because when the services are outsourced, the salary of front-line staff will become particularly low as this system is inherently exploitative. Hence, I hope that Members should not just sit in the Chamber, daydreaming. If they want to be praised by others, they must do their fair share of homework, instead of just sitting there and making all sorts of pretensions. He criticized us for putting on a show. But who is actually putting on the biggest show? The answer is the guy who sits on the other side of the Chamber, with his red headphones on, daydreaming.

Meanwhile, why did Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung propose to delete the provisions in relation to dental services? We have explained it many times before. Did he listen to my story about "silver teeth"? The present provision of dental services has failed to take care of the oral health of the elderly comprehensively. If he cannot even understand this simple logic, he should slowly learn from others in a humble manner. As the Chairman has advised certain Members time and again, they should listen to and learn from others in a humble manner, instead of being self-conceited. They should not become Members of the Council simply to learn from those Members who are rich and powerful about how to gain status, seek benefits and transfer interests. All in all, new Members should learn with a humble attitude.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR NG LEUNG-SING (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, concerning the present debate on No 123 standing part of the Schedule, I believe Members have already turned the basic subject into a political attack. However, the most important point is that we must look at the functions of the Legislative Council which include, to deliberate on the Budget as regards how to ensure the proper use of public funds, how to monitor the Government in making a proper Budget for the use of public funds and also how to approve the items in the Budget.

Here I would also like to mention a subject which is everybody's concern, that is, whether the filibuster targeting the Budget is in public interest. Originally, we are very concerned about what we can do. In fact, anyone can see what we have done in the past 14 working days. If what we have done can be considered as in public interest, then I have nothing to say. As regards the question on "pressing the button", someone asked us if the Members being paid over \$80,000 in remuneration were here just to press the button. I said no and we were discussing the contents of the Budget and they then asked what contents we had discussed. I told them to watch the television. After watching what we had done on the television, they said that rather than getting us to deliberate on the Budget, anyone they found on the street could do it. This rightly describes how I felt when we discussed the heads to which amendments have been proposed standing part of the Schedule: were we doing justice to the people?

Moreover, the Finance Committee has also been affected. A similar action has made 47 non-works items and 40 works items queuing and waiting. As Members seize every possible opportunity to use such unfounded reasons as conflict of interest and transfer of benefits to make their argument and politicize everything, I wonder when this Council can do some solid work for the public.

Therefore, this Council should note the principle of "As every thread of gold is valuable, so is every moment of time." Just now a Member asked how this amount of more than \$2 million a day was calculated. Very simple, last year we already calculated the relevant amount. The Budget last year estimated that the Legislative Council's total expenditure for the whole year was \$664 million and for this year the provision made was increased to \$673 million. Apart from two days of a week, Saturdays and Sundays, no matter we work on these two days or not, there are about 253 working days a year. So our daily expenditure is between over \$2.5 million to \$2.6 million, that is, ranging from \$2.55 million to \$2.6 million. Someone say that whether you work or not, you will spend this amount anyway. Some others would ask, when you are given the rice, you have to eat it but the problem is, what can you do? It turns out that all we do is only to "press the button" and speak gobbledygook. Are we doing justice to society, to taxpayers and everyone?

I hope that when debating whether the heads should stand part of the Schedule, we will give more consideration to which amendments merit our attention. If no one has a strong view, should we do justice to society as soon as possible so that the underprivileged can get the social welfare services that they deserve earlier? Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): I am grateful to Mr NG Leung-sing for his speech just now, for it has fully clarified Mr Kenneth LEUNG's query about the comment that the filibuster is wasting \$2.25 million each day. Actually, during the filibuster last year, Mr NG Leung-sing and I already explained to reporters how this estimation was deduced. As the representative of the accounting functional constituency and a seasoned accountant, Mr LEUNG should not have needed Mr NG to tell him how the amount was calculated.

Deputy Chairman, in his speech of over 13 minutes, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung spent more than 10 minutes on censuring me and demanding a response from me. Therefore, I now give him a response. Although

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, the "million-dollar Member", is not present, I hope that he can hear it.

Deputy Chairman, I have no intention to quarrel with him. I respond to him solely for the purpose of making my point clear. There should not be any cause for much criticism against the People Power and the League of Social Democrats (LSD) for their fight for retirement protection. However, if their fight is at the cost of the people's money, we beg to differ. This is what distinguishes us from them. Why did I criticize them for harming others for their own personal gain? A more suitable description should be "harming the public for their own personal gain".

The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions (FTU) has been fighting for a retirement protection system for decades, but we have not sought to sacrifice or harm the people's interest in this course. We strove to reflect the views of the grassroots and wage earners, collected information, conducted studies and analyses, met with the relevant government officials, lodged strong representations, and we even staged large-scale demonstrations and petitions.

Deputy Chairman, you come from the commercial sector and you can see that over the years the FTU has persevered in putting forward proposals and recommendations on retirement protection and the ageing population in Hong Kong in a pragmatic manner.

Deputy Chairman, this is the fundamental difference between the FTU and the LSD and the People Power. Besides, in respect of this debate on 69 items standing part of the Schedule ... Honestly, I would ask the Members present to take note that we have debated for 98 hours, during which 18% of the time was spent on summoning Members to this Chamber for headcounts. For the rest of the time, how much was spent on discussing retirement protection? None.

As the Chairman has said, our speeches must not digress but must be on the question of these 69 items standing part of the Schedule, but those items do not concern retirement protection ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, I have already allowed you to make a response.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I have not finished with my response yet.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): You may only make a brief response because this joint debate is not about retirement protection but the sums for 69 heads standing part of the Schedule. Please speak to the question.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I am now trying to ask why these 69 items should stand part of the Schedule. I have to point out that these 69 items among the 1 000-odd amendments, whether Members agree or object to their standing part of the Schedule, have deprived Members of the time or the chance to talk about their goals of staging this filibuster. They have two goals, namely fighting for retirement protection and the handing out of \$10,000 to everyone. With the present approach, it is just impossible to achieve these goals.

Therefore, Deputy Chairman, I have not digressed but my speech is totally relevant. Further, since retirement protection and the handing out of \$10,000 are not allowed to be mentioned in the debate on the 69 items among the 1 000-odd amendments, how do they fight for them?

Deputy Chairman, I also wish to say that during this 98-hour debate, I never digressed ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, your speech now is a digression.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Since you have made such a ruling, I respect it but I think your ruling is wrong. However, I cannot argue with you because your ruling is supreme.

I would like to talk about one more thing, which is even though there were 1 000-odd amendments, the officials never responded to the two issues. Without the officials' responses, Members could not speak on and express their views on retirement protection and the handing out of \$10,000 in those 98 hours. If that was not a waste of money, what was it?

Therefore, Deputy Chairman, you need not refute my argument. I have finished. I hope that the three "million-dollar Members" can be rational and calm and refrain from thinking that they would be justified by scolding others loudly. I would like to ask them to be reasonable. Thank you.

MR CHAN KIN-POR (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, before stating whether I support these 69 heads standing part of the Schedule, I think we should sum up the way in which the Appropriation Bill 2014 is now handled.

The results of filibustering are predictable actually. The filibustering Members sounded great when they claimed that they were fighting for universal retirement protection. In fact, we all know that universal retirement protection is a really implicated issue that requires enormous social resources in the long run. The Government has also commissioned a comprehensive study by Prof Nelson CHOW. The issue entails in-depth discussions and filibustering or shouting slogans cannot change the policies and procedures. It would be even more astonishing for the Government to give in so easily. Moreover, the filibustering Members know very well that they are just enjoying the limelight under the pretext of fighting for universal retirement protection.

After the President had decided to "cut off the filibuster", "Long Hair" with the crying face apologized that he could not fight for universal retirement protection for the elderly through filibustering. This fully demonstrated how hypocritical he was. We can more or less assert that he would filibuster again in the Budget debate next year and he would also tender apologies then. He simply considered Hong Kong people as fools. Some Members are really addicted to filibustering. They are even filibustering when we discuss the establishment of the Innovation and Technology Bureau; this sufficiently proves that they regard exposure as the most important thing and they can brush public interests aside.

"Long Hair" is the one who was lost in his own "hypocritical rhetoric". His remarks contain some key points such as "trying his best to subdue others" and half-truths. What is meant by "half-truths"? He focused on the parts but not the whole, mixing up truths and lies and even making non remarks; this is amazing ...

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I remind Members once again that we are having a debate on the sums for 69 heads standing part of the Schedule. If

Members have views on the filibuster, it is more appropriate for them to express them in the next joint debate. If Members speak not on the question of the sums for 69 heads standing part of the Schedule, they have digressed from the subject of this joint debate.

MR CHAN KIN-POR (in Cantonese): I thank the Deputy Chairman for the reminder. I would only discuss in the next debate the problems with the procedures of examining the Appropriation Bill 2014.

Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR ALBERT CHAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, Mr WONG Kwok-hing mentioned the People Power just now, so I hope you would be fair and give me some time to make a reasonable response.

He said just now that what we did is a waste because there can be no results. In considering the Budget, members' support or opposition would put pressure on the Government insofar as public policy or public finance is concerned. The FTU said they have been fighting for universal retirement protection or pension for the elderly, and claimed that they have organized processions and discussed with the Government. Is it not a waste that their efforts have been neglected by the Government all these years? They might as well disappear from the Earth as it is a waste for them to live. Having this logic, they absolutely do not understand the mode of operation of this system and they have not used the power of this system to strive for their so-called ideals and goals.

In case the FTU and other pan-democrat Members clearly state that they will vote against the Budget if the Government does not implement universal retirement protection, will the Government dare not implement universal retirement protection in the light of these 35 votes? It is a waste that they have not used the weapons and tools in hand to fight for the elderly, and they are staging a show. How can they say that we are staging a show in filibustering? The FTU has been staging shows for more than 20 years. They have just organized processions and demonstrations for purposes of gaining coverage by

the media, and then told the elderly that they have already organized processions. They have weapons in this Chamber and they can fight for universal retirement protection by voting against the Budget; but they have not used these weapons. Instead, they have done something stupid and meaningless; yet, they have criticized us for staging a show.

Deputy Chairman, I am about to finish. I am just denouncing these half-witted members of a low standard. Their remarks and comments showed that they are shallow and half-witted. For more than 10 years, they have never used their voting rights in this Chamber to force the Government to accept universal retirement protection. Deputy Chairman, that's all I wish to say.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any public officer wish to speak?

(No public officer indicated a wish to speak)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 21 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(THE CHAIRMAN resumed the Chair)

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr Dennis KWOK and Dr Fernando CHEUNG voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Ms Emily LAU and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 40 Members present, 32 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 22 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(While the division bell was ringing, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen stood up)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, what is your point?

MR CHAN CHI-CHUEN (in Cantonese): Chairman, when votes are cast for the first time, the division bell should be rung for five minutes. Should the time for ringing the division bell be shortened to one minute only after a motion has been moved and passed for this effect?

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): As it is still the Committee stage, so the motion moved by Mr Andrew LEUNG earlier to shorten the ringing duration of the division bell to one minute is still effective. When we come to the Third Reading later on, the ringing of the division bell will be resumed to five minutes.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHUENG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Paul TSE, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 47 Members present, 35 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 25 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr Dennis KWOK and Mr Christopher CHEUNG voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 49 Members present, 35 were in favour of the motion and six against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 28 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Miss Alice MAK, Mr Dennis KWOK and Dr Elizabeth QUAT voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 51 Members present, 36 were in favour of the motion and seven against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

(Some Members talked in a loud voice)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please keep quiet.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 30 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr MA fung-kwok, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 49 Members present, 35 were in favour of the motion and seven against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 31 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Hak-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG,

Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 51 Members present, 38 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 33 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr Dennis KWOK and Mr Christopher CHUNG voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 51 Members present, 37 were in favour of the motion and six against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 37 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 51 Members present, 38 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 39 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice

MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 48 Members present, 37 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 42 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr KWOK Wai-keung and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 47 Members present, 33 were in favour of the motion and seven against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 44 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr CHAN Han-pan voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 47 Members present, 34 were in favour of the motion and six against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 45 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice

MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 47 Members present, 36 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 46 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Dr Helena WONG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 47 Members present, 37 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 47 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 45 Members present, 35 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 49 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN,

Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kyok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kyok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WU Chi-wai, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 43 Members present, 34 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 51 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 34 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 53 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 43 Members present, 34 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 55 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 33 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 59 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 60 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Paul TSE, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 32 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 62 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 32 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 63 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 41 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 70 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 41 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 72 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 42 Members present, 32 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 74 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 40 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 76 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 78 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr Dennis KWOK, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 41 Members present, 32 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 79 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por,

Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Dr Helena WONG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 41 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 80 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 41 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and six against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 82 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 40 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 90 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 91 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr James TO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and six against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 92 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 94 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 95 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG,

Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 96 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 100 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 112 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kuok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kuok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 116 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 118 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 26 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 121 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Mr IP Kin-yuen did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 26 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 122 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 37 Members present, 27 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 136 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 26 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 137 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 35 Members present, 25 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 138 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr KWOK Ka-ki and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 35 Members present, 26 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 139 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kiwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 27 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 140 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 141 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Ms Emily LAU, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 142 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr CHAN Chi-chuen has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 143 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 35 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and two against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 144 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 35 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 147 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 148 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Albert HO, Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 151 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 152 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 155 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Albert CHAN rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Albert CHAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 156 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

(Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung stood up)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, what is your point?

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, sorry, I have pressed the wrong button. I meant to vote against it. I wish to make a correction.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG, according to the record, your vote is "No", so the voting result is not affected.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr TANG Ka-piu voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Mr Dennis KWOK and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 28 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 158 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE and Dr Kenneth CHAN did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 159 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kiwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 160 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Mr Dennis KWOK voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG, Prof Joseph LEE and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 162 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 37 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 169 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr Frederick FUNG and Mr SIN Chung-kai did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and two against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 170 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Miss CHAN Yuen-han voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 37 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 173 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Miss CHAN Yuen-han voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 37 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 174 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 180 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 186 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 190 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr Gary FAN and Miss CHAN Yuen-han voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 29 were in favour of the motion and four against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the sum for head 194 stand part of the Schedule. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN and Mr Gary FAN voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 36 Members present, 30 were in favour of the motion and three against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): The sums for all heads stand part of the Schedule. I now put the question to you and that is: That the Schedule stand part of the Bill. According to Rule 68(4) of the Rules of Procedure, this question is subject to neither amendment nor debate. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung rose to claim a division.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Vincent FANG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr James TIEN, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr Charles Peter MOK, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr WONG Yuk-man, Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen voted against the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr Frederick FUNG did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 39 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion and five against it. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee now examines the clauses of the Bill. I now propose the question to you and that is: That the following clauses stand part of the Bill.

CLERK (in Cantonese): Clauses 1 and 2.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): We now proceed to the last joint debate.

I have to remind Members here that according to Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure, no debate is allowed when we come to the Third Reading later on. As I did in the past, in response to Members' request, I will allow Members to state whether or not they support the Bill and present their justifications during the debate on clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill, that is, during the upcoming debate. Members are advised not to comment on various government policies or the sums for the respective heads during this debate.

Does any other Members wish to speak?

MR LEE CHEUK-YAN (in Cantonese): Chairman, on behalf of the Labour Party, I speak against the Budget because we think that the Government should formulate the whole Budget afresh. It can be said that Financial Secretary John TSANG has been loafing in his position for years. His job is really easy as it is done by simply putting previous policies together and adding a few new ones. The whole Government fails to analyse the latest situation or the misery of the people. The whole Government and John TSANG only know how to enrich the bureaucrats and keep the masses poor. They become rich by accumulating a considerable fiscal surplus every year which, together with the Exchange Fund, amounts to some \$2,000 billion. Yet they tell Hong Kong people, "Sorry, despite the huge amount of money held by the Government, we cannot make both ends meet and have to save up for the future."

Therefore, his mindset is fundamentally that of a scrooge. Apart from being a scrooge, he is often a scaremonger. He threatens us with two issues which I think are very ridiculous. One of them is that he keeps saying if the Budget is subject to endless scrutiny by the Legislative Council, civil servants cannot get their pay in June. He has threatened the public with all sorts of remarks. But the fact is, as we all know, the Chairman will definitely cut off the filibuster. He need not threaten the public in this way, right? It seems he tries to exert pressure on Members and the Chairman. But we all know that the Government does not face any problem at all. There has been hearsay that the Government has told civil servants to identify areas which will encounter great difficulties if funding is not provided by June. This is one of the examples of him being a scaremonger.

The second example of him threatening the people is the setting up of the "Future Fund" which I think is very absurd. He points out that we will encounter a lot of difficulties in the future due to population ageing. He then cites different estimates to illustrate how the situations will differ if a more conservative approach is adopted or if more money is spent. In fact, the conservative approach can hardly deal with the ageing population in the future, even if it is based on their assessment. However, they have not figured out the solution because the real solution lies in solving the problem today, not in the future. However, the "Future Fund" only aims at funnelling the Land Fund to infrastructure development. This is the present approach adopted by the Financial Secretary. In our view, he just considers making use of the "Future Fund" for infrastructure but the problem highlighted by him is population ageing. Yet in his Budget, he has not put forward any solution to the imminent challenge of population ageing. The reason for "Long Hair" to launch the filibuster is the introduction of universal retirement pension and the setting up of a universal retirement protection system. If this problem is not dealt with today, the pressure will become even greater in the future.

We have been pointing out all along that if today we decide to set up a seed fund of \$50 billion — the amount may not be sufficient by now because we have delayed for a whole year; last year we proposed \$50 billion but I guess this year we need \$100 billion — and inject the contributions from the three parties of employees, employers (businessmen) and the Government into this big pond, we can start the accumulation from now on and prepare for the implementation of a universal retirement pension system in the future in response to population ageing. Only this is the correct approach and the appropriate direction for our development. However, Chairman, this Government and the Financial Secretary have been dragging on all along. Now they are trying to delay the publication of Prof Nelson CHOW's report. There has been hearsay that the Government has requested Prof CHOW to publish his report only after he has read through its report on the future fiscal policy in response to population ageing. In doing so, they can drag on for a longer time. In fact, the longer it drags on, the greater will be the pressure. For this reason, I think the "Future Fund" is indeed redundant. He should indeed set up a universal pension fund at once and make an immediate allocation of \$100 billion to address the problem.

Chairman, I think the Government has totally ignored the well-being of the elderly and focuses only on "bricks" and infrastructure in future. It only stresses one thing — if more infrastructure is built, the economy will grow. Such a

mindset is dangerous. The future economic development of Hong Kong in fact depends not only on building more infrastructure. Instead, it depends on promoting creativity by giving the young people more room to start their business, and on the other hand, improving our education. However, we can see that the present education policy is a mess.

Just now I mentioned that the bureaucrats are getting rich but the masses are becoming poor. The most serious poverty problem for Hong Kong people is that they need to prepare a large sum of money for the tertiary education of their children. For those students who cannot get admission to the university nor subsidies (that is, those other than the 18% students who get an offer from university) but would like to pursue studies, Chairman, you also know that they are heavily indebted. They are the poor masses. Our Government is so rich, yet it does not address the problem of indebtedness of those associate degree students and undergraduates. Instead of adding more subsidized places, it keeps saying that the input in this regard is already sufficient and so no addition will be made. It just keeps threatening that we will encounter greater difficulties in the future.

In my opinion, the Government has no commitment to our future. The lack of government commitment in education, as I mentioned just now, will hinder economic development. As such, Hong Kong should not simply depend on infrastructure. In this regard, the Government is a complete failure. Worse still, the Government only focuses on building infrastructure in the future and totally neglects the issue of retirement protection for the elderly. If we implement a universal retirement pension system right now, we may still be able to catch up. We may still have a fund that can deal with the situation in the next decade. When the fund has accumulated more money, it can sustain for 30 to 40 years, and so on. If such a retirement system is not implemented at once, the elderly will remain miserable, unable to enjoy retirement. Of course, the Hong Kong Government may remain shameless and let the elderly continue to make a living by collecting cardboards or live on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance and spend their saddening life in residential care homes. This is our Government, a government that does not care about the well-being of the masses.

The Financial Secretary just stops here, but we will still be weighed down by him for many years. This is even worse because he will continue to loaf in his position every year. He repeats doing the same thing every year. If this continues, all the problems in Hong Kong will remain unsolved. I often criticize

that the Government, formed by a Chief Executive selected by a small circle, is poorly organized because the officials harbour different ideas. One of them pretends to be from the grassroots — I am talking about LEUNG Chun-ying — while John TSANG disguises himself as a member of the middle class who enjoys no welfare. But the middle-class people are in fact living in great misery. Let us take a look at the problem encountered by the middle class in searching for kindergarten places recently. They get no help at all because the Government does not bother about this. Therefore the middle class is fundamentally the victim.

John TSANG pretends to be middle-class while LEUNG Chun-ying pretends to be grass-roots. But in fact both of them are hypocrites who care not about the misery of the masses and the middle class. As a result, people from these two classes all suffer. The present Government is poorly organized and comprised of officials who harbour different ideas. Yet they fight with each other internally in order to raise their own popularity. Consequently the governance of Hong Kong has become a mess and the Budget is just one of the examples.

Therefore, in the view of the Labour Party, the Government's philosophy in financial management is totally wrong. In fact, there is much room for us to do a lot of things. We have been proposing a one-off increase of the expenditure by \$20 billion. Every year the expenditure may be increased by \$10-odd billion in the light of the economic situation. By the proposed \$20 billion, we do not mean to raise the extra expenditure from \$10-odd billion to \$20 billion. Rather, we mean to add \$20 billion on top of the \$10-odd billion so that our expenditure will really be adequate to meet the current needs of the whole society including education, healthcare, welfare, and so on, thus improving the people's lot. On the premise of improving the people's livelihood, the addition of this sum of \$20 billion, together with the universal retirement pension of \$100 billion, will enable the future Budgets to really meet the needs of the people.

Please do not repeat and copy everything year on year and let the so-called deep-seated problems remain unsolved. But this Government never bothers about these deep-seated problems, and it just continues with its original practice. The Labour Party thinks that it is in fact easy to put Hong Kong back onto the right track by simply injecting resources into education, healthcare and welfare which are mostly needed by the public. Through injecting resources into education, equal opportunities for social mobility will be created. If we do not

do so, the younger generation will remain in destitution without any chance of climbing up the social ladder. Why do we do badly in our education policy? It is ironic that the Government often claims that it attaches great importance to education but it is never willing to make efforts in improving education.

The same happens in healthcare. The ageing population has of course imposed great pressure on healthcare. Once I went to the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department of Prince Wales Hospital and found that nowadays all A&E Departments had to make use of camp beds. Camp beds are placed not only in medical wards, but in A&E Departments as well. But no one cares about such problems. The whole healthcare system continues to operate with insufficient resources, in a situation tantamount to having only five lids for 10 pots. I do not know how the pots can be covered by the lids.

Apart from the failure in providing good healthcare, just now I also mentioned the problem of welfare. With regard to the elderly, the Old Age Living Allowance is neither fish nor foul because the monthly payment is only \$2,200 and yet the Government refuses to abolish the assets test. There are in fact sufficient resources to accomplish a lot of work but the Government often resort to the excuse that it may be difficult to withdraw resources in the future if additional resources are allocated now. But indeed no one asks the Government to withdraw those resources in the future, which should be provided if necessary. Initiatives that can help the public should be taken forward without hesitation. It is wrong for the Government to hold the mindset that the resources given today cannot be withdrawn in the future. The public definitely do not want the Government to withdraw the resources because we indeed have such aplenty.

What makes us most furious is that our stingy Government and stingy Financial Secretary keep all the money and refuse to use it even though we have it a plenty. They keep saying they will commit resources as and when necessary. But we cannot see that the Government is really committing resources as and when necessary because all the money is spent on infrastructure. It does not feel sorry for wasting money on those "white elephants".

(THE CHAIRMAN'S DEPUTY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, took the Chair)

Deputy Chairman, the Government wastes much money on "white elephant" projects, which often require additional funding amounting to hundreds of million dollars. I am not sure who is going to pay for the Express Rail Link project later, which may cost an extra tens of billion dollars. In fact the Government will probably be the one who foots the bill and suffers at the end because it is the major shareholder. While the Government is willing to waste money on this, it keeps saying "no" to injecting money for purposes of improving the people's livelihood on the excuse that money should be saved for the future. According to the Government's logic, there is no problem with spending money on infrastructure because funding is one-off; but it is unwilling to spend money on members of the public because funding for their expenses is allocated annually. But in reality, funding for infrastructure will also have to be granted annually because there are new infrastructure developments every year. The sum amounts to tens of billion dollars (almost \$80 billion at the moment) every year. This is in fact recurrent expenditure.

It shows that the Government is not spending what is necessary because it restrains the spending that is truly necessary. If the Government continues to work like this, we are definitely not satisfied and that explains why the Labour Party considers the Budget not acceptable. Notwithstanding this, we are unable to negative it today because the pro-establishment camp will do their job as the royalists, who will still vote for the Budget after expressing their criticisms and dissatisfactions. This is just meaningless.

Worse still, everything will repeat again next year. The Government will repeat doing the same thing, telling us that it will not increase expenditures because it may not afford the huge expenses in the future. But the Government does not face any financial difficulty in reality. It is just repeating the same line. Therefore, to make a breakthrough, I think we must replace the Government. To this end, we must fight for universal suffrage in order to get the problem solved.

Thank you, Deputy Chairman.

MS STARRY LEE (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, the filibuster on the deliberations on the Budget in this Council has already lasted 127 hours. What do these 127 hours mean? According to the calendar of the Legislative Council, 33 days of meeting in total are scheduled for the 2013-2014 Legislative Session. If we use an 11-hour meeting from 11 am to 10 pm each day as the basis for calculation, it is estimated that we have around 369 hours of meeting time each

year. It means that the examination of this Appropriation Bill 2014 alone has taken up close to or even more than one third of the total estimated meeting time of the Legislative Council. The filibustering Members have availed themselves of every opening in the Rules of Procedures to attract public attention and pressurize the Government — this is what they have said. But let us not forget that this is the number of hours expended after the Chairman cut off the filibuster. Had the Chairman not cut it off, I have no idea for how much longer the filibuster would have been dragged on. Would it have taken 50 hours or 100 hours more? This is actually unpredictable.

Deputy Chairman, disregarding whether or not the filibustering Members admit that their aim is to hijack the entire Legislative Council and paralyse the operation of the Legislative Council by way of filibustering, these are already facts cast in iron. The filibustering Members have fully taken advantage of the opportunities to attract exposure before the media camera during this period of time, and these several Members have even put over their heads the halo of taking up the cudgel for the public. However, the price of filibuster has to be paid by the entire Legislative Council and all Hong Kong people. Just this morning I again heard a member of the public call this Council the "rubbish Council". We have criticized the Government for its low popularity, but I wonder if Members have ever conducted some soul-searching because our popularity is equally low. The price of filibuster is actually paid by all Members of this Council. This is really tantamount to the case of "you throwing a party and we paying the bill".

A never-ending filibuster is anti-democratic because this kind of endless debate has seriously undermined the function of the Legislative Council in monitoring the Government. Who has been the happiest during the filibuster? It is probably the public officers because the Oral Question Time in the Legislative Council has to be cancelled and there is no urgent question. As for the many panels and Bills Committees, in order to make way for our meetings, they have either squeezed their meetings into the same time slots or rescheduled them and even compressed the discussion time. As Members all know, we have to hold all the meetings on Mondays or Tuesdays because of the filibuster. As a result, our attendance at meetings and the number of times that we can speak at meetings are reduced because we have to rush to different meetings. Therefore, as Members have said, have we been able to exert greater pressure on the Government or have we actually undermined the ability of this Council of monitoring the Government? I think this point does warrant deep thoughts by the public.

Besides, many pieces of legislation subject to the negative vetting procedure have been forced to be aborted due to the time constraint. At the meeting of the Finance Committee last Friday, at least six funding proposals had to be withdrawn for the time being because the Budget was not approved as scheduled due to the filibuster. These proposals, including the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors, Scholarship Scheme for Studying Outside Hong Kong, Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme, and so on, may not be implemented in the new academic year as scheduled.

Deputy Chairman, what is more worrying is that the battlefield of the filibuster has been extended from the Legislative Council to the Finance Committee and other subcommittees across the board, such as the Public Works Subcommittee. For example, the "one landfill and one incinerator" proposal had to be discussed many times at meetings of the Public Works Subcommittee before it could come to a close. Another example is the funding application for the advance works of the North East New Territories (NENT) development, the vote on which has long been held up by a large number of motions proposed by some Members in the Finance Committee. A "big traffic jam" is thus created on the agenda.

Deputy Chairman, apart from wasting time and causing a "big traffic jam" on the agenda, what is most infuriating about the filibuster is that those Members who started the filibuster — I think they know it deep down in their heart that it is impossible to achieve their political demands through filibustering — are only using the filibuster as an excuse for voicing their other views with the purpose of dealing a blow to the governance of the SAR Government.

The several Members who started the filibuster have said in public that they have two objectives. The first is to strive for a universal pension system or a \$50-billion seed fund; and the second is to demand a "cash handout" from the Government. Either from a political viewpoint or in principle, it is impossible to achieve these objectives solely through filibustering. First of all, it is impossible for the SAR to readily yield to the demands of the filibustering Members because once the Government, for fear of filibustering by Members, "kneels down" as soon as a filibuster is set off, is it not tantamount to encouraging Members from different parties and groupings to filibuster in this Council in order to strive for the policies that they wish put in place? If the Government "knelt down" because of the filibuster, the Government must also consider what it would do in

response to filibustering by other Members. The Government just cannot accede to the request of some people but not that of other people. So, from the political angle, the SAR Government simply cannot "kneel down" when Members start to filibuster and accede to these two political demands made by the Members.

On second thought, even if the Government agreed to give consideration to the Members' demand for a universal pension system, we all understand that this is a highly controversial issue in society and no consensus has been forged so far. Added to this is that the relevant study has just started. If the Government hastily made a decision or hastily acceded to their demand because of filibustering by Members before the commission has drawn any conclusion or even submitted a report, that would be irresponsible on the part of the Government and people would suspect if the Government's consultation is only bogus. This would further create troubles for the future administration of the Government and there would never be peace in society.

Deputy Chairman, many Members of this Council, especially the filibustering Members, have often criticized the SAR Government for various blunders in administration. But when the SAR Government proposed solutions in the hope that some solid work could be done to tackle the problems, these Members are nevertheless obsessed with the details, insisting on their demands and refusing to give way. They even resorted to filibustering at all costs, in order to hold the Government back and make administration by the Government difficult. For example, Members have criticized the Government for providing public housing at too slow a speed, resulting in inadequate supply and a long queue for the allocation of public rental housing flats, and the waiting list is even getting longer and longer. But when the Government put forward the NENT development proposal to increase land supply — Members actually understand very well that the development of new towns used to be a major means of increasing land supply and when the opportunity has come now, many Members have nevertheless raised objection and hurled criticisms at the Government. They even attempted to obstruct the development proposal by way of filibustering and as a result, not even the funding for the advance works can be put to a vote as scheduled. Frankly speaking, the NENT development project is set to be further delayed. Another example is that during our debates in this Council, it is often pointed out that opportunities of upward mobility are lacking in society, and we have often criticized the SAR Government for its excessive reliance on the financial services and real estate industries, hoping that the Government can

facilitate the diversification of industries and create more opportunities of upward mobility for our young people. As we all know, this Government already planned to establish an Innovation and Technology Bureau in the beginning of the term but in vain due to the filibustering in this Council at the time. Now that the Government has once again proposed the establishment of an Innovation and Technology Bureau, but some Members have clearly stated that they will start a filibuster to strangle this Innovation and Technology Bureau. Such being the case, we must ask: In hurling criticisms at the Government, do these Members actually want to hold the Government back? Or do they want to make it impossible for the Government to carry out any work? I think the public can clearly see the answer.

Therefore, while the filibustering Members have vigorously criticized the Government for not managing to get anything done, they are actually trying to hold the Government back by various means, in order to render the Government unable to achieve anything in the end and these Members would then bombard the Government for not getting anything done. In fact, the public must bear in mind all these scenes. If the Government should end up not getting anything done, I think those Members who impeded the Government in implementing policies must bear an unshirkable responsibility.

Deputy Chairman, certainly, the Government also has to thoroughly consider how best the relationship between the executive and the legislature can be improved. Not only should the Government undertake to do so verbally, but it should sincerely take actions to this end on an ongoing basis. It is because rapport between the executive and the legislature is as important as any plan and vision. The realization of plans and vision requires the endorsement of the Legislative Council, while effective governance hinges not only on the wish of the Chief Executive but also the efforts of the Civil Service and what is more, the support of the Legislative Council in terms of legislation and financial provisions. Therefore, I very much hope that the SAR Government can seriously give some thoughts to this. While efforts are made to take forward the establishment of an Innovation and Technology Bureau or to take forward policies, the Government should also spend efforts and time on considering how best the relationship between the executive and the legislature can be improved. However, that the filibustering Members has impeded the Government in administration at all costs is actually a kind of manifestation. Why did Members not agree to extend the meeting? It is because we understand that extending the meeting will only

enable the filibustering Members to keep on proposing motions and putting forward different arguments to prolong the meeting. Therefore, a political problem must be solved by political means. I hope that all parties can learn a lesson, and I also hope that the rapport between the executive and the legislature will be better in the future.

Deputy Chairman, I so submit.

MR FREDERICK FUNG (in Cantonese): The Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood and I oppose this Budget.

John TSANG has taken up the office of the Financial Secretary for many years and presented a number of Budgets. But if we compare his maiden Budget with the Budget this year, we will find that they are more or less the same, and there are only small variations in the many Budgets presented by him over the years. Most of the differences lie in the petty favours, and the Budgets aimed only to fine-tune policies, without providing solutions targeting social ills in the light of the problems currently faced by Hong Kong.

The biggest problems currently faced by Hong Kong include inadequate housing production, rising rental, the lack of prospects for young people and inadequate job types (which even include high-paying jobs). As a result, the new generation of Hong Kong do not have a goal that they will work hard and make the utmost effort to achieve while society as a whole does not have any vision. Under such circumstances, the Financial Secretary is actually duty-bound to tell us what we should do. I must point out in particular that he is also responsible for identifying land and so, he should also tell us how we can effectively deal with the housing problem. This is the first point.

Second, on the question of housing, he should provide a clear picture of market distribution. On the one hand, in the course of market operation, he should ensure that while the business sector can do business and engage in property speculation, a healthy real estate market can still be developed gradually. On the other hand, he should make adequate planning and set targets. For example, households with a monthly income below \$30,000 can be allocated with public rental housing (PRH) flats; and households with a monthly income between \$30,000 and \$40,000 can buy a flat under the Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) of the Government. After setting these targets, the Government can more

easily understand and plan the production of PRH and HOS flats required annually. This will provide the basis for making a projection on how many years later the housing problem of the low-to-middle income families can be basically addressed.

Certainly, a more pressing issue that has to be addressed is ... As Members all know, the term of the LEUNG Chun-ying Administration will expire in 2017 and he may not necessarily be re-elected even if he runs for a second term. Therefore, when it is uncertain as to whether or not he will be re-elected, how should he make use of his powers to address the long-term housing problem in his remaining term? We must bear in mind that even if we start building flats today, it will take six years to complete them. Such being the case, in these six years, what is he going to do to help people who face difficulties in housing and also people who have to bear exorbitant rentals?

(THE CHAIRMAN resumed the Chair)

I wonder if Members know — but the Government should know it — that four years ago the monthly rent of a "sub-divided unit" in a building equipped with lifts was about \$2,500 and has increased to \$4,500 now. But has the income of wage earners increased by 70% or 80%? If not, it means that their wages are entirely eaten up by the rental. In view of this, why is consideration not given to imposing rent control? This is not just the case of people who are renting a dwelling place because even the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) also face the problem of crazy spiral in shop rental. This has made it impossible for them to operate their business because most of the profits made by them have to be spent on the rental. The landlords will immediately increase the shop rental whenever they find that their tenants' business is good and are making profits. I think the Government should know that even in residential areas, the new rent level may double upon every renewal of commercial tenancy. As such, how can the SMEs maintain their business operation?

Can the market deal with these problems on its own? After The Link Management Limited took over the management of shopping arcades in public housing estates, the rent levels and various requirements for shops operated by SMEs have made all shopping arcades in public housing estates become uniform and systematic, having lost the diversified approach required for serving residents in PRH or HOS estates. Why does the Government not consider providing,

renting or buying places in residential areas or communities of low-to-middle income families for the operation of shopping arcades targeting the lower-middle class? In fact, these are ways to immediately provide relief to the most pressing and imminent problem now faced by Hong Kong people.

The Financial Secretary has taken the initiative to set up a committee to study the elderly problem in Hong Kong, but the figures presented are terrifying indeed. Then he went further to turn the elderly into scapegoats, saying that the elders are a huge burden on Hong Kong which is going to hold us back from doing or handling anything. He added that a shortage of labour force is envisaged in the future but the elderly will become dependent on us, what can society do? In fact, why does the Government not take a positive view of the elderly instead of demonizing them all the time?

I think the elderly are smarter one generation after another; they are more educated one generation after another; they are more affluent one generation after another; and there are more elderly people who belong to the middle class one generation after another. The elderly constitute a force of development in society. They are consumers themselves, and they are target customers of businessmen. How can they be continuously criticized and trampled upon? Worse still, while the Government criticizes and tramples on the elderly and describes them as a burden on society, it has not suggested any ways to resolve or to help resolve the problem of population ageing. On the contrary, the Government said that given a large elderly population, it is necessary to set up a Future Fund and start carrying out infrastructure projects. What does this have to do with the elderly? The Government first listed the "wrongs" of the elderly and then proceeded to developing infrastructure which entirely does not benefit the elderly at all. Can I ask what the Financial Secretary is doing? He only raised the issue or problem but then proceeded to do other things. Why should he raise the issue or problem in the first place? The Future Fund is unacceptable.

On the contrary, with regard to the study on universal retirement protection currently conducted by the Commission on Poverty, there has been continuous stalling by the Government. At first, we were told that a report would be published at the end of last year but then it was put off to January, March, May, June and now, it has been further deferred to July. Chairman, perhaps you have also heard this news, too. It is said that the Financial Secretary requested that a new model be devised, based on his figures, to present what scenarios there will be. It is because the figures on the growth in the number of elderly people put

forward by the Financial Secretary's committee are different from the Government's information. According to the Government's information, the elderly population will grow by an average of 4% annually, whereas the Financial Secretary's committee said that it is 2.8%, adding that the ageing of the elderly should also be factored in and so, further studies should be conducted based on 2.8%. This is why the study has been put off one month after another.

The Budget has failed to address the current problems in society; nor has it taken forward the development of new industries. Ms Starry LEE said ... Members who have paid attention to my election platform will know that I already proposed in 2011 the setting up of three funds to promote three new industries. The first is the green or environmental industry; the second is the creative and cultural industries which mainly include the performing arts or stage arts, such as singing, dance, drama, and so on, as well as those relating to culture and arts, such as painting. These arts activities do not require too much support on the real estate front, for they really feed on smart ideas only.

The third is innovation and technology. In respect of innovation and technology, as we can see, their development is possible as long as good results can be achieved and the products have recorded a high sales volume, particularly if they can open up a market in the Mainland. But it is most disappointing ... Ms Starry LEE asked earlier why we oppose the setting up of a technology bureau by the Government. In fact, it is very difficult for us not to oppose the Government. In respect of the issue of a third free television service licence, had the Government issued a licence to the Hong Kong Television Network Limited, we would have believed that the Government is genuinely committed to promoting ... because the issue of television licences ... television is in itself a combination of arts and technology, as a fusion of different types of performing arts, such as singing, dance, drama, Cantonese opera, and so on, is made possible through technology. However, the Government has not taken this forward due to the concern that there would be too many service providers and hence decided to impose a limit. The Government was concerned about television providers suffering a loss in their operation and refused to promote this kind of arts for this reason. I think the Government was only using its powers to restrict the development of technology and arts at that time. If I let the Government set up an additional policy bureau, the Government would be able to impose more restrictions. What the Government has done has changed and distorted the nature of the whole thing. I cannot accept it. I really cannot accept the setting up of a technology bureau.

Chairman, the Government has not drawn up any long-term plans. I think John TSANG is currently using the tactic that had long been adopted during the colonial era, namely, implementing construction projects extensively. Back in the 1980s, the Hong Kong-British Government had gone on a construction spree by developing a lot of new towns, public housing, HOS estates. At a time when the handover of sovereignty was about to take place, there was also the construction of the new airport. The Future Fund now also follows the same approach. Is it because our officials are trained by the colonial government that they will only copy the directions of the colonial government? Why do we not have a new mindset? In the first place, our Financial Secretary still believes in the free market. But I must point out that we should follow suit only when the free market is healthy. The market in Hong Kong is not healthy now. If we do nothing while unhealthy development of the market continues, the market will only become all the more unhealthy.

I think Secretary Prof K C CHAN must have read a new book published recently — *Capital in the Twenty-First Century* by Thomas PIKETTY. This book is most controversial. It may not be available in Hong Kong because the first edition of the book was sold out, and so was its second and third editions. According to his analyses, the free market has now developed to a state of overall distortion, resulting in polarization in the distribution of wealth in a country or city. The income of some people has dropped compared with their income a decade ago, whereas the income of some people has not changed or has increased only in mathematical progression, but the income of some people has increased in geometric progression. In comparison, the first and second types of people that I have just mentioned cannot catch up with the income of the third type of people. In order for income to increase in geometric progression, it is actually not necessary to develop industries because so long as one has capital and is good at speculation in the financial and real estate markets, his wealth can grow in geometric progression. On the other hand, people who are engaged in sweeping floors, cleaning, dish washing, and so on, can only maintain the *status quo* or at most, enjoy a pay rise in mathematical progression ... or not even in mathematical progression. This will make the entire society unhealthy, and this is exactly the situation of Hong Kong. The Secretary should take a look at and study these analyses. Chairman, for various reasons, I cannot accept this Budget of the Financial Secretary.

I also wish to point out that I am not happy with the cutting off of the filibuster this time around. Chairman, I am not happy with it because under the

Rules of Procedure, every Member has the right to propose an amendment, especially as your consent has been sought for all amendments on this occasion. Furthermore, when you gave your consent, there were actually conditions attached, including your rejection of duplicate and sequential amendments as well as ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr FUNG, let me remind you that you should not comment on my ruling in this joint debate.

MR FREDERICK FUNG (in Cantonese): OK. I was only expressing my views. I personally think that under the Rules of Procedure, if Members' speeches are basically relevant to the question and are not repetitive, they should be allowed to continue speaking and the President or Chairman should let them speak. Chairman, you have even praised us Members for our quality and professionalism and yet, you imposed a time limit to make it impossible for quality and professional Members to continue speaking.

Chairman, I do not support the filibuster this time around and that of last year. I do not support the filibusters not because I think that Members do not have such right. I do not support this filibuster because I do not agree to two points. First, I do not agree to the purpose of this filibuster. Insofar as the Rules of Procedure is concerned, filibuster is almost like a nuclear bomb. A nuclear bomb cannot be deployed, and it cannot be deployed frequently. If a nuclear bomb is deployed frequently, it will become useless. I think filibusters must target the problem which is most serious and most damaging to Hong Kong society, that is, the enactment of local legislation on the implementation of Article 23 of the Basic Law. As the issues under discussion this time around are the provision of a "cash handout" and universal retirement protection, I think these issues do not warrant any filibuster and so, I do not support filibustering for these purposes.

Moreover, I think that in the parliamentary assemblies in other places, the members who started a filibuster will normally adopt two strategies. One is to extend the time of deliberations through filibustering in order to mobilize the people and educate the public in the process, so as to draw in the power of the people to push or compel the government to make changes to some policies. The second strategy is to cause delays until a fiscal cliff has appeared for the

government to really fall off it, in order to see if the government is scared or not. If it is scared, then it can be brought to the discussion table. But Chairman, you did convene a meeting to discuss with us the circumstances under which you must cut off the filibuster. Chairman, you said at the time that the filibustering Members had told you that they would stop the filibuster at the end of May. Who would tell others that they would stop filibustering at the end of May? Tell me, what strategy is this? This is downright not a strategy at all, and this is why the filibuster cannot exert the desired pressure. I do not agree to the filibuster from its strategy to its purpose and so, I do not support this filibuster. But it does not mean that I do not agree that Members can filibuster under the Rules of Procedure.

Chairman, the last point that I wish to make is that during the filibuster, while some Members were certainly criticized for throwing objects during the Chief Executive's Question and Answer Session, what I consider most unsatisfactory is that even the Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (LOCPG) had issued a statement in support of the Government. Why should the LOCPG issue a statement on an internal affair of Hong Kong, and this Council should also issue a statement ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr FUNG, you have strayed away from the question.

MR FREDERICK FUNG (in Cantonese): ... I consider this unacceptable. Chairman, I oppose this Budget.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr FUNG, you mentioned in your speech the term "mathematical progression". There can be arithmetic progression and geometric progression, but there is no mathematical progression.

MR JAMES TIEN (in Cantonese): Chairman, let me come back to the main theme under discussion today — the Budget.

As we can see, the operation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has been different from many foreign places over the years. Hong Kong

is a special administrative region and the tax revenue is exclusively for use by Hong Kong, unlike other provinces and municipalities where their revenue has to be handed over to the Central Authorities. Besides, the expenditure on defence and foreign affairs are borne by the Central Authorities. The public revenue in Hong Kong shall all be used to meet the local needs. Given effective management over the years, the Government has accumulated a huge fiscal reserve. Therefore, it is necessary to study how investment should be made to increase the reserve in order for Hong Kong to scale new heights.

The several Members who spoke earlier all focused on education. I share their views. I think education is an investment. Yet, I have noticed that even if investment is made on education, if the business sector does not have a friendly business environment and if there are not favourable business conditions for people to make investments, it would not be of any use no matter how many more university graduates would be nurtured. In European countries and the United States, a large number of university graduates and even doctoral graduates are trained each year, but they have to work as taxi drivers or waiters and waitresses. Having said that, at least they still manage to make ends meet.

I think what warrants our utmost concern nowadays is how the business sector can provide more opportunities of development for the Hong Kong economy, in order to make money for Hong Kong. Mr Frederick FUNG is not in the Chamber now. He made some very good proposals just now. But his proposals cannot make the most money; nor can they create a large number of job opportunities. Hong Kong has several major economic pillars, including the financial services industry, real estate industry, import and export industry, and tourism. I think all these are major economic pillars, especially tourism. Recently, all countries worldwide have tried to attract tourists by all means, and I think Members must have noticed that the United Kingdom has recently introduced the arrangement of issuing a visa within 24 hours because there are less Mainland tourists visiting the United Kingdom than those visiting France. Many Mainland tourists go to France direct without going to the United Kingdom. In view of this, the British Government has introduced the arrangement of issuing a visa within 24 hours in order to attract more Mainland tourists to go to the United Kingdom for shopping.

However, Hong Kong is driving away tourists. Society has questioned whether there are too many Mainland visitors coming to Hong Kong under the Individual Visit Scheme to the extent that their number exceeds the receiving

capacity of Hong Kong. Coupled with the "anti-locust" drives, the business turnover of the local retail industry has dropped drastically. Is it true that, as several Members have just said, with a decline in the business turnover of the retail industry, retail shops (such as jewellery shops) would not be able to afford the rent and the rent would thus fall and then we should be happy about it?

Rather, I think we should be concerned about the situation of most of the practitioners in the retail industry, such as the salespersons. While they receive a basic salary, they also rely on commission to make ends meet. The hardest hit are salespersons in retail shops who have to rely on commission on top of the basic salary. Many of them are making less money than before. While we should be concerned about their situation ... The buying power of Hong Kong people is limited. If we turn away all Mainland visitors on the pretext that we already have a sufficient tourist volume, what is there for the Hong Kong economy to rely on in the future?

The real estate industry is also beset with problems — I am sorry, Chairman. I should declare an interest first. I am engaged in the real estate business — First, housing development projects cannot be completed as scheduled due to a shortage of construction workers. At present, there are not sufficient construction workers for public housing construction, and the same happens in respect of private housing development and also infrastructure development. In respect of railway development and the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), many people are evading a major problem, namely, a shortage of workers.

If the Government can adopt the past approach for developing the Hong Kong International Airport and import a few thousand to 10 000 foreign workers exclusively for the development of public housing, the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, the Shatin to Central Link, and the WKCD, I think these projects could be completed very soon. The completion of these projects can provide investment opportunities for the business sector, thereby bringing along more job opportunities for Hong Kong people. I think the importation of foreign labour for expediting infrastructure development may not necessarily snatch the "rice bowls" of local construction workers.

Hong Kong is very rich nowadays — Secretary Prof K C CHAN is in the Chamber now — but many countries in the world are impoverished with a large

number of jobless people. Although our Government is rich, has the Government made proper use of the money? I think the answer is in the negative because the Government is throwing money down the drain. Take the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point project as an example. A provision of \$16 billion was first approved for the Government but the Government subsequently sought a further \$8 billion for the project. Has the Government dished out money to other people? Why were substantial cost overruns recorded in government projects over the past two years? This is simply not sustainable, and the Government is wasting the reserve that has been accumulated over the years. When I say that the Government is wasting the reserve, I mean the Government has failed to put the money to good use.

Why do we consider the importation of Mainland workers ... Since Mainland contractors can build roads in Africa and tunnels in South America, why can they not be allowed to build housing flats in Hong Kong? This can save taxpayers a lot of money and the money so saved — Chairman, the business sector is not asking for a tax reduction — can be used for implementing retirement protection or providing support for the disadvantaged social groups.

I am gravely concerned about the future development of Hong Kong. The views put forward by Members during the debate all focus on spending money on taking care of the disadvantaged social groups. There is, of course, every reason to take care of them, but the future economic development of Hong Kong is not given any regard in parallel. How can the Hong Kong economy achieve better development in the future? On the development of the technology industry, is it that success can be achieved with the setting up an Innovation and Technology Bureau? A decade ago — Chairman, several public officers in the Chamber now are new in the Government — the then Chief Executive TUNG Chee-hwa made great efforts to promote the development of the Cyberport. However, this is not something that we can achieve with force. As we can see, Hong Kong people simply cannot manage it. No technology company from the Silicon Valley had set up any office in the Cyberport and the Cyberport eventually had to close down after a few years of operation, and it has become another office area and luxurious residential area. While there are some technology companies in the Hong Kong Science Park, much space in the Science Park is actually used for storage. The Government has recently planned to change the use of the last remaining site for housing development, rather than developing the technology industry.

In respect of the Budget, the Government should not introduce measures to alleviate the plights of the people only to win public applause or for the sake of its popularity. Certainly, the Liberal Party supports the introduction of relief measures but in the meantime, we think that officials should pay attention to how the major industries in Hong Kong can be brought into greater play in the long term. Of course, it is necessary for the Government to develop new industries but the Government cannot make empty talk. On the development of the healthcare industry, is it that the task can be accomplished by building a few more hospitals for Mainland tycoons to come to Hong Kong to seek medical consultation on various diseases? Moreover, there is a shortage of doctors in Hong Kong. If more private hospitals were developed, so that tycoons in the Mainland who could afford surgery fees amounting to tens of thousand dollars or hundreds of thousand dollars would come to Hong Kong for medical consultation, what about the people of Hong Kong then? In that case, more doctors would need to be provided. All these are what the Government should tackle.

All the above issues involve a problem mentioned by several Members earlier, that is, the relationship between the executive and the legislature. I think that when it comes to the relationship between the executive and the legislature, the current-term Government has been doing a really bad job. The Government has a poor relationship not only with the pan-democratic camp, or the so-called opposition camp, but also with us in the pro-establishment camp. Although I am a member of the pro-establishment camp, it is often the case that I learn of a policy of the Government only from the news report, and even my party comrades would ask me when the policy was introduced. To improve its relationship with the pro-establishment camp or the pan-democratic camp, the Government should tell everyone before the announcement of a policy that it has listened to public opinions. Of course, if all the policies of the Government are desirable and have won much applause after announcement, that would be much easier for us as we could have good reasons to throw weight behind them.

On the contrary, if the policies introduced by the Government are often questioned by the people, such as the policy on the three landfills and one incinerator ... Secretary WONG Kam-sing has made great efforts and worked very hard. He asked, "What should we do with a huge volume of waste generated in Hong Kong?" This is a very good question. The waste problem is a problem that all countries in the world have to handle. Judging from the current relationship between the executive and the legislature ... Voters have votes in their hands and all the 70 Members are returned by elections. None of

the Members can join the Legislative Council through appointment by the Government as in the way I joined this Council in 1988. The Government does not have the power to make us Members of this Council. We have become Members of this Council — whether Functional Constituency Members or directly-elected Members — purely because we are returned by the people with the power in their hands. Such being the case, how possibly can we not monitor the Government on their behalf?

If we do not monitor the Government and know only to support all the policies introduced by the Government, both the Government and us will suffer in the end. If the Government's policies are undesirable and we still support them, we would lose in the next Legislative Council election. If we lost in the election, the Government would have a few less votes in support of it in the Legislative Council, and there would be no way for us to act as convoy for the Government. Therefore, I think the relationship between the executive and the legislature is inextricably linked with the economic development and the Budget or the revenue and expenditure estimates of the Government.

With regard to this Budget, the Liberal Party already made comments on it two months ago. The Budget has proposed ample measures to help the disadvantaged, but it is absolutely unfair to the middle-class people and the small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The rates concession which used to apply to all four quarters has been reduced to cover two quarters, and the amounts of tax concessions have also been reduced. I believe many SMEs and middle-class people are dissatisfied with the Budget. In spite of this, the Liberal Party holds that we should take into account the overall interests and therefore, we will vote for the Appropriation Bill 2014. Having said that, I hope the Government can note our views on the development of the business sector, the creation of job opportunities, and so on.

Thank you, Chairman.

MS EMILY LAU (in Cantonese): Chairman, the Democratic Party do not support the Budget. The United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR) conducted a hearing in Geneva last month, and has recently published its concluding observations which criticized the limited progress in Hong Kong's social, economic and cultural development. The UNCESCR also pointed out that the absence of political and civil rights will

directly affect the people's access to economic, social and cultural rights. As evident in the UNCESCR comments, the criticism of China is particularly fierce, while these observations are still applicable to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

Both the UNCESCR and Hong Kong people can see that although the HKSAR Government has huge reserves amounting to more than a thousand billion dollars, it has done a poor job in different policy areas, such as housing, healthcare, welfare, education and so on, despite efforts made. Regarding education, while children in poverty, children of the disadvantaged groups and ethnic minorities are in lack of equal and quality education opportunities, the Government has turned a blind eye to the privatization of education. Rich people thus have priority access to education, while the others are rendered unable to enjoy equal opportunities. As a result, young people become heavily indebted upon graduation notwithstanding that they have attained a degree or an associate degree. Worse still, they may not necessarily land any jobs. Chairman, so this explains why so many young people find it difficult to hold back their frustrations because there are problems with our policies. I am not trying to place all the responsibilities on LEUNG Chun-ying. The previous governments had the same problems too. However, LEUNG Chun-ying is the incumbent head of the Government, so he should be held responsible. He cannot absolve himself of the responsibility by saying that it is difficult for him to take any step forward given the current messy situation. If he is incapable of handling it, he should have refrained from running in the Chief Executive Election in the first place. The authorities should endeavour to do everything they can, but they simply lack the ability.

It is well known that housing is the Number One issue in Hong Kong, but the Government is unable to identify any site for housing construction. Also, any intention to do so will induce much discussion in the community. Mr TIEN has talked about the relationship between the executive authorities and the legislature just now. This is really a problem. Then what about the relationship between the Government and the public? Sometime ago, the Government hosted a meal in Government House with several District Council chairmen and vice chairmen with a view to lobbying for their support for land allocation. However, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, a District Council chairman, told the Government that it should listen to the local communities' views. Why is the Government so incapable of convincing the communities, so incompetent in forging consensus among different parties? It is indeed an initiative in public interest. Why do people have so little trust in the Government? They consider

that the Government's policy will give rise to collusion between the Government and the business sector, and the Government practises cronyism. We can see the mess created recently in the management of the Airport Authority Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. The Chairmen of the two organizations swapped positions upon completion of one year's service. Are they playing the musical chair game?

Chairman, people are very angry with all of these problems. Someone was astonished by the remark of the Financial Secretary that the issue of universal retirement protection had been discussed for 40 to 50 years. How many 40 to 50 years are there in one's life? The Government cannot even get this done, how come it is so incompetent? Initially, the Government commissioned Prof Nelson CHOW to write a report, but now there are changes. The working group established by the Government has come up with some new points of view, so the Government has requested Prof CHOW to adjust his report. Chairman, how can the Government convince the public if it works in this way?

The elderly and everyone are very concerned about healthcare services, but the Government has made no progress despite all the twists and turns. The Democratic Party has discussed this with the Liberal Party. We wish to have more doctors, but this is not a perfect solution to the problem. As all of us can see, it may still be reasonable if Hong Kong is one of the heavily indebted places in the fourth world where people are living a difficult life. However, Hong Kong is one of the wealthiest cities in the world with huge reserves. How come it has done nothing on such very basic services as education, healthcare, welfare and retirement protection? The relationship between the executive authorities and the legislature is poor, and government officials are always scolded heavily by people on the street. What should such a Government do?

Chairman, the Democratic Party is very concerned about this. We must have a good business environment. As I have pointed it out over and again, if nobody come to Hong Kong to make investments and do business, who will create job opportunities? We cannot just rely on the Government to create civil service or non-civil service positions. I hope the business sector ... Chairman, a majority of the businessmen with whom I have come into contact are actually very angry with the Government. Most of them consider that the Government transfers benefits to its own friends and turns a blind eye to the other people who are caught in difficulties. The phrase "collusion between the Government and the business sector" mentioned by us from time to time actually refers to the fact

that the Government prefers to get along with the people it likes, making the others very unhappy. While business operators cannot withstand the pressure of the rental spiral, the Government allows watch shops, cosmetics stores and those selling powdered formulas to mushroom. The Government cannot even work out Hong Kong's receiving capacity in tourism and it had to get the Legislative Council Secretariat to do so instead. Chairman, I have to heap praises on the document prepared by the Secretariat. How much resources it has? There are just several staff members working on this, and their performance is much better than those well paid government officers. The poor report done by the Government means that there are problems with the policy. Is tourism the only pillar we can rely on?

In fact, we fully supported the promotion of innovation and technology when it was discussed by the panel. Also, Miss Janet WONG, the Commissioner for Innovation and Technology, stated that Members had been very supportive. She could normally obtain approval from this Council every time she made an application. However, it fell through at the end. I asked her several times why it ended up unsuccessful notwithstanding that she had support from the Members with nobody filibustering or obstructing. Why can we not do more on innovation and technology? Chairman, now the authorities have proposed to create one new position, but this will in turn create more positions. This is why it will arouse controversies. Actually, must we create a new position before the job can be done? There are initiatives which this Council will definitely support, but I can see no results. As for those initiatives opposed by this Council, the authorities cannot settle the disputes either. The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mrs Carrie LAM, has mentioned this several times — I have to quote what she said even though she does not want me to do so — that the Government knows that, should there be no disputes in society, the Legislative Council would not give the Government a hard time. Her comment is fair. Chairman, do we stir up troubles if there is not a reason to do so? As a result, we become very angry when we see that the authorities fail to make any effort to try tackling the existing deep-rooted problems and conflicts even though they have a huge fiscal reserve amounting to more than a thousand billion dollars.

The poverty population has been growing, and protection for the disadvantaged groups remains insufficient. How can this year's Budget be worth supporting? Although the Government is doing something, I do not think it has any long-term commitment. Let us not talk about things that will happen in the faraway future, I believe the Government cannot even foresee the situation next

month. Chairman, the Democratic Party therefore finds it difficult to support this year's Budget. In our view, the authorities should work exert their best and communicate with this Council and the public with a view to finding common grounds and forging consensus so that we can move on. Otherwise, as Chief Secretary for Administration Carrie LAM said, who will give way to the Government?

I am sure most of the Honourable colleagues in this Council will hope that policies can be put into practice and be supported by this Council and the public. I also believe that a majority of the Hong Kong people, if not all, are reasonable. If they consider that the policies proposed by the Government are beneficial to all instead of being favourable to just a few people's personal interests, they will support the policies. Why are the authorities caught in such a predicament, unable to find solutions to so many issues? We feel very angry. Of course, I fully support universal suffrage, but I do not mean the introduction of universal suffrage is a miraculous cure to everything. We must implement universal suffrage. Now, universal suffrage has yet to be achieved, and the time for its introduction is unknown as well. Those officials drawing handsome emoluments and benefits from Hong Kong people every month have the responsibility to work with and reach a consensus with Members of this Council and the public, instead of adopting a hostile attitude towards us.

Chairman, I have learnt from the recent press reports — I am afraid this is true — that the Chief Executive had actually brought with him a script when he came to this Council, prepared to walk out in protest with all the government officials should a situation arise. Chairman, how poor is such a practice? Being the Chief Executive, he intended to make such an unwise move. May I ask the authorities how many times they can walk out in protest? Are they prepared to walk out from the Council meetings only, or also other committee meetings? If this is the case, they had better step down. Because they are no longer capable of governing Hong Kong and working with this Council. I hope all the government officials will think twice about this. Even though the Chief Executive intends to walk out with them in protest, must they agree with him? Do they have their own judgment in this case?

Chairman, as for the problem of filibuster, I understand that you perform your duties in accordance with the Rules of Procedure (RoP). In any leave you grant in this Chamber, you do so in accordance with the RoP instead of your own preference. Some people even asked whether the Chief Executive and principal

officials have written to or rung you up and put pressure on you. Anyway, all you have to do is to act in accordance with the RoP. Regarding the question of whether we should amend the relevant rules and regulations with a view to handling the problem of voluminous amendments proposed or long speeches made by some Members, we will act in accordance with the established rules and regulations. The Chairman is also aware that there are court proceedings at the moment. We will wait for the judgment from the Court. Chairman, on the other hand, I hope you can be open, fair and impartial forever, and act in accordance with the RoP. Being the Chairman, you will definitely be under pressure from different quarters. I hope you can continue to withstand the pressure. I also call on the others not to exert undue pressure on our Chairman, because this means exerting pressure on the Legislative Council as well. Anyone who belittles the Legislative Council or does the same to the Chairman is indeed disrespectful to this Council. We Members will not accept this.

All we should do now is to look for any possible way through which we can work together and find an answer acceptable to all parties so that we can move forward. A number of surveys show that Hong Kong is becoming less competitive. If we ask Honourable Members, the business sector and other people about the reasons, most of them will attribute this to the incompetence of the SAR Government. Of course, there are troubles in this Council which we should handle, but these are mostly reactions in response to the unacceptable motions submitted by the authorities. I hope people can think through the whole incident. The executive authorities of the HKSAR should definitely be held responsible. Apart from handling this year's Budget, the Government has to address the current economic, social, cultural and various problems faced by Hong Kong as well. Of course, it should also work on the constitutional issues. Chairman, I hope that the government officials will not consider this an end to all the hassles, and feel relieved. They should not adopt such an attitude, because they have to attend meetings in this Council every day. If they want to go away and walk out in protest, I will ask them to step down.

With these remarks, I oppose the Budget.

MR IP KIN-YUEN (in Cantonese): Chairman, I am not sure whether I will be present at the voting as I will attend the 4 June rally to be held later. However, I wish to state my position clearly in my speech in this debate. In the course of this debate, we have seen that the policy on poverty alleviation accounts for a

very significant position in the Budget as a whole. However, as some Members have mentioned, there remains a void in some other aspects such as education as an investment. There really remains a great void in such areas.

Although some parts of the Budget are gratifying, there is plenty of room for more efforts by the SAR Government and education is one of those areas that have disappointed us. To be fair, there is improvement in this year's Budget compared with the one last year because there is at least some improvement in education. This year's Budget is not in lack of new initiatives. But reviewing last year's Budget, we find that education is a blank without anything worth mentioning. In last year's Budget, the Government did not give us any revelation on how to further promote education. It seems that government officials responsible for this portfolio did not have any clear idea. This year, we finally see some improvement, such as the Career and Life Planning Grant for teachers; scholarship programmes and the proposal of vocational education, in addition to some schemes in other areas. Although these programmes have brought us surprises, the problem is that, as we can see it, most of these programmes are tangents rather than initiatives from the core of education. As for the major issues, problems constantly raised by the community, problems attracting public attention and even problems for which consensus has been forged, there is no mention in the Budget and they are not addressed squarely.

Therefore, the education sector has got an impression that the philosophy of the Budget wishes to win applause in the education policy. It seems that it tries to provide some answers to minor issues that may make people feel excited. But insofar as the major issues are concerned, it cannot provide any satisfactory answer. What are the problems for which consensus have been reached? What are the important issues that have been omitted in the Budget? Let me cite some examples, and these examples can be found in universities, secondary schools, primary schools and even kindergartens. Let me discuss the problems in kindergartens first.

As we all know, it is expected that 15-year free education will be implemented expeditiously. But so far, this issue is still under review, a long review. The Government has neither implemented the initiative at full speed nor accorded priority to it. So, we are most disappointed that the implementation of 15-year free education is delayed.

Besides, there is a most pressing issue which has not been dealt with. We need to solve the immediate problem of funding for full-day kindergartens before completing the review of 15-year free education. But the Government has not addressed the issue squarely. Full-day kindergartens, which are facing enormous difficulties in operation, have repeatedly requested that something be done by the Government. However, the Government has neither addressed the problem squarely nor given any response.

So far, kindergartens still have to face a myriad of problems. But what exactly is the role of the Government? We are also worried about the adequacy of kindergarten places and kindergartens are facing the problem of rising rents. In fact, the crux of all these issues is the role of the Government, that is, how 15-year free education will be implemented. Therefore, I hope the Government can deal with the problem of kindergartens proactively in two directions: First, the urgent problem of full-day kindergartens; and second, we have to complete the review of 15-year free education expeditiously and then formulate policies to implement it.

A child will be promoted to primary and secondary school after finishing kindergarten education. The problem in primary and secondary schools is in fact crystal clear. We have all along demanded that the quality of primary and secondary schools be improved. Meanwhile, we wish to see that the precarious situation of primary and secondary schools can also be ameliorated. For more than 10 years, we have gone through the ordeal of many primary schools being culled and we really feel exhausted because of this. It has been a hard time for the education sector too. I believe society as a whole considers that such a situation should not occur in secondary schools. But unfortunately, secondary schools are now confronted by such a problem. The secondary school sector has proposed a lot of solutions which, however, have not elicited any positive response from the Government. The Government still insists on some of its practices, which are unable to solve the problem faced by secondary schools at all.

So, I hope the Government can do one thing without incurring additional expenses, that is, to ensure that primary and secondary schools can operate in a stable environment. On the other hand, if we really hope to improve primary and secondary education, we should consider two points: First, the teacher-student ratio; and second, the establishment of teachers. Owing to the undesirable establishment of teachers and teacher-student ratio, teachers'

workload has been very heavy, while education has become a one-way indoctrination for the students. Our education is unable to adopt those approaches which have been implemented in other places where teachers are given enough time to prepare for lessons, pay attention to students' problems, and follow up after class. What we can do is to follow a routine workflow. After completing a tedious teaching schedule, we will enter another schedule of marking students' assignments and examination papers. This has been the situation of our education for a long time. Under such circumstances, our teachers are unable to upgrade their professional standards while students become machines for sitting examinations. The continual existence of such a situation has obstructed the transformation and upgrading of our education as a whole. If we really wish to improve education in Hong Kong, I very much hope that the Education Bureau or the department responsible for financial management will consider as a fundamental solution improving the teacher-student ratio and the establishment of teachers and these are the fundamental issues.

After finishing secondary education, a student will be promoted to tertiary education. In respect of tertiary education, the obvious problem is that the proportion of university students in Hong Kong is far lower than that in foreign countries. If you walk in the street and ask any passer-by randomly whether he is a university graduate, the probability that you are given a positive answer is far lower than doing the same survey in Taiwan, Korea and Japan, which are Hong Kong's competitors. Many employees in our society have attained relatively low academic qualifications. It is really very difficult to seek economic transformation and upgrading in a society where the academic qualifications of the employees are so low. While the education standards as a whole should be raised to a new level, the number of places in the subsidized first-degree first-year programmes in Hong Kong should also be increased.

When did we determine the number of places in this aspect? It was 25 years ago, or 1989. I do not mean the 4 June incident. What I mean is that possibly because of the 4 June incident, the Government put forward the "Rose Garden Project" under which tertiary places in Hong Kong were expanded back then. At that time, tertiary places were expanded to 14 500 by David WILSON. Now the number of tertiary places is 15 000, representing an increase of 500. This number of places has not been increased over the past 25 years, or a quarter of a century since 1989. This has resulted in the low intellectual and education level of our workforce as a whole. In fact, this will adversely affect the development of our economy.

Another serious problem is that the sub-degree sector is mainly self-financing. While subsidized associate degree programmes are contained, self-financing educational institutions are vigorously encouraged to offer sub-degree programmes. One of the features of sub-degree programmes is that they are not funded by the Government and only student loans are offered. In addition, as sub-degree programmes are not subsidized, most of the money will flow to infrastructure, hiring of teachers, and so on. As all expenses will be borne by students' tuition fees, the quality of these courses is not high. Even though these institutions wish to improve the quality of courses, they will find it very difficult after resorting to various methods.

Meanwhile, the students have to pay exorbitant tuition fees. Although tuition fees are expensive, the quality of programmes varies and even tends to be on the low side. As a result, sub-degree students will face two difficulties. First, they will find employment very difficult after graduation; and second, they have to bear the burden of debts accumulated over the past few years in their studies. In fact, these problems will impose an enormous burden on the students. I have also discussed these problems with many government officials of the SAR who also consider that these are really problems. As they have such an observation, why are we unable to solve them? Can the funding for sub-degree programmes or support for students be enhanced? I hope answers will be given to these questions in next year's Budget.

After discussing the problems in tertiary, secondary, primary and kindergarten education, I would like to discuss another problem in education, that is, special education and integrated education. Integrated education is a very beautiful slogan under which students with special educational needs (SEN students) will mix with mainstream students so that they will live and study together. In such an environment, SEN students can learn how to get along with others apart from benefiting from academic learning. This is a beautiful slogan, but a lot of support and funding are required, including improving the teacher-student ratio, provision of relevant equipment and other professional support from specialists, such as psychologists and vocational training experts. Only with such support will integrated education be a success.

However, the Government is merely paying lip service in this respect. Integrated education in Hong Kong has led to a lose-lose situation for all stakeholders. If the Government really wants to achieve success in integrated education, I hope it can be pragmatic in taking it forward. Otherwise, it will

lead to serious quality deterioration in our education as a whole because many classes cannot function properly.

Just now, I have discussed several issues concerning tertiary, secondary, primary, kindergarten and special education. I have summarized several features in these five areas which are related to the Budget. First, it seems that the SAR Government has not attached sufficient importance to education in Hong Kong. By looking at the trend of the expenditure on education, we will see that the increase in education spending has been lagging behind other public policy areas. Second, although some applause is heard, the Government has not addressed the major problems squarely. Although some scholarships will be introduced, important issues such as teacher-student ratio are not addressed squarely. Third, the Government is reluctant to make any long-term commitment. For instance, although the number of teachers for career planning has been increased, these are not substantive posts. So, although money has been spent, the effect or result is very trivial.

This time around, I will vote against the motion if I am able to vote. In fact, I very much hope that in the future I can vote in favour of it as long as the Government really places its focus on education, prepared to make a long-term commitment and address key issues. I am most willing to vote in favour of the motion in future. However, Chairman, I will vote against the motion this time.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I have to remind Members again that they should not discuss individual government policies in detail in this joint debate on clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill.

MR LEUNG KWOK-HUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, let me make a skin-deep comment. Chairman, I very much like the two short sentences often quoted by Karl MARX, that is, "Follow your own course, and let people talk". It is not these two short sentences that I really want to bring out, but the one preceding them. It originated from *The Divine Comedy* written by Italian poet Dante ALIGHIERI. Upon hearing it, Karl MARX then said the above. "What does it matter to you what they whisper here?" It means that several people were talking to one another but the content was not clearly audible. What does it matter to me? Then, he said, "Follow your own course, and let people talk."

I think it is what this Council is all about. Members are talking in voices hardly audible. Not knowing what they are talking about, I have no choice but to let them talk and run their own course. Many people, including Financial Secretary John TSANG, have said that we were just "doing a show". Year after year, the show has lost its audience. I am not trying to argue whether there is audience or not because we can always check it out on YouTube. Let us check whether John TSANG's speech can attract tens of thousands of Internet viewers. It is a waste of time. "Each cook praises his own broth".

To comment on a government's administration, we can focus on two kinds of most helpless people. One is the children and the other is the elderly. Children's vitality is not exuberant enough and they need to be taken care of in growth. The elderly's vitality will soon be exhausted or has already gone downhill and they badly need assistance. "Extend respect of the aged in one's family to that of other families." Take a look at my placard and you will understand it, right? The Government has a surplus of over \$1,000 billion. The Government simply turns down our request to even consider appropriating \$50 billion to fund any subsequent implementation. "Extending respect of the aged in one's family to that of other families" has become empty talk. As a person in power, you are not benevolent. In the eyes of the parents, you are not a dutiful son.

The same applies to the notion of "extending the love of the young ones in one's family to that of other families". Just like what Mr IP Kin-Yuen, who remains seated, has been saying. The Government has been studying the provision of 15-year free education, exploring ways to subsidize kindergartens with a view to fulfilling LEUNG Chun-ying's invincible platform. One and a half years have passed and the policy is nowhere to be seen. The kindergarten teachers cannot help shivering. The Government needs someone to "kick its butt" to accomplish such an easy task, which it said ought to be done. What kind of administration is that? The elderly and the children are not benefited.

I have to revisit another issue. Is it some kind of injustice if we filibuster or act by virtue of our power to discuss matters in order to cause trouble to the Government? Chairman, Ms Starry LEE just now said that she knew what we were trying to do. She said that we were trying to do something beyond our capability, only ending up in frustration. In other words, she is very likeable to those philistines who would usually determine whether there is any "potential advantage" before doing anything or if it is easily achievable. Those people will even line up in a long queue just for tissue papers or scramble for souvenirs like

crystal mahjong sets. This is what they want us to become. In this way, the quality of society as a whole will become very low. People care less about right and wrong. What they want to know is whether there is any "advantage". All they want to know is whether things are achievable.

Chairman, I can hardly achieve anything today and success does not need my involvement. Frankly speaking, I have indicated many times that they could discuss with the Government. Am I right? Mr WONG Kwok-hing told the Government that the amount of \$220 billion should not be given to John TSANG to build brick and mortar. Instead, the money should be used to take care of the elderly. They should exert some kind of pressure on the Government. The Federation of Trade Unions (FTU) can instigate 5 000 protesters against filibustering and oppose the Financial Secretary. Then that would be an achievement. Of course, everybody can say that success does not need his involvement. However, there is an even more profound saying, that is, do not beat a hasty retreat after defeat. Even if we lose, we will not run away like hell. Since you have succeeded, it is humble to say that success does not need your involvement. This is hypocrisy in Chinese tradition. The winner hypocritically says that he is not pivotal to the success. Even if the winner says he is involved in the success, he would say it is not anyone's superiority. The most important point is whether you would complain at the most difficult time, whether you would blame the gods, and whether you would lower your head when being slapped on the face. I myself would not. In future, I do not have to say something like success does not need my involvement because I will not beat a hasty retreat. I will firmly stand up here refuting them.

Chairman, is Hong Kong a good and fair society? During the votings, I could not help doing some reading. You allowed this, right? I read a paragraph by Mahatma GANDHI, which I now quote as follows and to this effect: "In my view, we have become Dalits of the British Empire because Dalits were born among us. If we cannot set one fifth of the Indians free, we are not entitled to independence." It is certainly a political issue. We are Honourable Members in this Council. We are discussing something that other people have no idea of what we are whispering about. In a fine-sounding tone, we are "eating human fresh with knife and fork". We look very elegant in this way, although we are barbarically eating human fresh. We cannot make the 30% poor people ... or the elderly to enjoy their twilight years in peace, we are not qualified to talk about civilization.

LEUNG Chun-ying was standing right over there, speaking on behalf of the Government. He told us that we did not only want democracy. We also wanted civilization. I am now telling LEUNG Chun-ying that we do not have civilization because we have no democracy. I want civilization, not "eating human fresh with knife and fork". We do not want anyone in coat and tie, saying something that people outside do not understand. We also do not want anyone to present false reasoning to convince people to pay the price of a candy in exchange for a factory to the detriment of our self-esteem. Things cannot be done without "advantages". "Long Hair" is talking nonsense and that is it. There must be "advantages". Many Members have kept pressing for an answer in writing like "a train". It must be achievable and there must be some "advantages".

Chairman, this argument has been going on for years. Today, I wish to say something in all fairness. The so-called opposition camp did not label themselves as opposition in the past. They called themselves the pan-democratic camp or democratic camp. The term "pan-democratic camp" first appeared in 2004, accompanying my entry into this Council. I must ask, "Who had ever thrown anything at any government official or ever filibustered before 2004? Hardly any." It shows how disappointing the administration by the Government has been. Why has it been so disappointing during the past seven years? Is it ridiculous? I was not "born" at that time, which means I had yet entered this Council.

We can see from the Innovation and Technology Bureau that former Chief Executive TUNG Chee-hwa had long talked about "innovation". The so-called Chinese medicine port, Cyberport and Hong Kong Science Park are all losing money. Today, I am not going to spend time reading them out. The so-called Innovation and Technology Commission reported a one hundred percent total loss. Unable to achieve anything, it has spent over \$70 million. Without the help of a fund company, the relevant accounts may never be checked. The Commission cannot identify any irregularities because there is no funding administration. Sometimes, capitalistic funding has its merit; at least there is an accounting system from which you can know why it loses money. At least, you know the cause of death.

Ms Starry LEE accused me of hindering innovation. Buddy, I certainly do not hinder anyone. The Hong Kong Science Park has now turned into a luxury housing estate with sea view and we need Ms Fanny LAW to shake it up. The Cyberport relied on property revenue to pay for its expenditures. The

scoundrel, Barry CHEUNG, rented an office space there to carry out speculation rather than engaging in innovation or technology. What has the Government accomplished? Has there been any policy? Does Singapore have any kind of innovation bureau? It seems naught to me. Neither has London. But London has a policy, assigning other government departments to take it forward. It, however, has principles. The government will not do anything that the market can take care of itself unless government involvement can enhance the market. These are the two major principles that LEUNG Chun-ying has been incapable of stating. The Government hurts itself by always mentioning innovation over and over again. Ms Starry LEE is his policy advisor. I think it is fine for her to argue with him. It will be better for her to argue in this way.

I now have only one question for LEUNG Chun-ying to clarify, that is, how could he as the Chief Executive make a decision which millions of television viewers would consider improper? Instead of encouraging people to obtain information through filing a lawsuit, he should personally announce that he is the one who can spill the beans for significant public interest. Unless he is willing to make such an announcement, I will reject his appeal for approval of appropriation. I have made myself clear. In other places, he should have stepped down already. In other places, no government will be so incompetent as to require the highest leader to decide who should get a licence. This system has rotten to the core. Why is reform not carried out? He has refused to give an explanation. Although I am crippled, I still came back and voted to support invoking the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance to conduct an investigation. Unfortunately, the motion was negated. How can I approve appropriation to the Government? What innovations do they have? They have appropriated \$300 million to the Film Development Fund (FDF). What has the FDF done? Are those not innovations? South Korea is heading toward innovation in the same manner with relevant work under progress.

Chairman, talking in a loud voice does not necessarily mean that I am unreasonable. Regarding the North East New Territories development project, Ms Starry LEE was talking nonsense. Initially, the ratio of public housing to private housing was reversed. Currently, the ratio has been reverted to 6:4. Today is 4 June. But the land use ratio is 2:8, meaning that 20% of the land will be used to erect public housing. How can we solve the housing problem with this 12%? For the so-called bridgehead economy which they have proposed to establish, who will move to live there? How much land will be wasted to develop the bridgehead economy? And such development requires reclamation.

What does bridgehead economy mean? It is equivalent to wasting \$100 billion of our money on helping the connection with other people's places and then reserve a piece of land there. Everybody says that it can be used for parking. That piece of land reclaimed is subsequently used for the development of bridgehead economy. What kind of Government is it? When seeking approval of this Council for appropriation, the Government said that they owed us. After getting the funding, the land use is changed. Right? I have told you that the Mainland residents would not be wealthy forever and that the Government should not rely solely on the Mainland. When the number of tourists dropped 10%, we put the blame on others. Does it mean that the Mainland must release a sufficient number of visitors to Hong Kong? When buying water from the Mainland, Hong Kong has to pay over 200 times more expensively than what Singapore has to. Are we stupid or out of our mind? In the absence of any policy, how can the Administration put the blame on me? If there is a policy, things can be gauged. They did not put the policy objective into action. Instead, they implemented something unheard of. What can I say? "I did not say that I seemingly had not lied". I certainly do not understand what he is saying anymore. We have reasons for our opposition. They have to answer, right?

Has the Government ever introduced 15-year free education? Has the policy of encouraging the elderly to age at home ever been implemented? Is the \$2,000 carer allowance enough to buy meals? How much does a bowl of rice with chicken or goose meat cost? How much does an *Apple Daily* cost? A merely \$2,000 is paid to a person for taking care of an elderly. But no such allowance is granted to carers of people with disabilities. What kind of policy is that? Can you say that it is a good one? Rather than talking about something else, let us focus on the "handing out of candies". The Administration gives away \$16.3 billion to the wealthy while reserving a paltry \$3.7 billion for the rest of us. Only a one-month public housing rent is waived in addition to providing an extra allowance to the needy for one month. This "handing out of candies" is not fair, is it? Have I wrongly blamed the Government? Those who support the Administration should come forth and speak in defence. I have to leave this Chamber soon because today is 4 June which is more important than anything to me.

Chairman, GANDHI once said that one fifth of the Indians belonged to the "untouchable" class. Now, all Hong Kong people have become the untouchables. We cannot choose our own Chief Executive through direct elections. We even talk about the "qualification" and "pre-qualification"

requirements in the election of the Chief Executive. Exactly like us, compatriots in the Mainland were opposing this evil system on 4 June 1989. Here is my appeal to all of you. Attend tonight's candlelight vigil for the 4 June incident. For those students and their parents who are watching us on the television, you are cordially invited to join tonight's assembly. On the day of 22 June, you should come out and vote no matter whether you like or dislike those pan-democratic parties. If not, we will become the untouchables. We are the four fifths of the untouchables who will otherwise make the remaining one fifth continue to suffer.

Today is 4 June and I am not going to argue with you for now. There are ghosts in this world and you should be careful when going to the toilet. People can be choked even eating an ice-cream. Please make fun of "4 June" no more.

MS CYD HO (in Cantonese): The Labour Party opposes the Budget this year, so we also oppose clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill. Although given the support from Members of functional constituencies, they will be incorporated into the Bill all the same, we will still oppose the Third Reading.

This year, some Members have proposed 1 192 amendments. In fact, this is attributable to their discontent with the performance of officials and many policies. What they are particularly discontented with is the fact that with regard to many policies that are supported by many members of the public in society, including universal retirement protection, despite our persistent requests, this Government is still unwilling to make changes. However, due to the so-called executive-led system, the powers of the Legislative Council are constrained and Members can only deduct the estimates of expenditure but not increase them, still less can they add any items. For this reason, Members can only adopt the approach of making amendments to express their discontent.

In fact, even Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has also pointed this out. He also said at the close of the joint debate on the resumed Second Reading that it was a very ridiculous course of action. However, given such an absurd system and such absurd circumstances, there was no alternative but to adopt such an approach. The reason is that despite our great displeasure with the performance of the Government in relation to the estimates of expenditure under certain heads, we must also admit that even if we could really manage to cause deductions of these heads, it is not entirely desirable either because the Government would have no money to sustain its operation. Take the care of animals as an example, it is

not true that Members do not want the Government to make efforts in caring for animals, only that they think it has not been doing a good job. However, because of this absurd system, Members want to express their views by slashing the entire sum of money under this item.

However, such constitutional limitations can actually be remedied by means of a soft process, for example, by engaging in communication outside the legislature and consulting various concern groups and political parties adequately before formulating policies.

Chairman, the consultations I am talking about do not refer to publishing a document like that on constitutional reform, in which some partial information is released and excuses of law are cited throughout to pose barriers and set limitations, then make an all-out effort to mislead and distort public opinion, and even ... I also do not know what they are going to do with this kind of outcomes of consultation. I am not talking about this kind of consultation. What I mean is to sit down for discussions with concern groups, present the Government's views and give audience to the concerns of society and concern groups about a policy, then all parties should talk to one another. Most important of all, policies acceptable to all parties should be formulated on the basis of mutual understanding and accommodation.

Before 1997, such an approach was adopted among civil servants and it could also be found after 1997, albeit very rarely. Not many Administrative Officers follow this excellent tradition nowadays and recently, only one such example could be found, that is, the official in charge of examining whether or not parody can be exempted under the Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2011 (the Bill). After the Bill had been scuppered by filibustering in the last term, the official held discussions with many concern groups within a period of some 10 to 20 months. The new Bill will be introduced in October and although its contents are not entirely satisfactory, since various parties have had communication through the soft process, they have at least shown respect for one another and some of the contents therein have also won the understanding and acceptance of various parties.

Therefore, since the Government is not required to do so under the system, the power of the Legislative Council in monitoring the Government is indeed constrained. In fact, if some additional efforts can be made through the soft process, the whole matter can be dealt with more smoothly.

Chairman, the same applies to the Budget. The Budget is one of the documents of great importance in the Government's administration, so it is all the more necessary for the Government to communicate more with various sectors and ask them and various political parties what policies they wish to see implemented.

Before 2012, when Donald TSANG was the Chief Executive, he also engaged in this kind of efforts to some extent. For this reason, in the past, whenever the Financial Secretary had published a budget, he would give various political parties a list setting out what proposals put forward by them had been adopted, for example, the iBond proposed by the Democratic Party, and the subsidies for Internet access charges for poor children and hearing aids for students with hearing impairment proposed by the Labour Party. All these measures were accomplished by going through the soft process.

However, after LEUNG Chun-ying had come to power — this Chief Executive is really detestable — even this soft process was dispensed with. LEUNG Chun-ying perhaps really takes pleasure in breaking the rules, so as to prove that he has power and influence. However, this kind of barbarous behaviour of manipulating the situation single-handedly will only aggravate the relationship between the executive and the legislature even further and make governance even more difficult.

In the first year after he had come to power, citing the excuse that Members of a new term had not yet been elected, he said that between July and October, he could not consult Members and could do so only after Members had taken office in September or October. For this reason, he deferred the publication of the policy address to January. As a result, there was little time and scope left for the consultation on the budget but in fact, the budget is intended to implement the proposals of the policy address, as well as reporting on and planning the long-term, medium-term and short-term development of the Hong Kong economy. However, after this had happened to the Budget in 2012-2013, the scope for 2013-2014 was greatly reduced. This year, it was even worse. This year, the Government did not even bother to cite any excuse and such claim as elections not yet having been held to justify not publishing the policy address in October. After he has broken the rules and created a *fait accompli*, the consultations on the Policy Address and Budget were held together this year.

What is even more outrageous is that he abolished the consultation process conducted by the Financial Secretary. How was the consultation with political parties on the Budget this time around carried out? The answer is a one-off consultation and the battle array was such that after a political party had arrived at the Government Secretariat, the Chief Executive, the Financial Secretary, the Central Policy Unit and all the other officials were seated together and within an hour ... according to the experience of the Labour Party, the Financial Secretary did not say a word. Not that he did not want to but he could not. If the Chief Executive had not said anything, he dared not say any and if the Chief Executive had said something and set the tune, it was all the more impossible for him to say anything — in the one hour for exchange and consultation, in fact, what the Chief Executive was most interested in was how to release the labour force of women and the importation of workers. The Financial Secretary was sitting on one side without saying a word and subsequently, there was no further consultation with political parties because the consultation had ended and he was stripped of his functions by the Chief Executive.

I do not know if the Financial Secretary has ever had any additional communication with the DAB or the Business and Professionals Alliance for Hong Kong but in the case of the Labour Party, he has not. We know that the Government and its allies maintain close contacts but in times of emergency, it is us that the Government turns to for support, so this is really ridiculous. For example, during the filibustering, the Political Assistants of the Financial Secretary went so far as to send short messages to us, asking the Labour Party to bring more Members back here. The Government has 43 allies but it turns out that a sufficient number of people could still not be assembled. Moreover, there is so much communication between the Government and its allies that not only were "cue cards" prepared for the latter, they were even taught how to ask questions at meetings. Why did the Government not approach these people sitting in the Chamber rather than us, Members with whom no communication through the soft process was made, for help in times of emergency? This is the reason for such poor relationship between the executive and the legislature.

Chairman, when the budgets were introduced into the legislature for scrutiny, the time available for scrutiny was really very short. During the filibuster, when Members were voicing their views, you also pointed out a number of times that those questions and views should have been raised on other occasions, such as panel meetings or special meetings of the Finance Committee. In fact, at ordinary panel meetings, it is most absurd that three agenda items have

to be dealt with within two hours. Then, questions were asked and answers given quickly in three or four minutes and usually, officials would beat around the bush, so there was practically no room for dialogue, debate or discussion.

How about special meetings of the Finance Committee? It is necessary to finish asking questions about the many departments and Policy Bureaux, together with those about statutory bodies and the Office of the Chief Executive, within 30.5 hours. Before these 30.5 hours, we had 10 days to prepare the written questions and follow-up questions. In fact, we also had a very hard time because we had to prepare more than 6 000 questions in 10 days. However, the executive, with a team of civil servants numbering more than 100 000 people, went so far as to say that we were hindering them in doing their work. Therefore, at the resumption of the Second Reading, the Chief Secretary for Administration said she had to see how the process could be streamlined. In other words, she wants to restrict our power to ask questions. Now that the document has been published, it is said that the number of written questions has to be restricted to less than 4 500. This is to blatantly deprive the legislature of the right to monitor the Government.

Chairman, in fact, these written questions are very useful. The profligate dining and wining by "covetous TONG", the gifts given away by him and the trips made by him were all exposed through these written questions. A full picture of how various Policy Bureaux and departments had destroyed their files indiscriminately and how the Government Records Service had not discharged its duties of keeping a record of Hong Kong's governance properly was also revealed by these written questions which asked various Policy Bureaux and departments questions on this theme. It turned out that when various Policy Bureaux, including the Central Policy Unit, were looking for consultants to conduct studies, conflicts of interests and roles arose and this was also exposed by dint of the written questions. Now, they have gone so far as to say that the more than 100 000 civil servants could not answer these 6 800 questions and want us to reduce the number of questions. How does this huge team of civil servants with more than 100 000 people do its work?

I accept the ground that there is not enough manpower to deal with such an annual exercise, but I believe we need only spread the work over a longer period of time and it will do. In fact, compared with the time spent by overseas legislatures on scrutinizing budgets, the time spent by the Legislative Council

really cannot be considered a lot. At the special meetings of the Finance Committee, under the astute leadership of Mr NG Leung-sing, the time for the question and answer session could be reduced drastically from four minutes to one, including the time for asking and answering questions. With so little time, what were we supposed to ask? What answers were officials supposed to give? Therefore, at the resumption of Second Reading, Members made use of amendments to criticize the Government for 15 minutes for an unlimited number of times and it was far too appealing to do so. This is because, in normal circumstances, the Legislative Council does not provide any scope for Members to do such a thing.

Chairman, just now, a number of Members said that the filibuster had reduced the time for the Legislative Council to monitor the Government. It is true that the time of the legislature should be spent on monitoring the Government. However, even had there been no filibuster and even if we had the time, would Members have done their utmost to monitor the Government? Since Members took office in 2012, be it the investigation of "covetous TSANG", or "covetous TONG", the unauthorized building works involving LEUNG Chun-ying or the conflicting roles of Paul CHAN, the legislature was made to give up its responsibility and function of monitoring the Government in all such instances because Members of the pro-establishment camp cast votes of "No". With regard to the forthcoming report on the incident related to the Express Rail Link and the report on the marine disaster off Lamma Island, I will see how Members of the pro-establishment camp will cast their votes, whether or not they will duly fulfil their responsibility of monitoring the Government and whether or not they will use the time of the legislature properly. The speech lasting 10 minutes given by Ms Starry LEE just now was most representative. She said that during the filibuster, officials were probably the happiest because they did not have to answer any oral questions. May I ask what point is there for them to give answers? The so-called answers are practically a chorus that makes use of "cue cards". I learnt that they had even been coached beforehand in respect of their expressions and intonations and these had been written down in Cantonese. However, I believe some Members of the pro-establishment camp also despise such conduct. If the time of the legislature is used to read out the scripts written up by officials, we might as well forgo the time and reserve it for filibustering instead. Would it not be even better to let Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung lambaste them?

Chairman, the popularity rating of the Legislative Council is at a low not because some Members have filibustered. No matter how much Members dislike Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, he represents more than 200 000 members of the Hong Kong public. The People Power and the League of Social Democrats represent more than 200 000 ballots, so we cannot overlook the views of some 200 000 Hong Kong people. Chairman, the main reason for our low popularity rating is that the public found that we had not done our best in monitoring the Government. Instead, we have continually condoned the Government and incidents of corruption, even among Members themselves — even Mr CHAN Kam-lam was involved in corruption — however, it turned out that even our Public Accounts Committee did not have enough time to explore this in depth. This is the main reason why members of the public want us Members and officials to "keep a distance" from them.

DR PRISCILLA LEUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, during the filibuster recently, on several occasions, I had the opportunities to be the guest officiating at various ceremonies in local communities. On two occasions, the masters of ceremony mistakenly referred to the Legislative Council, which is "立法會" in Chinese, as "垃圾會" (trash council)⁴. I believe that in their minds, members of the public cannot possibly make this kind of mistakes but recently, many people have really mispronounced the name. Why did they mispronounce it? I think what is meant by a waste of manpower and resources can be gathered from the past 127 hours. During this period, many Members who wanted to serve the public were stranded in the Legislative Council and many members of the public who had the chance of bumping into us also held our hands and requested us to tell the President, on returning to the Council, to cut off the filibuster as soon as possible because they were very fed up with the filibuster. This is my personal experience. Both the woman cleaning workers in clinics and near my home all made the same demand. They all expressed great annoyance at this.

No matter how Members romanticize this act of filibustering and how they made it professional, in the final analysis, filibuster is a kind of self-mutilation. From the start of the filibuster, we failed to let the public see how brilliant debates in the Legislative Council could be or how Members with different views could

⁴ A pun on the pronunciation of the name of the Legislative Council in Cantonese (laap6 faat3 wui5), which is similar to the pronunciation of "trash council" (laap6 saap3 wui5).

debate such issues as universal retirement protection heatedly in a democratic Hong Kong. All these could not be heard or seen. According to my personal experience, this Legislative Council is even worse than the last one. In the last one, when there was no filibuster, Members would still debate and had exchanges among themselves and they could hold different views. However, with regard to the Budgets of this year and the last, it looked as though many Members were waiting and dragging their feet, but there were not many brilliant debates. This is how our time was wasted.

Filibuster is not a constitutional right. I do not see how lovely or desirable filibustering is. Chairman, we are about to face a fiscal cliff and back then, the public discussed whether or not Legislative Council Members should draw down the reserve because be it the administrative staff of the Legislative Council Secretariat or Members' Assistants or even us Members, all of us may not be able to receive any pay. I think we ought to feel very much ashamed. If we discuss whether or not it is necessary to use the reserve to enable the Legislative Council to pay salaries, we have to sort out who made us face the potential fiscal cliff in the first place. I believe we cannot simply blame those several Members who filibustered because we have also shown that we are incapable of preventing filibustering. Therefore, we have to bear the responsibility and the yoke together with the public and all the colleagues in so many government departments.

What is worth mentioning is that I heard many Honourable colleagues say just now that filibustering was very meaningful and even the Chairman also said that the filibuster this time around had been fairly professional. Since I did not hear each and every speech, I am not in a position to make any comments. Still, I was present and listened to Members' speeches, including those given by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen — I have discussed this matter with Honourable colleagues — who talked about the outsourcing arrangements for prison management in overseas countries. I often say that his assistants are quite hardworking and they have done a lot of work on the Internet for him. Through such discussions, I could see that the original goal of their filibustering is universal retirement protection, but I have some reservation about the point of "universal". Up to now, I still cannot convince myself as to whether or not it is a good or bad thing for Hong Kong to rely solely on such a protection system. I believe it is necessary to have more debates on this subject.

However, the amendments cover such matters as deducting all the expenditure estimates for the normal disability allowance, the higher disability allowance, the Guangdong Scheme and the enhancement of the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System, and I noted also see one item related to deducting all the provision for subsidizing kindergarten education, as mentioned by Mr IP Kin-yuen just now. In addition, it was proposed that the provisions for dental services and the Chinese Medicine Division, and even that for rescuing lives be deducted. If the provisions for Old Age Living Allowance and the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly are all deducted, what would be the situation? In particular, if the provisions for some of the measures that I support, for example, that for the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, are all deducted, what would be the situation? In fact, there are many other items on which deductions were proposed and I cannot spell them all out. Some of them are even very minor, for example, deducting the provisions for the outsourcing contracts for three-colour waste separation bins, those for inspecting Mainland and overseas farms keeping food animals, and so on.

Frankly speaking, had we Members of the pro-establishment camp not performed our duties diligently here, had these deduction proposals been approved, the result of deducting the relevant provisions would have been that nothing would be left and all such things as dental services would also not be available, as Ms Cyd HO said just now. Why did Members propose deductions of these provisions? In fact, we also proposed deductions in the last Legislative Council but I think those deduction proposals were reasonable. For example, since we did not like the performance of a certain Director of Bureau, we proposed the deduction of the provision for him and since we were not happy about 15-year free education, we proposed the deduction of the provisions for the Secretary for Education. Then, Members could hold debates on them. However, in the event that the aforementioned deduction proposals were passed, the consequences could be serious. Did the public listen carefully? The public were not interested in listening carefully. I know they would switch off their television sets as soon as they heard the filibuster. Had it not been us performing our duties diligently here, those deduction proposals could probably have been passed.

Just now, in my seat, I found that Members of the pan-democratic camp, for example, Mr James TO, Mr WONG Yuk-man and Mr Gary FAN, who had all proposed amendments, did not show up. What does that signify? It seems all the responsibility for aborted meetings is placed on the pro-establishment camp. Members of the pro-establishment camp were tied down here, unable to do

anything. Sometimes, they were even forced to miss appointments and could not attend activities that they had promised to attend. However, Members of the pan-democratic camp could attend the meeting whenever it pleased them to but if it did not, they could leave, as though they did not have to assume responsibility for the aborted meetings. They only had to say they did not support the Budget and that was it.

However, having come to such a situation, since all Members said that it was necessary to respect the Rules of Procedure and since the Chairman said that filibustering was permitted, they should assume responsibility together and their behaviour should not be condoned. I often say to the convenors of the pro-establishment camp, that is, Mr IP Kwok-him and Mr TAM Yiu-chung, who are responsible for liaison, that there is no reason to always place the responsibility for aborted meetings on the pro-establishment camp. They had more meaningful work to do, so they had to leave. In the event that meetings are aborted, that shows the public clearly what state the Legislative Council nowadays is in. In addition, I also heard Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung say that he opposed the amendments ... or rather, he said although he spoke in favour of the amendments, he would vote against them in the voting. I wonder in what light members of the public would look at Legislative Council Members upon hearing those remarks. Every word of the debate on the Budget in the Legislative Council is recorded in the Hansard but when this record is reviewed in the future, what impression would this give people? What kind of democracy do we actually want to develop? Is filibustering a kind of self-mutilation in democracy? If it is said that filibustering can bring about the universal retirement protection that they are campaigning for, I can assert that this is not possible because in terms of the procedure and concept, there are still many controversies among Members and in society. In my view, is it necessary for us to reflect on this together?

Chairman, when I visited the local communities, I came across a member of the public who was your staunch supporter in the past. My Chinese is not as good as his. He wrote me two lines of a poem, hoping that I could read them out for him. These two lines read, "Who considers sentimental loss holy life, into the mountains and do not fear Allure". I think that in dealing with the filibuster ... nowadays, it is not merely those several Members who love filibustering. It seems other Members are also fascinated by this business called filibustering, thinking that it is fun to do so but I am very sure that in the end, they will only get their fingers burnt.

I wonder if Members can hear the resentment expressed by the public. I have seldom heard such a unanimous view among the public, that is, they do not like filibustering because they think what we have sacrificed is their interests. Therefore, this is not a matter of whether or not Members like the Chief Executive, but whether or not Hong Kong society as a whole should continue to condone this kind of behaviour. Should we not spend a lot of time to meet departments considered by us to be relevant on preferable occasions or in more suitable committees, and discuss issues within the operating hours of the legislature? For example, recently, I met with Secretary Dr KO Wing-man in relation to the planning on healthcare protection and financing that he intends to introduce. I hope that the Government can commit \$10 billion annually to public healthcare because public healthcare is really a very important safety net in retirement. If there is spare money, it has to be saved up each year to buy expensive drugs and meet the various needs of public hospitals. Be it men or women and no matter which social classes they belong to, so long as they are retirees, healthcare services are similarly important to them.

I once also talked about my aspiration. I hope that \$10 billion can be saved up annually for improving water quality. If there is any surplus, it can be used to improve the water quality in the Victoria Harbour, so that the health of people living at the waterfront and people visiting the waterfront can be improved. In this way, everyone can enjoy a green waterfront and this is an excellent heritage that we can bequeath to our next generation, but this cannot be done without money. Take the 15-year free education mentioned by Mr IP Kin-yuen as another example, I have also strongly supported it all along. I also believe the Government should be able to "hit the jackpot" by implementing this measure this year. There is no reason why the current-term Government does not do such a thing because there is little controversy over this. However, it is not by deducting kindergarten's ... the discussion should not be held through such amendments. The Taiwanese put it very well. This is "費力把事拉"⁵, that is, exerting great efforts to drag a matter on without achieving results. For this reason, I totally disagree with such an approach.

Second, in the Chief Executive's Question and Answer Session, Dr LAM Tai-fai asked a very good question about whether at present, there is the separation of powers or the confrontation of powers. I believe the separation of

⁵ A transliteration of "filibuster" in Chinese (fei4 li4 ba3 shi4 la1) with the meaning of "exerting great efforts to drag matters on".

powers is about the three powers exercising checks and balances on one another, but it would not do for the fragmentation of powers to occur. By this I do not just mean the executive and the legislature, but also the Judiciary. I know that all along, the Chairman has been wary about the judgments of the Court but if we look at the judgments of the Court of First Instance and the Appeal Court, in particular, those of the Appeal Court, the arguments of the two sides were cited clearly a number of times, with the lawyers citing many common law cases. Among them, paragraph 25 mentioned one thing, that is, it is hoped that the Court of Final Appeal would also adopt the same principle. The judgment says that if there are uncertainties about the Rules of Procedures, the Court would adopt the principle of not intervening in the internal working of the legislature. Basically, Rules 92, 57 and other rules all give the Chairman the power to exercise discretion. No matter if we agree or not — the Chairman also knows that sometimes, the pro-establishment camp also disagrees with his rulings — but the Rules of Procedure is our rules of the game.

Just now, Ms Emily LAU said time and again that she hoped the Government would respect our rules of the game. Here, I also wish to express my hope that the Judiciary, the legislature and the executive would respect one another. The Legislative Council has really failed to live up to expectations because many Members believe that we should wait for the Court to deliver its judgment before discussing making amendments to the Rules of Procedure. In fact, is doing so fair to the Court? I think this is not at all fair. We always want the Court to ride the waves in front of us, as though it has to make decisions for us. Since the Legislative Council is full of people with various views who are fighting with each other to the bitter end, should we not draw up the rules ourselves and decide the culture of the Legislative Council ourselves, rather than waiting for the Court to instruct us what we should do? In fact, this is a very laughable matter in the international community.

Therefore, I believe we should not wait for the judgment of the Court before deciding what to do, rather, we should sit down and discuss how our Rules of Procedure can be improved. We should be capable of resolving this matter rather than waiting for the Court. In fact, the Court is often "put on the spot" by us as we always seek judicial review on just about anything and let the Court decide the policy. As a result, there were sometimes no opportunities to debate certain policies in the Legislative Council. Those controversies should have been dealt with in the Legislative Council, but since Members have too much of a

liking for judicial reviews, the Court is forced to make judgments, yet the legislature cannot have discussions and as a result, the public are also dissatisfied with the Court. I believe it is preferable for Members of various political parties and groupings to properly discuss how the Rules of Procedure should be amended. Do not be fascinated by these courses of action. Perhaps a small number of people can take these opportunities to stage solo performances and win more limelight, so they will certainly continue to do so. However, with regard to other Members, particularly Members of the pan-democratic camp who claim themselves to be moderates, I hope they can ponder together if we can create a more attractive culture of debating public affairs in the Legislative Council, so that at a time when Hong Kong has to tread its own path to democracy, democracy of quality can be fostered for all of us.

Chairman, I so submit.

MR CHARLES PETER MOK (in Cantonese): Chairman, today is the 25th anniversary of the 4 June incident. I will surely go to the Victoria Park. Just now, I heard the speeches of certain Members and I think I also need to speak. Moreover, as Mr IP Kin-yuen said earlier, we may not be able to vote later on. And in case we cannot vote, I would like to first explain my original voting preference.

Earlier on, I heard the speech of a Member, which prompted me to press the "Request to speak" button, and he is Mr James TIEN. He mentioned just now the issues concerning innovation and technology. In the past two years, many Members mentioned the need for Hong Kong to develop innovation and technology rather than focusing only on the real estate and finance sectors. They said Hong Kong must pursue economic diversification to provide more opportunities for the young people and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and to offer a new economic development direction for Hong Kong. However, when it comes to actual practice, Mr TIAN said earlier that we were incapable of doing so. I do not know why he would consider us incapable, yet I will tell him later why we are capable of doing so. Are we suffering from the "phobia syndrome"? We often put forth proposals on doing a certain thing, but when the Government or the authorities concerned say that the proposals will be implemented, we will be gripped by various fears and then we will try to think up numerous excuses for not doing so.

It is easy to make criticisms, but it takes strenuous efforts to understand an issue. Staging opposition is easy. I must admit that even though I am in the opposition camp, yet it depends on what we oppose. It is easy to oppose promoting new economic development in Hong Kong but it is difficult to promote the development. Besides, there is no guarantee that the promotion will bring success. Yet it is always easier to use the need for improving other aspects as the excuse for not taking forward the proposal. Unfortunately, Members from the pan-democratic camp or the pro-establishment camp, more often than not, adopt this attitude. What Mr James TIEN said earlier rightly falls into this stereotype, who often considers there are areas where Hong Kong cannot make any achievement, including technology. In fact, I have heard him express strong support for developing innovation and technology, yet I believe the views he expressed earlier somehow represent the mindset of the traditional business sector.

On the other hand, Ms Emily LAU also expressed her strong support for innovation and technology earlier, yet she said she did not see that the Government knew how to do it. I dare make this comment for Ms LAU has just left the Chamber. Otherwise, she will chide me. However, if we are not allowed to try, how can we become capable of doing it? She also said that she strongly supported the Innovation and Technology Commission, yet she did not know why the performance of the Commission was less than satisfactory. Has she ever thought about the cause of such performance? Would it be the low ranking of the system or the level of the Commission preventing it from performing well? She should not merely say that, "Since the Government is now incapable of doing that, it should come to me when it knows it can." If it can do so, the setting up of the new bureau will not be necessary, will it?

Furthermore, Mr TIAN criticized earlier that the Cyberport project was unsatisfactory, for it had been reduced to a real estate project. I often hear this comment. He has also mentioned the Science Park. As a member of the trade, I think we should give the issue its fair deal, and I think vindication is necessary. In the past two years, the Cyberport has paid out close to \$100 million to provide assistance to the trade, which includes the setting up of a number of micro start-up funds to enable young people and even secondary students to benefit from trying out new concepts. This is absolutely not a real estate project. At the beginning when the site was allocated for construction, it might be a real estate project. This is its original sin. After that, everyone regards the

Cyberport as a real estate project, and I consider it unfair. Perhaps we should check whether it has provided genuine assistance to small companies, SMEs and business starters.

A number of Members have asked about the reasons for the Government failing to do so. Dr Priscilla LEUNG has directed a lot of criticisms against a number of Members earlier, and I would like to respond to her briefly. I have also pondered whether we Members are the crux of the problem. Just now, Dr LEUNG made repeated criticisms against the filibuster. In fact, I do not fully agree with filibustering, or adopting this approach in handling the issue. Just now, Dr LEUNG named Members from the pan-democratic camp and criticized them one by one. The first thought that came to my mind as I listened to her was whether she had to hold the grudges like those. She should have spent the 15 minutes to discuss the policy instead. By doing so, I think we Members will become much more attractive.

That is all for the Cyberport. I will now come to the Science Park. Earlier on, Mr TIAN mentioned the problem of vacancy in the Science Park. I am now aware of the power of the media. The report was made a few years ago, yet everyone still remember that. Back then, some reporters found that certain offices were empty, with no one working in them. But the actual situation was that those offices belonged to some small companies which had only a few employees, and sometimes all employees might be on business trips to the Mainland or overseas, or they might be meeting clients outside. Not every office will have a secretary or a group of employees working in them. People may not understand their situation clearly, and so they may have this misunderstanding. Even though an explanation has been made, yet after the report of the media, the Science Park is always criticized for its high vacancy rate. Yet the actual situation was that upon the completion of the incubation programme, that is, at "graduation" so to speak, the companies concerned still wanted to rent offices in the park, yet the park told them, "You need to rent a larger office to accommodate 10 to 20 instead of five employees? Congratulations, but do you mind renting two to three separate offices, for we cannot provide a large unit for you?"

In fact, the rumour that many units in the Science Park are left vacant and even used as warehouses is untrue. Many young people consider the cluster effect useful to them. Some business starters of the first generation will help the business starters from the following generation and invest in the latter's business. This ecological system is what Hong Kong ... At the beginning when the Science

Park was constructed, the Government might regard it as a real estate project. Yet it has now evolved. The Government now plans to carry out land resumption on the site at Pak Shek Kok. The Town Planning Board is now discussing the issue. The arrangement has dashed the hopes of those expecting the construction of phase 4, and this explains the strong reactions of tenants or business starters.

Indeed, concerning the many social problems we face, are Members not well-versed in the problems, or are Members unwilling to spend more time to understand the truth? For Mr TIAN, Ms LAU and the many Members intending to filibuster on the establishment of the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB), I look forward to an opportunity to keep them company in visiting those places, meeting with the young business starters and listening to their views. Some people said that those companies engaging in the trade in Hong Kong are incapable. I think Mr TIAN may not yet know the news, which may be released in the news report tomorrow, that a medium-scale IT company in Hong Kong has been acquired for a consideration of over \$200 million. So, never say it is impossible; it is indeed possible, and someone has made it possible.

In the Budget this year, I notice that the Government has made some effort in promoting innovation and technology. I think the Government is making preparations for the establishment of the ITB which it hopes to set up. The Government is making some attempts, yet those attempts offer little novelty. Members of the trade and I have been urging the Government to implement such measures for more than 10 years. This time around, the Government is willing to try out the proposals. For instance, subsidies will be granted to SMEs on a matching grant basis for the purchase of technological solutions to enhance their capacity. The fund provided by the Government is applicable to the retail industry only, and the amount is small, only \$50 million. However, the Government has never provided such offer before, for it was unwilling to do so.

The Government will set up the Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS) to replace certain research funds for SMEs, for it hopes to enhance the flexibility of the scheme in response to the requests made by many business starters. The Government will also promote information technology (IT) education, including the promotion of infrastructure in schools, and the provision of IT enrichment programmes for elites in IT. It is hoped that the arrangement will improve the image of the IT sector, so that students will be willing to study the ICT subject at school. I am aware of the matching effort made by the Government, yet I consider the effect less than desirable and the amount inadequate. I hope the

Government will do more and go deeper, and will persevere in doing so. The Government is now trying, yet I hope it will make a greater effort. If my guess is correct, the Government wants to set up the ITB hoping that the ITB will make vigorous efforts in taking forward the work in this area.

As for the ITB, some people keep asking why it is necessary to set up the bureau, and I usually ask in return why it should not be set up. Why do I say so? Our competitors, such as Korea, Singapore and Taiwan, have all set up similar bureaux. Does it mean that they are less capable that they need to set up a specific bureau to achieve success? Does it mean that we are more competent, such that we can achieve success without such a bureau? Yet they have been more successful than us. Some people say it would be adequate for the Government to recruit a few more Administrative Officers and add a few more Permanent Secretary posts. Is it the case? It baffles me. Is it because we are particularly capable? Or is it because we are particularly reluctant to make changes? I cannot figure out the logic. Certainly, Members may notice from the discussion that the logic of those opponents of the establishment is mainly their opposition of the SAR Government, or even Chief Executive LEUNG Chun-ying.

We note from the objective environment that the competitiveness of Hong Kong is declining, evident in its ranking in various charts. We may say that it is a mistake if our ranking drops only on one chart. But when our ranking on different charts shows the same decline, we cannot turn a blind eye to it. Should we just wait for the Government to step down? In fact, Ricky WONG's remark is right. It depends on whose life is stronger and we have to be confident of ourselves. We all dislike Chief Executive LEUNG Chun-ying. How many more years can he stay in his job? No matter how, we should know that we work on innovation and technology and Hong Kong's new economic direction not for the credit of the Chief Executive, neither is it done for my credit and the credit of the pro-establishment camp. We do all these for the next generation and the economic development of Hong Kong.

I often tell friends in the pan-democratic camp that many of those supporters of the establishment of the ITB support democracy and oppose LEUNG Chun-ying. They support universal suffrage as I do, yet they consider it necessary for Hong Kong to establish a new bureau today. Therefore, I sincerely hope that Members can consider individual issues in their own right. If the proposal is good for Hong Kong, Members should not oppose it. Hong Kong has been overtaken by Singapore. I have been voicing this view quite

often recently, and I think the prediction is not too far-fetched really. I mean if Hong Kong does nothing now, we will be overtaken not only by Shanghai but also by Shenzhen in a few years. I am referring to overtaking in terms of income and industrial development. In the past, we went shopping at the Lo Wu Shopping Plaza, and if the performance of companies engaging in high technology in Shenzhen overtake us, it will be too late for us to regret.

Chairman, concerning this Budget, I do not know whether Mr Kenneth LEUNG will have the opportunity to speak later, yet if both of us stay here to vote, we will vote in support of the Budget. In my opinion, the Budget has surely made new attempts for the economic development of Hong Kong. Moreover, the rationale adopted in the Budget is close to ours, for it will cease to rely on some short-term measures of "giving away candies". We understand that the Budget will not be able to satisfy everyone. Yet if Hong Kong has to identify certain new directions in economic development, and if it is willing to try out new directions and create certain new and quality job opportunities, I think we will consider the Budget worthy of support. Apart from engaging in the Budget debate, I hope Honourable Members will allow Hong Kong and our next generation to have relatively better development opportunities in future.

Thank you, Chairman.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, after listening to the speech of Mr Charles Peter MOK just now, I am filled with emotions. I think Mr MOK's speech is a cool freshener in the midst of the opposition hubbub, and I have to praise him for that. However, Mr MOK, my praise of you will definitely hurt you, for you will later be labelled and blamed for not being a member of the pan-democratic camp nor the opposition camp, and you will be labelled as one of the pro-establishment camp. This is Hong Kong now. The Legislative Council is no longer rational. I have made this sentimental remark from the bottom of my heart. Mr MOK, sorry, I have hurt you.

Chairman, the filibuster this time around has continued for 14 days on two "false propositions". One is the call for "handing out \$10,000" or "\$10,000 for everyone", and the second one is the call for retirement protection. Yet the two "false propositions" are contradictory. I will not discuss this further, for my comments on this topic end here.

In the previous round of debate, I already pointed out the difference in the proposition of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions (FTU) and that of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung from the League of Social Democrats, and Mr Albert CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen from the People Power. They are harming the people to fatten themselves and harming others for their own interest. The FTU will not do that. We will achieve our cause through perseverance and we will never give up.

Apart from this difference or watershed, I wish to point out why it is improper to hurl "hell banknotes" at the Financial Secretary on the issue on retirement protection. The Financial Secretary and the Secretary are here in the Chamber now. Hurling plastic bottles will not bring forth any result. I would like to elaborate here why this should not be done, why they should not put forth the 1 000-odd amendments, why they should not oppose the 69 heads standing part of the Schedule and why it is not the time to oppose clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill and use this as a means to achieve the purposes of those two "false propositions".

In this connection, five characteristics must be addressed. First, it is about feasibility. Is it practicable? Second, it is about reliability and security. Will it provide true protection? Third, it is about stability. The handouts should not be provided only this year but not the next, nor should it be provided in this 10 years but not the next. Fourth, it is about continuity. The practice should be sustained. Finally, the most important point is the involvement of society. Rightly because of the importance of social involvement, which requires the participation of all strata of society, the action of hurling "hell banknotes" at the Financial Secretary and plastic bottles at the Secretary will not bring forth any result. For this reason, I am going to point out the unreasonableness in the objectives set for the filibuster by the three "Ten Million Members".

Chairman, the FTU has stood firm in the objectives and positions it laid down in protecting and fighting for the rights and welfare of workers since its foundation, which has been 65 years. Retirement protection is one of our missions. As early as the 1970s in the previous century, we had conducted researches on this and advocated this idea. In January 1994 of the last century, Chairman, we drafted this comprehensive proposal titled "老有所養 — 工聯會退休保障綜合方案" (Ensuring the Financial Security of the Elderly — An Integrated Plan on Retirement Protection by the FTU). After that, we made persistent efforts to reflect the needs to the Government and to fight for this. By

2012 of this century, the FTU convened its 35th general meeting and passed a resolution to fight for the early establishment of an integrated retirement protection system by the Government. We had passed a resolution, we had laid the foundation and we had conducted studies. Then last year, that is, 2013, we made an appointment with Chief Executive LEUNG Chun-ying, the Financial Secretary and the Secretary to put forth the integrated retirement protection plan in a complete proposal.

Chairman, why do we have to seriously seek solutions to these problems? I have explained five characteristics just now, so next I will talk about the six "requirements". We are unlike "Long Hair" who pretends his babbling is the secret key. When he said "success does not need my involvement", he seemed to be imitating SZETO Wah, but he was indeed trying to please the public. What are the six "requirements"? Retirement protection should have "surveys", "studies", "analyses made", "actuarial investigation" — for it involves calculations — "plans" and "proposals". These are the six "requirements", not babbling pretended as the secret key.

After the FTU had submitted the proposal to the Government last year, the Government finally commissioned Prof Nelson CHOW to lead a special task force to conduct a study on retirement protection and the findings of the study will be submitted in the middle of this year. We welcome this arrangement. In other words, apart from taking to the streets, submitting petitions and engaging in negotiations, we have to do reasoning, but not making fabrications. For we need to not only strive for the agreement of the Government, we also need to win the recognition of society, gaining the consent of employers, employees and the large number of housewives who are not in employment, as well as men and women of all age groups.

Chairman, I have two books at hand titled as "勞苦功高" (Significant contribution by workers' hard work), which are offered for sale. The research department of the FTU has conducted a lot of surveys and researches to examine the milieu, economic condition and capacity of society. I would like to ask the Chairman, colleagues and everyone in Hong Kong to give a fair comment on this. For a retirement protection scheme which requires the participation of all, will it achieve success by "pretending babbling to be the secret key" and wasting tens of million dollars in the Legislative Council? I hope we will all ask ourselves this question honestly.

I have also studied the issue in some measure. In the 1990s of the previous century, I wrote a book titled "王國興議員政論集" ("WONG Kwok-hing's Political Commentary Collection"). The collection includes 12 articles on retirement protection published between 9 October 1989 and 29 January 1993, and seven articles on the elderly published between 26 August 1992 and 27 September 1993. May I ask the "Ten Million Members" engaging in filibuster whether the two organizations to which they belong have ever put forth any plan, proposal or conducted any research? During the debates of the 14-day filibuster, from the start till the final voting today, have Members ever heard of any plan? No. There have been only invectives. It does not matter that I, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, am scolded; I have endured much scolding since my childhood. This will not frighten me. I am used to intimidation.

Chairman, the integrated retirement protection plan of the FTU has five special features. First, it is carried out in parallel with the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System. It involves the implementation of social insurance outside the MPF System to provide benefits to all. The second feature is that the universal retirement protection system is established not only for the employed but also housewives who have no retirement protection and the chronically ill who cannot work. The third feature is that the elderly and their families will benefit immediately. If our proposal is accepted by the Government, it can hopefully be implemented in 2016. By then, eligible elderly people will receive social insurance superannuation of \$3,250 monthly, achieving the objective of supporting the elderly to live a dignified retirement life. At the same time, the implementation of the system will alleviate the burden of the public in supporting their parents and grandparents. The fourth feature is the tripartite contribution approach. The three parties involved, namely, employees, employers and the Government, have to make contributions, so that all parties are involved and everyone will benefit. The fifth feature is its sustainability. The plan will sustain through the peak of the ageing population. We have done actuarial analyses to examine the plan instead of mere "babbling". According to our researches, the system will outlive the peak of the ageing population for at least 20 to 30 years. Of course, due to the time constraint, I cannot go into the details now, and I do not intend to speak again. I know the target today is to have the Budget passed. If the filibuster is extended for another day, it will waste \$2.55 million. As such, I will not speak again and again.

I now come to the source of funding of the FTU's proposal, for I believe Members are most concerned about where the money will come from. I must answer this question, that is, where will the money come from ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr WONG, please do not explain your proposal in detail.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): I will make it short, for I still have two more minutes.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): You should explain your voting preference and justification.

MR WONG KWOK-HING (in Cantonese): Chairman, after finishing these few sentences, I will explain the justification for my vote.

Where will the money come from? First, it comes from the \$200-odd billion Land Fund which can be drawn down in 22 years and the annual investment return from the surplus of the Land Fund and the social insurance. Second, the payments made by the Government originally for the "fruit grant", the Old Age Living Allowance and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance for some of the elderly will be injected into this pool. Third, it comes from the fiscal surplus. Financial Secretary, it will be 5% of the fiscal surplus per annum. Fourth, we hope the Government will increase the profits tax by 1% for enterprises making a profit of over \$10 million per annum, which will be a very small commitment to them. Fifth, from 2021 onwards, the monthly contribution rate for employers and employees will be 1.5% respectively. The above arrangements will address the concern about the source of funding while enhancing the existing MPF System, so that the major loophole of offsetting severance pay and long service payment with MPF benefits will be addressed early possible.

For the above reasons, we earnestly hope that the Future Fund mentioned by the Financial Secretary in the Budget will not be merely a piece of mortar but a "head". I hope the authorities will seriously consider the integrated retirement protection plan proposed by the FTU.

Chairman, I now answer your earlier question. Regarding the question of clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Bill, we definitely support it. Why? This is for the good of the Budget as a whole. During the Budget debates and relevant questioning, I have discovered that and mentioned it, and the majority of responses I have received are in the positive. There may be inadequacies, yet we may follow up through the 10 functions. Since the Government is on the brink of a cliff, we cannot allow the Government to fall over it, so I will definitely support clauses 1 and 2 standing part the Bill.

MR CHAN KIN-POR (in Cantonese): Chairman, before I indicate whether or not I support the entire sum of appropriation, I think we should sum up the manner in which this Council has been dealing with the Appropriation Bill. I think Members can predict what will be the result of filibustering. Members who engaged in filibustering said that they wanted to strive for universal retirement protection. This sounds grand enough. But we all know that retirement protection is a very complicated issue and it involves long-term and enormous resources in society. The Government has commissioned Prof Nelson CHOW to carry out a comprehensive study on it and there is a need for society to hold in-depth discussions. One can never expect this government procedure to change just because of the filibuster or the chanting of certain slogans. I think the problem would be significant indeed if the Government should succumb so easily. Actually, those Members who engaged in filibustering know this very well, only that they wanted to place themselves in the limelight by bringing up this issue of retirement protection.

After the President had decided to cut off the filibuster, "Long Hair" came out and apologized to the people with a sad look on his face. He said that he was sorry for not being able to fight for universal retirement protection for the elderly. This fully demonstrates his hypocrisy. We are almost certain that he will filibuster in next year's deliberations on the budget and he will tender apologies again. He is treating the people of Hong Kong as if they are fools. He is almost addicted to filibustering. This is like the case now when he wants to filibuster and block the establishment of the Innovation and Technology Bureau which has great benefits to the people of Hong Kong. It proves that what he pursues is the limelight, which is so important to him that the interest of the people can be put aside.

"Long Hair" is a person lost in his own "hypocritical rhetoric". There are a number of features in his comments. He smears and badmouths and he talks in

half-truths. That is to say, he only gives half of the truth and mixes up the true with the false. He even goes to the extreme of talking nonsense. How amazing. In this meeting when Members filibuster, if only we care to listen to his remarks, we can find a lot of such examples.

For example, in the meeting on 22 May, he said that I came to the assistance of the Government in scolding him for I wanted to fight for permission from the Government to allow the insurance sector to launch high-risk structural products. I think only people of a standard like that of "Long Hair's" can have thought this way. Because if we are for the good of the sector, how would we want to ask the Government to permit the sale of toxic products? It is only by selling products which the people need and those with actual benefits that the sector can grow and thrive. My position on this is clear enough. I want the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance to crack down on undesirable products so that no damage will be done to the reputation of the sector.

"Long Hair" is a man who can speak with eloquence but not with morals. Previously when I spoke, I had criticized "Long Hair" for his filibustering. My remarks did not sound pleasing, but they were all based on facts. I hope he can listen to different opinions. He always scolds people and the people he scolds are those officials, Members of this Council and even those Members from the pan-democratic camp. I can see that most people are just bearing with his remarks in silence. This makes him think that he is most awesome. But he does not know the importance of reflecting on his acts. Now he is asserting simplistically that his critiques are all motivated by interest considerations. He thinks that he can cheat the people this way. But he is only cheating himself. And this is a classic example of reckless smearing.

Another example is that in the meeting on 7 May, he said that when LEUNG Chun-ying was the Chief Executive designate, he had visited New Zealand, Chile and Brazil during the period from 9 April to 18 April 2012. At that time "Long Hair" queried what kind of business did Hong Kong have with these countries and he suspected that LEUNG Chun-ying was making use of his status as the Chief Executive designate to go to these places and do business for himself. So he wanted to cut LEUNG's expenses for duty visits. But at that time LEUNG Chun-ying had just won in the Chief Executive election, how could it be possible for him to go on these long-haul trips in this capacity? Information shows that at that time the Chief Executive was on an official trip, but the Chief Executive in question was former Chief Executive Donald TSANG,

not LEUNG Chun-ying. This is a classic example of what I mean by half-truth regarding "Long Hair". I wish to declare first that this is a piece of information I have collected myself. For if not, there may be people who will smear me and say that I have been given this piece of information by someone.

Also, "Long Hair" said that I was not in the insurance sector. But the fact is, before I became a Member of this Council, I had been in charge of the management of an insurance company for more than 15 years. Moreover, I was also the Chairman of the Chinese Insurance Association of Hong Kong and the Chairman of the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers. It really baffled me when he said that I was not in the insurance business. Of course, I am not actually in the insurance business now because I am a Member of this Council. I think I have the responsibility to tell the public that such absurdities are found in this Council.

"Long Hair" said that I know nothing about universal retirement protection. I just want to tell a fact to Members, that in 2009 the Alliance for Universal Pension organized the first social forum on universal retirement protection and I was one of the guest speakers. Here is a photo taken at that time and Members can take a look at it. I did take part in 2009. Then in 2011, I was also one of the speakers. Members can imagine how much I know about universal retirement protection. What I am against is not the question of whether or not universal retirement protection should be introduced, but I detest someone making use of this issue of universal retirement protection to put up a show. I am only one of the persons criticized by "Long Hair" in the speeches he made on the amendments. But my experience is good enough to show that his speeches are fraught with problems. I am sure that the criticisms he made of other people and also of government departments were likewise fraught with problems. Unfortunately, the Government chose not to make any response direct.

I wish to talk about a related issue and I will do so in the form of telling a story.

Members can take a look here. There is this village called "Hong Village". Two representatives are elected from this "Hong Village" and they are tasked with guarding the wealth and interest of the people there. If Members can take a careful look, they will find that on the vests they wear, one of them has got the word "pro" as in "pro-establishment" and the other has got the word "pan" as in "pan-democratic". They are guarding the barn in which grain is stored.

They are very happy because they are elected. One is shouting, "I have won." And the other is shouting, "Thank you for your support."

Soon someone comes to steal the grain. "Pan" says, "Let him go. It only happens once in a while and there is no need to get excited about it." But we can see that the rice in the barn is slowly disappearing. And so "Pro" says to "Pan", "The thief comes here to steal so often and I think we have to think of some ways to guard against thieves. I suggest that we can co-operate. This is because it is only when we co-operate that it can be effective." But "Pan" says, "I do not support any theft, but I will not object to it either." I think Members can imagine what will happen later. Soon all the rice in the barn is gone. The thief who stole the rice is very happy. He has taken all the rice. But you can see that "Pro" is not happy. As to what "Pan" will think, I still have no idea. I think it would be easy for Members to imagine what will happen in the end. I can show you what happens in the end. It is, all the things in the barn are gone. That means, all the interests of the people in that village are gone as well. So the people in the village are all unhappy. People from the pro-establishment camp are scolded by other people. You can take a closer look. A person is flying in the sky. Who is it? The villagers say that they have really chosen the wrong person and he has not done anything at all. I therefore hope that Members can really do something.

Earlier on some people said that their speeches were so well-prepared and sensible. And when there was no response from the Government, it was like a tacit admission. I think it has really shown the weakness in the mindset of the pro-establishment camp and that of the Government. Both of them did not want to point out the absurdities of the filibustering Members. They were afraid that those Members will make use of the occasion to condemn them, making the filibustering an endless show. But this view had only fallen into the trap of the filibustering Members.

We should know that filibustering these days is always evolving and the pro-establishment camp, the Government as well as the pan-democratic camp will all have to ponder over two points. First, what can be done to make the people see the real damage done to Hong Kong by filibustering, how it has forestalled the development of Hong Kong and wasted so much time on discussing things that cannot really propel the development of Hong Kong? I am a Member from the business sector and in the business sector, it is a sin to waste time. At the

end of the day, filibustering will cause losses to Hong Kong, even though it may bring a fleeting moment of pleasure to those filibustering Members. The damage done to Hong Kong by filibustering will have to be seen 10 years from now. Second, what can be done to amend the Rules of Procedure so that this filibustering which does not seem to end will not happen and will no longer get Hong Kong stuck in an impasse?

Moreover, I would like to point out that this filibustering *a la* Hong Kong has caused a fundamental change to filibustering. In foreign countries, filibustering is accepted. But in Hong Kong, the nature of filibustering has changed. It has become a tool to catch the limelight for certain people. So despite the fact that filibustering can be so organized and well-prepared, by nature it is no more that an act which disrupts the Council and hence should not be supported and encouraged. This is just like theft. Regardless of whether theft can be so organized, sophisticated and intelligent, I am sure no one will encourage such an act.

I would therefore think that for those well-known figures in society, when they comment on acts of filibuster *a la* Hong Kong, they should watch out in order not to cause themselves to be misread or misinterpreted as supporting filibustering. This would be most unfortunate and it will lead public opinion to go in the wrong direction.

"Long Hair" may come back later. If the Chairman should allow him to speak again, he will certainly bombard me and make his remarks as nasty as possible. Actually, if I am to have a debate with "Long Hair", I think I am bound to lose. This is because he likes to make arbitrary remarks, invent things out of nothing, go about engaging in reckless smearing and talking half-truths, confusing one thing with another, slipping in straw arguments, rambling and sidetracking and making sweeping assertions. He is an expert in all of these things. Anyone who has morals and who debates with him will certainly lose. This is why I will never argue with him. But I trust the wisdom and judgment of Members and I am sure Members can tell which is true and which is false in the things he says.

Chairman, I so submit.

DR FERNANDO CHEUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, I speak against this Budget. Today is 4 June and this evening, we have to go to the Victoria Park to take part in the candlelight vigil there. In these 25 years, we have never stopped organizing activities — you may say that this is a ritual, and a very important one for that matter, and this is also the only place in the vast expanse of China where we can hold activities to publicly commemorate the 4 June incident. Therefore, this evening, I may not be able to take part in the voting, so I have to state my grounds for opposing this Budget clearly here.

This Budget represents the exercise of public powers by the Government to redistribute social resources. Resources are drawn from areas with the financial means in society and put into areas where needs exist. They may include infrastructure and basic security but to me, what matters the most is perhaps people-oriented services: healthcare, education, housing and social welfare. Of course, for the development of the whole society in the future, environmental protection is ... be it technology, culture or other services, there are opportunities of innovation and development, so these areas all require the commitment of resources.

Today, our difficulty lies not in the inadequacy of resources, rather, the problem lies in the very uneven distribution of resources by the Government. Obviously, wealth disparity is the greatest deep-rooted conflict facing Hong Kong nowadays. This is a very serious problem and there is no need to elaborate it in detail. From the former Chief Executives to the incumbent, they all admitted this problem. However, on the part of the Government, has it ameliorated this situation through the Budget and the distribution of resources? After this budgeting exercise, will wealth disparity be ameliorated? In this Budget, I do not find that this will be the case. Through the injection of funds, the Government ... this year is better in that the Commission on Poverty was established and the poverty line was also set, in addition, the Low-income Working Family Allowance was also introduced. However, all these cannot be found in the Budget. The authorities said that they would be launched soon and that when the proposals were put forward, we could further scrutinize them, in the hope that the resources would be approved. In the Budget, there are many items related to people's lives and the number is no less than those in the past. In fact, the number may have increased and this is the point that we appreciate the most. However, unfortunately, they are all found in minor areas, so only the surface is scratched without getting to the core of problems and the fundamental problems remain not solved. Even with regard to such simple issues as the old, the weak and persons with disabilities — Chairman, I wonder if you would find me too repetitive — however, we have talked about population ageing so much

nowadays that it has become trite. What consequences will population ageing lead to? Of course, there will be more and more elderly people. The Government thinks that they will constitute financial pressure and is a kind of burden that will make healthcare ... however, the most important point is how we treat the elderly now.

Regarding the entire focus of the Budget this time around, the filibuster is intended to campaign for universal retirement protection. I will talk about this subject later on. Now, I will first talk about an issue which is the greatest concern to the elderly: Health and family relationships. How can we enable the elderly to live their remaining years peacefully? Secretary Matthew CHEUNG is present. They have been chanting a slogan for many years, namely, "ageing in place". However, can the elderly people in Hong Kong age in place? A stage will come when one begins to age physically and after sustaining a fall accidentally, having a stroke and undergoing operations, one can no longer take care of oneself, so what options does one have? This is a very common situation that may happen to anyone of us. The choice of the public is: Either there is someone to take care of them at home or they have to move into private residential care homes. Why? Because services in the local communities are inadequate. This year, the Government has allocated an additional \$170 million for the provision of an additional 1 500 places for Enhanced Home and Community Care Services. This is a very good initiative. However, in fact, the queue for this kind of services is already very long. At present, more than 5 000 people are waiting for the integrated home care services and the places are practically insufficient. It is necessary to wait for at least more than half a year for day care services and day care centres, so it is practically impossible to wait for one's turn. These people are "driven out" by hospitals and every day, social workers, nurses and doctors working in hospitals have to drive these people out. Such instances occur every day. Every day, the students taught by me have to help by saying, "Please leave, I am sorry, all beds are occupied". Where can they go then? If they apply for this kind of services, they have to wait for more than a year but after a year, they may have passed away. When it comes to the meal delivery service, what is the present situation? "Sorry, in the past, meals were delivered for six days, now, meals will be available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays but no meals will be available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, so please sort it out yourself". This is a very common situation. It is not my own view, rather, some elderly people recounted it personally in a seminar organized by us last Sunday. The service providers admit that this problem is very common. Basically, they do not have any choice.

When it comes to moving into subsidized residential care homes, we have also talked about it so much that it has also become trite. There are 30 000 people in the queue. Although each year, more places were added and it is true that when taken together, they may ... this year, the number of places will be increased by several hundreds and in coming years, they may increase by several thousands, there are 30 000 people waiting in line but unfortunately, each year, some 5 000 people would pass away while waiting. Records of such figures are kept. Fortunately, the Government keeps a record of these figures, otherwise, I believe they surely will not be made public. In the face of this situation, what has the Government done? It said that nothing could be done about residential care homes but in fact, there are many residential care homes in Hong Kong and at present, the proportion of elderly people staying in residential care homes is close to 8% of the elderly population and this proportion is the highest among advanced regions in the world. Why? Because in overseas countries, there is no need to rely on residential care homes. But even though we have so many places, why has the situation of people being unable to get a place and passing away while waiting arisen? Because the great majority of these places are provided by privately-run and profit-making residential care homes and their quality is very much questionable. Is the Government not aware of this? This is not the case, moreover, it even wants to carry out further expansion by continuing to buy places and rely on the market to solve these problems related to the elderly. I hope the Financial Secretary can inspect the conditions of these privately-run residential care homes for the elderly together with me and I ask him to see what is meant by desperation and the greatest suffering and how elderly are made to spend the final years of their lives in such places.

The Financial Secretary likes very much to watch movies and I believe he has surely watched *A Simple Life*. *A Simple Life* is a film which received government funding and it is very successful. The setting of the residential care home seen in the film is quite decent. However, Chairman, are you willing to spend your final years there? Why do elderly people in Hong Kong have to be reduced to such a state? Why do they have to become so debased in their final years?

Is Hong Kong short of money? Do we have insufficient space? Why can proper services not be provided, so that the elderly people can spend their remaining years at home? This is very simple. In overseas countries, several components are very important in long-term care. First, elderly people can go to day care centres that provide such services as healthcare, social services and

activities; and second, the elderly people live at home in the evening or during the weekend and are provided with home-based care services. Together with the care from family members, be it elderly people who live together with their family members or those brought home after their family members have finished work, these three components combined together enable the elderly people to live in the community and this is what is meant by "ageing in place", as found in the government slogan.

However, how were our resources distributed in all these years? It has been a case practically of putting the cart before the horse. Our resources are channelled to residential care homes but little is done about community services. At present, together with the additional 1 500 places, a total of more than 7 000 places are provided to the elderly people. Chairman, we have over a million elderly people aged over 65 years, so of course, it is necessary to queue up. Moreover, these some 7 000 places will be put to tender afresh. Such a service has been provided for a whole decade and the organizations concerned have developed very long-term relationships with the elderly people. Now, bids will be invited again, so I too do not understand why the Government likes to play the market game so much. The person who assists an elderly person in taking a bath may come from one organization today but from another tomorrow. This will not work. If one is not familiar with the elderly person concerned, how can such a service be provided?

The Government frequently says that tenders have to be invited, so I rang Secretary Prof K C CHAN up. I thought that the reason was to comply with the requirements of the World Trade Organization, so we had to put up such social services for open tender, but the Secretary did not even bother to return my call. I really do not know if the Government actually understands this or not. Secretary Matthew CHEUNG is present. I do not understand why you could never do a good job of providing long-term care no matter how hard you tried. At one point, a number of experts came to Hong Kong to provide assistance and a friend of mine in Wan Chai — he specializes in long-term care and the Government hired him to come and serve as an expert consultant — he provided various modes to the Government for consideration, for example, the financial mode, the healthcare mode, and so on. For some years, the Government has conducted a number of studies but it has not published any of the findings. The Government has never published anything ...

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Dr CHEUNG, you have already spoken on a government policy for more than 10 minutes.

DR FERNANDO CHEUNG (in Cantonese): Sorry, Chairman, in fact, even commenting on a single issue can take a lot of time. This Budget actually affects the welfare of many people. If a good job can be done of this Budget, we can help many people. If the Government has the powers, it must also assume the responsibilities. Now, many Members are criticizing us for wasting time but in overseas countries, the preparation of a budget takes a lot of time, and the powers will not all be concentrated in the hands of the Government, still less would we be told the results only at the last moment, as though the answers of a guessing game were revealed, as is the practice of our Financial Secretary. The whole process in other countries is transparent and the public can take part in it and voice their opinions, and Members of Parliament in charge of law-making even have the power to allocate some of the resources through the enactment of laws.

However, it is not so in our case. The powers are entirely concentrated in the hands of the Government and we can only hold discussions in a passive manner and at the most, we can only cast votes in the end. Although we can cast votes in favour of or in opposition to — this is the fact, however, since a number of Members in the pro-establishment camp have stated very agitatedly here that "Long Hair" had wasted time here on filibustering — I personally do not approve of filibustering, nor have I ever taken part in it but I hope Members of the pro-establishment camp can do some soul-searching instead. If you really attach such great importance to people's livelihood and you are really so willing to exert pressure on the Government through your votes to demand that the Government make improvements, if you all exert pressure together, no matter together with which political party or grouping or the six votes of the FTU, threatening that unless the Government does a certain thing properly, you would not allow the Budget to pass, then in that event the Government would succumb immediately. May I ask Members if they have ever done so? Has the pro-establishment camp ever done such a thing?

However, recently, I have seen a most hideous incident. At the meetings of the Panel on Security, to our astonishment, the suggestions of the Security Bureau and the hints on the follow-up questions to be asked by Members were all exposed. Even the intonations and facial expressions were all written down in Cantonese, Chairman. How can something so ugly happen? Surely you are

not huddling together? The function of this legislature is to monitor the Government and we need not huddle together ... what need is there for you to collude to such an extent? I think it has really gone too far.

Mr CHAN Kin-por, sorry, but the story told by you is simply neither fish nor fowl. Who would go to the barn to steal rice? Who is stealing rice now? At present, our granary is getting bigger and bigger and how many billions is the Financial Secretary sitting on? However, what has the Government done? Each year, all we get is a surplus. If this year is included, the time span is exactly a decade and there is a total of \$470.6 billion in surplus and the surplus each year is on average more than \$40 billion, so how many elderly people and people with disabilities can we help with this sum of money amounting to more than \$400 billion? If we adopt Mr WONG Kwok-hing's calculation method, how many cans of luncheon meat can be bought? That would really be whopping.

We allocated hundreds of billion dollars to infrastructure projects but our basic services, for example, support for the sign language service provided to deaf people — I am talking about a bilingual programme and each year, only \$1 million is required but the funds still cannot be found and we are still looking everywhere for it, begging people to make donations. Our single-parent centres all closed down some years ago and these centres only require several hundred thousand dollars each. How many billion dollars will these long-term care plans cost? What are the Government's priorities? The Government only talks about the economy and money, but it is so poor that what is left of it is just its money, so where has all the money gone? Can it reach the hands of the public? How many members of the public are living in "sub-divided units"? How many people are leading a miserable life in their old age? Our Budget cannot provide any answer at all. However, in the course of discussions, the Government regarded us as the enemy (*The buzzer sounded*) ...

Chairman, I so submit.

MR ANDREW LEUNG (in Cantonese): Chairman, the filibuster on the Appropriation Bill 2014 has finally ended. These days Members of this Council and the public at large have been hearing a number of Members who speak non-stop and we can also hear the constant ringing of bells for a headcount. I am sure Members from different political parties and groupings seated here as well as the staff in this Council will share the same feeling with me. We are all physically and mentally exhausted and we are tortured.

Before this Council dealt with the Bill, many media and members of the public made predictions on the time required for the filibuster this year. Last year there were some 700 amendments. The President cut off the filibuster after 55 hours of filibustering and 16 days were wasted. That was more than 100 hours of precious meeting time. This year we have 1 192 amendments. The Chairman was more patient than last year and he allowed Members to filibuster for 63 hours before he cut off the filibuster.

The filibustering Members declared that they wanted to use their power to fight for measures beneficial to the grassroots. It was precisely because the Government did not agree with their proposals that they had to exhaust every means to prevent the Budget from being passed. These included the frequent requests for headcounts. And they also left the Chamber deliberately at the eighth second before the bell finished ringing. They used all sorts of means to cause an abortion of the meeting, so as to make the Council unable to function. However, their filibuster made the passage of the Budget impossible. It results in the Government having no money to spend and so civil servants and the staff of subvented organizations may not be able to get their salaries. It also caused a delay in the funding for many projects beneficial to the people's livelihood and the grassroots. These projects include the support given to non-Chinese-speaking students, the increase of the face value of the Elderly Healthcare Vouchers to \$2,000 as well as the introduction of an allowance for low-income working families, and so on. Just how can these achieve the aim of helping the grassroots, as claimed by these filibustering Members?

Although in Hong Kong, we do not have the situation which happened in the United States last year, that the budget could not be passed before the deadline and hence the government had to stop functioning for more than 10 days because of the lack of money, many public organizations in Hong Kong have learnt from the filibuster last year and made preparations for the worst. They have increased the short-term cash set aside to cope with the liquidity problem that arises from the filibuster. In the Legislative Council, for example, it is prepared to use its reserve. The Hospital Authority is forced to shorten the tenor of its fixed deposits in the banks, causing a reduction in its income. All the money involved is public money and this is also the money of the people. If the money cannot be used effectively, it is the people of Hong Kong who will lose in the end.

We can see that public opinion for the filibuster this time around was lukewarm. And many people rang into the phone-in programmes of radios and called on the Members to stop filibustering and wasting the time of this Council and also public money. But we can see a tendency of the filibuster spreading like a wildfire. The filibuster in the Public Works Subcommittee may lead to a delay in the redevelopment of the Queen Mary Hospital by one year. The Business and Professional Alliance for Hong Kong (BPA) denounces all of these irresponsible acts. Besides, the Government should have learnt from the experience of the filibuster last year and planned ahead and devised a plan to cope with the situation. It should have sent officials to forge a dialogue with all political parties and groupings. It should have done a good job of lobbying in the Council. And outside this Council, it should have gone into the masses and told the public clearly the disadvantages of a filibuster. It should not be doing what it is doing now, that is, standing aloof and passing the ball to the Legislative Council, considering the job done.

Chairman, like many people in Hong Kong, I care very much about Hong Kong's competitiveness. In the report on global competitiveness compiled by the Lausanne Institute of International Management, for the first time in 10 years Hong Kong is not placed in the top three positions. Our rival, Singapore, is one rank higher than us, in the third placed. If we look more carefully at the scores, we will find that our position in economic growth has risen from the 29th place last year to the 20th this year. Our employment situation has risen from the 19th position last year to the 11th this year. This means that our economic situation has improved. But our rankings in public governance framework, including those in government decision-making and risks in political stability have fallen sharply from the third place last year to the eighth this year. We can see that the conduct of certain Members has clearly caused this Council to be caught in a semi-paralysed condition. The administration by the Government is stifled and the overall efficiency in Hong Kong suffers.

The BPA thinks that what we need most now are specific and effective measures to ensure sustained economic prosperity. Only when this is done that policies and measures beneficial to people's livelihood can be introduced and there will be enough resources to meet the needs of people from all walks of life. In fact, the Financial Secretary has proposed in the Budget quite a number of measures on the economy and people's livelihood. The BPA considers them pragmatic and visionary, helpful to raising our competitiveness.

Chairman, in this Council I think we should ensure that the right of minority Members to speak can be protected, in order that the interests of people from different social classes are upheld. But we have also to ensure that the Council and the Government can function properly and that the services provided by the Government will not be affected. A balance has to be struck between the two. Parliamentary assemblies in various jurisdictions have different requirements for forming a quorum. In the United Kingdom, the House of Commons only requires a quorum formed by no less than 40 persons when voting is conducted, being only 6% of the total number Members of the Parliament. In Canada, in the House of Commons, a quorum is formed by 20 Members and it is about 6% of the total number. In Australia, a quorum is formed by 20% of the Members. In the United States, a quorum is formed by 50% of the Representatives and Senators in the House of Representatives and the Senate. However, once a meeting is started, it is assumed that a quorum is present and there will be no quorum calls. In France, the National Assembly only requires a quorum formed by 50% of the Members when votes are to be cast.

On the question of filibuster, different parliamentary assemblies have different ways of cloture. In the United Kingdom, the House of Commons permits the proposal of a motion to adjourn a debate and this motion requires the support of 100 Members only. Then the filibuster can be cut. The Speaker has the power to veto this kind of motion to protect the right of minority Members to speak. In the United States, the Senate does not impose any limit on the debate time but Senators are allowed to put down their signatures to support the moving of a motion to adjourn a motion debate. And when the support from two thirds of the Senators is obtained, a motion can be moved to limit the speaking time and the debate time. In France, subject to the agreement of the National Assembly, the Government can propose a motion to screen and combine a large number of motions into one motion and table the motion for voting in one go and no consideration will be given to whether any amendment is proposed. I believe the relevant committee in the Legislative Council should examine the Rules of Procedure and study the practices in other parliamentary assemblies and see whether this practice of requesting a large number of headcounts can be abolished or whether the percentage of Members required to form a quorum can be lowered.

We can envisage that in the days to come, there will be more controversies. I am sure certain Members of this Council will perform this filibuster trick in Council meetings and in other committees time and again. This Council must make the right adjustments before it can operate smoothly or at least, it will not

come to a state close to paralysis. We in the BPA are convinced that every Member of this Council who is truly committed to serving the citizens and Hong Kong will hope to do some solid work for Hong Kong, helping Hong Kong to develop better and sustainably, as well as to promote policies beneficial to the economy and people's livelihood. I do not think these can be achieved simply by engaging in filibustering or meaningless political arguments.

With these remarks, Chairman, I support the motion.

IR DR LO WAI-KWOK (in Cantonese): Chairman, I rise to speak today to state my support for passage of the Appropriation Bill 2014 (the Bill) as a whole. Certainly, I have to make it clear that my support for the Bill does not mean that the performance and efficiency of various Policy Bureaux and departments have been very satisfactory. Nor do I consider that the allocation of funds to various heads is very reasonable. On the contrary, I believe the amount of funding allocated to some heads warrants further discussion. For example, the theme of this year's Budget is competitiveness. It is essential to allocate resources to promoting the development of emerging industries.

The appropriation under head 155 involves new initiatives announced by the Financial Secretary to optimize the use of the Innovation and Technology Fund, including the establishment of the Enterprise Support Programme to replace the Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme in order to provide funding support for research and development (R&D) activities of companies in the private sector, irrespective of their sizes, with the funding ceiling for each project being raised from \$6 million to \$10 million. The scope of funding will be expanded to render stronger support to downstream R&D and commercialization activities. I believe these initiatives will be welcomed by the industry.

However, the actual initiatives launched by the SAR Government to promote technology fall short of the aspirations of the industry by a considerable margin. Let me cite another example. Hong Kong will enter a construction spree to cope with the supply of housing, the planning of new development areas and the implementation of railway and other infrastructure projects. In the light of all this, I have repeatedly urged the Government to properly conduct comprehensive planning for the long term, particularly with regard to the financial commitment and manpower supply which will be involved in various

development plans. Furthermore, the Government should ensure that civil servants of the professional grades are adequate, apart from the availability of suitable resources.

(THE CHAIRMAN'S DEPUTY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, took the Chair)

Head 62 involves the creation of 11 posts in the Housing Department (HD) responsible for co-ordinating and implementing housing-related infrastructure and community facilities under head 711 of the Capital Works Reserve Fund. Amongst these new posts, six of them belong to the professional grades and two belong to the technical grades. However, we should understand that any land infrastructure and housing supply projects involve not only the HD but also professional grades staff in various government departments such as the Planning Department, Civil Engineering and Development Department, Drainage Services Department, Water Supplies Department, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Transport Department and the Highways Department (HyD). In addition, the recent delay in the construction of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Hong Kong Section) shows that it is most imperative for the authorities to review expeditiously whether the HyD should strengthen its supervisory role and technical support over the MTR Corporation Limited. All of these illustrate that the Government should ensure that the aforesaid departments are adequately manned by professional staff, thereby maintaining the professional standards and the overall morale of the Civil Service. In the formulation of relevant estimates in the future, the Financial Secretary and various Directors of Bureaux should consider the objective and practical needs, including meeting the reasonable aspirations of the professional grades of the Civil Service for manpower increase, in a more cautious, detailed and sensible manner.

On the other hand, I must emphasize that although Honourable colleagues may hold different opinions on the appropriation to each head, yet they should raise and express their views in a fair, reasonable and legitimate manner. Some Honourable colleagues have proposed 1 100-odd amendments, most of which seek to almost reduce the expenditure estimates in their entirety for some Policy Bureaux and departments. This is contrary not only to their claim that they wish to urge the Government to improve the quality of services, but also leads to a situation where the relevant government services will come to a standstill.

As regards the filibuster staged by some Honourable colleagues during the examination of the Bill, a recent survey conducted by the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies of The Chinese University of Hong Kong reveals that it is unequivocally disapproved by the mainstream public opinion. Some Members kept saying that they filibustered because they wanted to fight for universal retirement protection for the people. However, 63.7% of the respondents of a survey expressed disagreement to this course of action. Also, some Members argued categorically that they filibustered for urging the Government to hand out \$10,000 to each Hong Kong citizen. However, as many as 68.5% of the respondents disapproved of it.

I believe the majority of the people are aware that important issues such as universal retirement protection are highly controversial. Extensive public consultation and discussion for the forging of social consensus are needed before actual implementation. How could this issue be bundled up with the annual Appropriation Bill and decided in haste?

Deputy Chairman, taking into account the specific situation in Hong Kong, I believe a proper and comprehensive retirement protection scheme does not hinge on handing out cash to each and every elder or all retirees across the board. Rather, it hinges on ensuring the sustainability and effectiveness of the complementary function among three pillars. The first pillar is the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System. It is expected that with the improvement and enhancement of MPF schemes and the increase in accrued benefits, this pillar will play an increasingly important role. The second pillar is the voluntary saving system, which allows and encourages individuals to make various saving, insurance and investment arrangements in a flexible manner according to their individual conditions and needs. The third pillar is the public assistance and security system which aims at providing a safety net outside the two aforesaid systems to elders in need in society. The SAR Government's responsibility is to promote and support the spirit of self-reliance on the one hand, and provide a safety net when necessary in Hong Kong as a caring society on the other.

Filibuster lacks any real meaning but creates many adverse consequences. The majority of Members in this Chamber have been held hostage *de facto* by the minority. It has disturbed not only the normal proceedings of the Legislative Council, but also obstructed the administration of the Government which will be on the verge of falling off a fiscal cliff. Appropriations for the Hospital Authority, the University Grants Committee, the Legislative Council, and so on,

will inevitably be suspended. More seriously, filibuster is staged at the expense of the well-being of society, economy and people's livelihood. For instance, the salaries payment for the 160 000-odd civil servants in Hong Kong may be suspended. As a result, public services cannot be maintained. Another example is the sum under head 170 which involves various social welfare measures such as Comprehensive Social Security Assistance, Old Age Living Allowance and Disability Allowance. The disbursement of these allowances may also be suspended. Such adverse consequences of filibustering may ultimately jeopardize the interests of the general public.

Deputy Chairman, filibustering, which is a new phenomenon in this Council in recent years, tends to escalate year on year. I and my colleagues in the BPA hold that Members in this Chamber, regardless of their political background, should review the Rules of Procedure together with a view to protecting Members' opportunity and right to express their views, and to ensure that this Council can operate in an effective, fair and proper manner in monitoring the Government. We should exert ourselves to strike a proper balance in this regard.

Deputy Chairman, I so submit.

MR IP KWOK-HIM (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, this year's Budget as a whole is pragmatic and basically able to strike a balance between the people's aspirations and the Government's financial capability. Therefore, the DAB will vote for it. In the Budget, financial commitment is made in respect of the 160-odd measures, including poverty alleviation, announced in the Policy Address by the Chief Executive in January. Although there are still inadequacies in the Budget, measures such as the Low-Income Working Family Subsidy, paying one month's rent for public housing tenants, and providing an extra allowance to "fruit grant" recipients and Disability Allowance recipients are relief measures. So, the DAB very much hopes that this Budget can be passed as soon as possible. But unfortunately, some radical Members from the League of Social Democrats and the People Power have staged a filibuster for the second consecutive year in the name of fighting for universal retirement protection, but with the ulterior purpose of exploiting the issue politically, and blocked the passage of the appropriation. They have acted and behaved like "rascals". For the sake of their personal desires, they have turned a blind eye to the interests of society and Hong Kong people. We must strongly condemn them.

Deputy Chairman, in this year's Budget, many paragraphs are devoted to the discussion on future government revenue and expenditure, in which it is pointed out that a structural deficit would surface in seven years' time the soonest. We certainly do not wish to see that, but given that there is such a possibility, the Government should be more prudent in introducing a universal retirement protection scheme. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, who has participated in the filibustering, suggested that if the Government agreed to introduce a universal retirement protection scheme by allocating \$50 billion for this purpose, they would stop filibustering. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung has deliberately simplified the issue of universal retirement protection in an attempt to mislead the public and confuse right and wrong. In fact, he intends to curry favour with voters and constantly manipulate populism. The idea of universal retirement protection really sounds attractive, but the problem "where the money comes from" must be resolved. Even if the Government can allocate \$50 billion as the starter fund, how can the problem of long-term financial commitment be addressed? If a universal retirement protection scheme can be set up by \$50 billion, I think the Government will immediately introduce it. I also hope that the Financial Secretary can hear it ... If the scheme can "really" be implemented, but the word "really" means that we need a specific programme which is affordable to society. In fact, the simplest question is: Who is going to make contributions to the scheme? This question is particularly important to our young people. We must make it very clear.

The fact that the Government will encounter a lot of difficulties in implementing a universal retirement protection scheme has become the excuse for Members to stage a filibuster. They blame the Government for being the enemy of the people and preferring to be a miser than returning wealth to the people. Just now, several Members from the opposition camp kept mentioning this idea. Pretending to be populists fighting for the people's interest, they hurled "hell banknotes" at the Financial Secretary to humiliate SAR Government officials. This solemn Chamber was turned into a stage for them to exploit the issue politically. They also staged a filibuster during the examination of the Budget with the intention of causing the Budget to fall through. In fact, all these were merely "putting up a show", telling people that they are fighting for their interest. However, they will ultimately achieve nothing and put the blame on the Government. In fact, this kind of political shows has been staged year after year. It is a rotten act. Even if you are not sick of it, the audience are bored to death.

To stimulate the viewership rate, the filibustering Members have proposed 1 192 amendments this year, representing an increase of almost 500 amendments compared with 710 amendments last year. The Legislative Council spent a total of 122 hours last year on the examination of last year's Budget which was passed on 21 May ultimately. I believe this year will certainly break the record of last year because, according to my estimation, we have spent 147 hours so far. I believe the Budget will be passed today. But the bottom line of ensuring it to be passed in May cannot be met. The operation of the Government will inevitably be impeded, the people's livelihood adversely affected and the public interest jeopardized. But just now, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Albert CHAN had the audacity to say that they filibustered for the interest of the people. On hearing those words, I wanted to throw up. Recently, at a meeting of the Panel on Security, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung had stolen from Mr LEUNG Che-cheung a document belonging to the DAB. He then said loudly in the Chamber said that he had picked it up on the ground. Lying with eyes wide open, he spoke loudly in a rude manner. I believe knowledgeable people in society will sigh at such a scene of moral degeneration. Radical Members who staged a filibuster in the Chamber, with the intent of killing the Budget, have eventually dealt a blow to the people.

Although the amount of "candies" has been reduced in this year's Budget, it is still proposed to grant an extra allowance to the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients, an extra allowance to Old Age Living Allowance recipients, and so on. The allocation of funding is now waiting for approval by the Finance Committee. However, a filibuster has also been staged in the Finance Committee. These applications for funding may not be approved by the end of the current Legislative Session. Furthermore, the battlefield of filibuster has even spread to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Establishment Subcommittee under the Finance Committee. In recent years, such malicious filibusters have become the norm in the Legislative Council and I very much hope that all Hong Kong people will remain alert and pay attention to such a phenomena, which should not be allowed to recur. We have seen that many major issues concerning the people's livelihood such as the Budget, extension of landfills, North East New Territories New Development Areas, the Old Age Living Allowance, and so on, are subjected to such unreasonable and meaningless filibustering. Even motions which have garnered broad consensus and support of the majority of Members and the public are unable to pass in this Council. Under such circumstance, the economy and society of Hong Kong and even the people's livelihood have been seriously affected.

The mainstream public opinion opposes filibustering. Many Members from the opposition camp had publicly said that they did not support filibuster. But they were saying one thing but doing quite another. On the one hand, they are against filibuster, but they support it on the sly. They disappeared when the Budget was being examined in the Legislative Council, thereby leading to aborted meetings on some occasions. It had also led to frequent requests for headcounts, wasting the precious time of this Council. However, when being criticized, they would argue that they did not need to attend the meeting since they did not support it. Such ridiculous remarks had encouraged and supported the filibustering. To ensure the passage of the Budget and for the overall interest of Hong Kong, Members from the pro-establishment camp were forced to stay in the Chamber to listen to the filibustering Members' unreasonable and boring speeches on amendments, apart from pressing the buttons one by one to veto the 1 000-odd meaningless amendments. According to my estimation, Members of the pro-establishment had to press the button to oppose such amendments for 999 times. Therefore, some of them succumbed to the Stockholm Syndrome. I would like to remind Members not to press the red button involuntarily after entering a lift because it would be very dangerous to do so. I believe the pro-establishment Members will take some time to get healed from such sequelae. For Members who have staged a filibuster at the expense of the people's well-being, they certainly should be condemned. However, Members of the opposition camp who have been conniving at the filibustering or deliberately absent from the meetings should also be reprimanded for they do not have any sense of responsibility to the public.

With these remarks, I support the Appropriation Bill 2014.

MR CHAN HAN-PAN (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I think President Jasper TSANG is having his meal now, so I hope my following remarks will not spoil his appetite.

I mainly wish to tell President Jasper TSANG that, "Being lenient to troublemakers is being impolite to the righteous." During the debate on the question of those heads to which amendments had been proposed standing part of the Schedule, I expressed my dissatisfaction with those Members engaging in filibuster. I also said that the Chairman, though criticizing Members for their frequent entry into and exit from the Chamber, had turned a blind eye to the long-standing presence of a very small number of Members from the pan-democratic camp when votes were taken, thus entailing the repeated ringing of the summon bell. As a result, I had to put on earplugs to block the noise of the ringing bell.

As Members, we have to exert our best in performing our duties. Yet, they are also Members, are they not obliged to fulfil their responsibilities? The Chairman should, for fairness' sake, urge all Members to return to the Chamber. I have to thank those Members who have stood fast in their position and criticize those Members who have not attended the meeting. However, President Jasper TSANG has only criticized Members going into and out of the Chamber. I consider this somehow unfair.

Filibuster is loathed by many, yet the President has stated in public that those Members were justified to do so and he considered they were well prepared. Nonetheless, I hope the President has not forgotten what he said in his announcement to cut off the filibuster. He said at the time that some Members had digressed from the question for 147 times or even over 150 times when they spoke. Had they been well prepared, why would the President said they had digressed from the question when they spoke? The President's praises of these Members are indeed condoning the abusers.

According to certain surveys, the majority public detest filibustering. Filibuster was carried out the year before, last year and this year, and this will probably continue next year. They are abusing the Rules of Procedure. The justifications they put forth are inconceivable. Let me repeat them. They said if the Government should introduce a universal retirement protection scheme, they would stop the filibuster, and if the Government offered \$10,000 a cash handout of \$10,000 each to all the people of Hong Kong, they would stop the filibuster. Should the public apply this logic of theirs to say to staff of banks that, "if you give me money, I will not rob the bank"? The logic is really ridiculous. I can hardly tolerate it. I trust Members all know that Prof Nelson CHOW and the Government are now working on universal retirement protection. In that case, why do they have to paralyse the entire legislature by filibustering?

They have resorted to all kinds of sophistry and I sense that the President indeed recognizes that. He, like us, dislikes this practice of filibustering. My criticism is not directed at President Jasper TSANG, but a mere sentimental remark made in response to the "year-after-year and never-ending filibuster". If any of my remarks made just now has offended the President, I tender my apologies in advance. He is still the President I respect most.

Let me come back to the Budget. The Budget makes financial provision for the Policy Address to enable the implementation of various initiatives in administration. Therefore, if I have different opinions about individual items, I will strive for that through other channels and will not oppose the Budget as a whole. Why did I say I have different opinions about individual items? Members may check through the Policy Address. The most encouraging point I find in the Policy Address this year is that the Government eventually agrees to building a Chinese medicine hospital and it has already identified a suitable site. In this connection, many Chinese medicine practitioners and I feel extremely happy. However, the Budget has not mentioned a word about this proposal, nor has it mentioned earmarking funds for that purpose. What has happened?

After repeated checking and follow-up, I got a very disappointing answer. The Government says that the Chinese medicine hospital will operate on a self-financing mode, where the non-government organization (NGO) will raise funds for its operation. If the hospital has to cope with teaching, provide assistance to the sick and make money, what kind of hospital will it be? I think the fees charged by the hospital will be astronomical, and the hospital will become a privileged hospital to the rich. The positioning of such a hospital will be ambiguous, being neither fish nor fowl.

This year is the 15th anniversary of the implementation of the Chinese Medicine Ordinance. During the period, the Chinese medicine sector has successfully striven for their professional qualification and gradually earned the acceptance and trust of the public in general. However, the Government has imposed various hurdles for Chinese medicine practitioners and the Chinese medicine sector. Fifteen years passed by quickly. How many decades can one have? Members should look at the young people who have been attracted by the vision of the Chinese medicine port to study Chinese medicine and those who have supported the grandiose Chinese medicine development plan. They are still earning a meagre income, and they are still working in Chinese medicine clinics run by non-government organizations to earn a salary less than adequate to feed the family.

In the face of the Government which is willing to set up a Chinese medicine hospital but unwilling to provide provision to support such a hospital, and in the face of government departments intent on promoting Chinese medicine development but unwilling to take a step forward, I will continue to work on it.

I also hope that friends in the Chinese medicine sector will unite together in braving the difficulties and work hard to melt the frozen policy, so that all people will attach importance to the Chinese medicine sector.

Deputy Chairman, I have made my speech brief for I do not want to keep Members in the Chamber continuously.

I so submit.

MR TONY TSE (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, I support clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Appropriation Bill 2014 (the Bill), and I will also support the Third Reading of the Bill later on.

Rightly as the Financial Secretary stated in the Budget, the economic achievements made by Hong Kong over the years should be credited not only to our capitalizing on the opportunities arising from the development of our country, but also to our persistence in upholding the principle of free market to a large measure. As for the success of market economy, it relies on the fine tradition of the rule of law and an efficient public sector.

Concerning the Bill, the Legislative Council has spent over 10 days to examine close to 1 200 amendments proposed by a number of Members, and a majority of the amendments are impractical. A few Members have put forth a large number of amendments in an attempt to prevent the passage of the Bill. Their filibuster has in actuality caused serious delay to the implementation and introduction of many measures involving society, people's livelihood and the economy, and these measures would be benefiting the public direct. Such action will not be conducive to maintaining the efficient operation of the public sector, and will jeopardize the socio-economic development of Hong Kong. I believe this is not the scenario we, including Members initiating the filibuster, would wish to see.

Though I noticed during the examination of the Bill that some of the content of individual amendments involves areas worthy of review and examination by the Government, I think it is terribly wrong to use filibuster as a tactic to press the Government to give weight to the measures proposed by them, for it is not practical and realistic.

As for the efficiency of the public sector, I notice that the Government has introduced many major development projects in recent years, which will take at least 10 years or even more to implement. The time required for implementation is usually a few times longer than that required in the past. Certainly, the problem involves a lot of factors, and such may include manpower shortage and ambiguity in responsibility among departments. I think these factors warrant consideration. Nowadays, the time taken for vetting and approval is long. Many architects in the trade say that a simple development project which could be completed in three to four years in the past will now take at least five to seven years. The additional time required is not caused by engineering problems but mainly the complicated procedures and extended lead time required for vetting and approval by the Government. As a result, the number of cases pending approval will accumulate, and the problem of shortage of manpower will naturally arise.

Another problem is the ambiguity in responsibility division among various departments. Take the recent incident of delay of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (ERL) works as an example. I believe it may be the case described by the Director of Highways, that is, due to manpower shortage in the department and the ambiguity in responsibility division, his performance in monitoring the ERL project is affected. For this reason, apart from the plan to provide additional manpower this year, I think the Government should also review the division of responsibilities among departments.

Deputy Chairman, for the purpose of building an ideal and a livable city, the Government has now committed up to \$340 billion to infrastructure projects, and it is expected to continue to invest in various mega projects in future, such as the development of the new runway at the airport, the development of new areas and the construction of artificial islands, and so on. In this connection, I will give my full support to all projects that will be conducive to the overall development of Hong Kong and will benefit the next generation. However, I also hope that in considering the development of these major projects, such as the recent proposal of the Government on constructing artificial islands in the central waters, the Government will first formulate clear integrated development objectives and strategies for these development projects, including the positioning of these development projects in local or district economy and the expected social and economic benefits to be brought, and so on. After that, the Government should formulate the overall development plan based on these objectives. I

believe this practice will be greatly conducive to the implementation of the development project as a whole. I hope the Government will consider this thoroughly.

Deputy Chairman, innovation and technology have already become the industry for focused development in many countries and regions. In 2009, the former Premier of the State, WEN Jiabao, made a speech on the title of "Let science and technology lead China for sustainable development" to make the development of innovation and technology an important strategic investment, with a view to turning the newly developed strategic industries into the impetus leading socio-economic development. Five years ago, our Motherland already assigned innovation and technology as one of the State strategies. Today, five years down the line, at what pace is Hong Kong progressing? In this connection, Hong Kong really needs to work harder.

In April this year, the Government officially proposed the setting up of the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB). Some people queried the Government for lacking justifications for the proposal, some criticized the ambiguous division of responsibilities and duties for the new bureau and some Members even stated openly that they would prevent the setting up of the ITB by filibustering. Nonetheless, I will still support the early implementation of the proposal. Certainly, it is imperative for the Government to clearly define the responsibilities and duties of the ITB and formulate specific objectives. I support the proposal for many people and I believe that innovation and technology have a significant bearing on the development of various industries, it also being one of the "engines" propelling Hong Kong economy on another takeoff. This will be conducive to enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness and maintaining sustained economic growth, thereby ensuring the sustainability of public finance.

Deputy Chairman, for most research and development (R&D) projects, a lot of resources are needed to attain success. However, the existing support provided by the Government to universities and the business and industrial sector is inadequate. According to the information of the Census and Statistics Department, during the five years between 2008 and 2012, the gross domestic expenditure on R&D recorded an increase of 21%, which is close to \$14.9 billion. However, the R&D expenditure contributed to less than 1% of the GDP, and it has remained at this low level all along. And in this percentage, the R&D

expenditure of business and industrial organizations accounted for less than 45% of the total expenditure. In comparison, some of the countries neighbouring Hong Kong have been more proactive in promoting R&D. Among them, the R&D expenditure of Singapore, Japan and Korea contributed respectively 2.14%, 3.78% and 3.47% to their GDP in 2012. It is evident that Hong Kong has been lagging behind in promoting R&D. I believe this will affect the competitiveness of Hong Kong.

As I said earlier, R&D requires a lot of resource. I thus propose that the Government should enhance its support to universities in promoting commoditization of R&D results, and even provide one-stop support for R&D, result commoditization and marketing. Moreover, the Government should consider introducing a subsidy scheme for technology transfer to enterprises which have no direct participation in the co-operation with other R&D organizations, or even providing direct taxation incentives to encourage and support these enterprises in turning R&D results into products with market potential, thereby benefiting more small and medium enterprises.

Deputy Chairman, diversified industrial development is extremely important to the promotion of Hong Kong economy and upgrading of competitiveness. However, has the Government formulated comprehensive development strategies for different industries? Take the agricultural industry as an example. In recent years, many people have criticized the Government for the lack of a comprehensive agricultural strategy. Some people query whether the Government has formulated an overall development strategy and objectives for the fisheries and agricultural sector as a whole, including the development of the relevant industries. At present, I do not see any specific objectives laid down by the Government in terms of the demand for manpower, land and aquaculture, as well as the annual production targets for various agricultural and fishery products. However, all these are important factors directly affecting the development of the agricultural and fishery industries.

Moreover, the development of the agricultural and fisheries industries involves not only one Policy Bureau. According to the existing structure of the Government, the Food and Environmental Bureau is responsible for formulating agricultural and fisheries policy, yet issues concerning agricultural land may be under the purview of the Development Bureau. Therefore, in the formulation of suitable agriculture and fisheries development policies and objectives for the

development of the agriculture and fisheries sector, the Government needs to not only ensure matching finance and manpower support but also the co-operation of the relevant Policy Bureaux. I hope the Government will pay more attention to this.

The key to ensuring the sustainability of public finance lies in maintaining continuous economic growth. The economic achievements made by Hong Kong over the years are founded on our persistence in upholding the principle of free market. Deputy Chairman, I notice that a number of policies introduced by the current-term Government have adopted the "Hong Kong people first" approach, including the "zero quota" policy, the export control on powdered formula, the "double curbs measures" for the property market and the policy on "Hong Kong property for Hong Kong people". One of the government policies is implementing the "double curbs measures". The heavy duty levied on property transactions has deterred many overseas investors and affected the economic development of Hong Kong in some measure.

According to the World Competitiveness Yearbook recently published, the ranking of Hong Kong's competitiveness has dropped further and its performance is the worst in the past 10 years. How will the Government strike a balance between upgrading the competitiveness of Hong Kong and upholding the concept of "Hong Kong people first"? Is the holding back of the policy on "Hong Kong property for Hong Kong people" a result of balancing the two concerns? The attitude of the Government will directly affect the economy of Hong Kong, thus I hope the Financial Secretary or the Secretary will respond to this later.

Deputy Chairman, the further delay of the passage of the Bill caused by the filibuster has prevented the early implementation of certain measures closely related to the people's livelihood, impeding the public from benefiting from these measures as soon as possible. I have to express my regret. I hope Members initiating the filibuster will seriously review whether filibuster is the best approach, whether it can achieve the objectives they intend to strive for and who will suffer most from this. The price of filibuster is obviously shared by society as a whole.

Deputy Chairman, I so submit.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

MR TAM YIU-CHUNG (in Cantonese): Deputy Chairman, we have undergone more than 127 hours of filibustering and now we have finally come to the end of the tunnel. I hope that later on we can proceed smoothly to the Third Reading of the Budget.

This is the second time when a filibuster was staged by making use of the opportunity of this Council examining the Budget. Members who started this filibuster said that they would do the same thing every year. There were three Members who were fully committed to filibustering and two other Members rendered their assistance in the course. Other Members from the pan-democratic camp were holding an attitude of condoning the act or co-operating. A phenomenon during the filibuster was the constant ringing of bells. Because the filibustering Members had to take rests and besides, they did not have that much to say, and so they could only resort to requesting headcounts and causing delays.

Members from the pro-establishment camp could not withstand this bombardment of their ears and the brain, so they left in protest one after another. In the pan-democratic camp, there were often just two or three Members in attendance and the rest just disappeared *en masse*. What kind of effects does filibustering produce? First, I think the President was severely tortured. Despite the fact that earlier on Mr CHAN Han-pan said something against the President, in fact, the President was the one who suffered the most. In the end, it was likely that he had contracted the Stockholm Syndrome that he became empathetic towards the three perpetrators of the filibuster. He asked all the Members whether or not they were suffering from this syndrome. But it was likely that he himself was suffering from it. Maybe he could seek the advice of Dr KO to see if he has developed such a condition.

Apart from the President who was severely tortured, Honourable colleagues and the staff of the Secretariat, as well as the group of civil servants called by the media as the paparazzi, have wasted much of their energy during the past 10 days or so and more than 10 hours a day and more than 100 hours in total on the countless crap remarks and ringings of the bell.

Recently, the President said in an interview by the media that the three filibustering Members were very professional. It is true to say that after so many filibusters, these Members have become most professional. But when these Members are getting more professional in filibustering, it is the people of Hong Kong who are suffering increasingly. The filibuster did torture not only the Members of this Council. Those Members from the pan-democratic camp — though they did not admit in their speeches today that they have wasted tens of million dollars of public money, they cannot deny that the filibuster has wasted more than 100 hours of the precious time of this Council. This had created a great congestion in the agenda items and prevented meetings in other Bills Committees and panels from being held. Or an arrangement has to be made for a number of meetings to be held concurrently. There was a time when four meetings were held at the same time. This caused great inconvenience to Members as they had to rush to attend the meetings. A more important point is that since the duty of Members is to monitor the Government, in such circumstances, the Members had had fewer chances of asking the Government questions. This is because the oral question time for each Wednesday and the motion debates were forced to give way.

When Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung spoke for the last time in the joint debate on the last occasion, he admitted that the filibuster was a failure. He said that he felt sorry for the elderly persons and the poor people. He said he was fighting for the interest of the poor and the elderly. But according to my experience in the districts and from my direct contact with the local residents and the elderly, most of them condemned the filibustering Members. He may choose not to believe in my experience in having contact with the people. But a survey done by The Chinese University of Hong Kong shows that more than 60% of the interviewees are against filibustering. As for engaging in filibustering to strive for universal retirement protection or a \$10,000 handout to each citizen, the opposition rates are as high as 63.7% and 68.5% respectively. I believe there are many elderly persons among such opponents. A press commentary said that Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung is at the end of his wits and he can only repeat two tricks, namely, hurling objects and filibustering. I think people have grown tired of seeing all of these.

The trend of filibustering has spread from the Council meetings to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee. There are tens of funding applications piled up and they cannot be handled. Now a situation of filibustering of various degrees is found in this Council. There is public opinion

that the Rules of Procedure (RoP) should be amended to ensure the effective operation of this Council. And many views and solutions have been put forward. One such view is that Article 74 of the Basic Law provides that amendments from Members are not allowed. If this interpretation is correct, then we will have no problems anymore. There is also the view that the RoP should permit the President to exercise his power to disallow substantially amendments which are trivial, frivolous and meaningless. There is also the view that a limit should be imposed on the speaking time of the Members. Each Member may speak more than once, but not a countless number of times.

I am very grateful to those people from all quarters of society who put forward the above views on amendments to the RoP. As the Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, I am especially dismayed to see such a situation in the Council presently. Some people have questioned why we cannot cope with three Members or so when there are so many Members on our side. Have you ever heard the analogy that a dropping of a cockroach can spoil a cauldron of congee? The RoP is only meant to restrain those who are willing to be put under restraint. But if people want to exploit the loopholes in the RoP, it is not so difficult for them to do so. Article 75 of the Basic Law provides that the Legislative Council shall formulate its own RoP, provided that it will not contravene the Basic Law. The formulation and amendment of the RoP can be effected by way of Members' motions and subject to separate voting. They must be passed in the functional constituencies and the geographical constituencies before they can come into force. It is never easy to achieve that. During the debate earlier, I heard Mr SIN Chung-kai who spoke on behalf of the Democratic Party say that we should consider how the RoP could be amended. I hope Members from the pan-democratic camp can think seriously about it. For if this situation continues, the citizens and Hong Kong will suffer. The image of the Legislative Council will be tarnished and it will degenerate into a venue for rubbish shows.

It is very difficult to amend the RoP. I think the Government should also think about this question: Is this procedure of passing the Budget a bit outdated? What kind of adjustments should be made? At the end of February, the new Budget was presented and the response we heard was quite favourable. But tonight I can hear that every Member is opposing it. This applies to Members from the pan-democratic camp. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan even said that the Financial Secretary only knows how to make intimidation. Honestly, what will happen if

all the Members from the pro-establishment camp vote against the Budget at Third Reading like Mr LEE Cheuk-yan? The Government will have no money to spend and there will be no welfare benefits and no salaries can be paid. The Government will come to a standstill and it will be paralysed. Why did he say that the Financial Secretary only knows how to make intimidation? All of them have left and they will not vote. Are there really no problems with that? He says it is okay to vote against it because they know Members from the pro-establishment camp are there. Provided that we are here, we will never do this kind of irresponsible acts. I think Members from the functional constituencies should be given the credit for this. Stability in our society is closely related to these Members from the functional constituencies. Without their support for the Budget, I think the Government will be paralysed and a heavy blow will be dealt to our society.

I have just talked about the question of whether the Government should review the whole procedure of passing a budget. Now some measures are put in place, but they are not that meaningful. When the Government introduces the Budget to this Council, we will conjure up thousands of questions. We spend days on them and we use a lot of manpower to do the task. After this busy time, the Government will hold question and answer sessions for seven days in a row to answer questions directed at various departments. But these measures cannot solve the problems. In the end, all the questions are left to the Council. And the number of Members who attend these question and answer sessions is getting smaller and smaller. Therefore, I think the Government should conduct a review of the procedures of passing a budget. This is because society has changed and many people in the Council do not act according to the rules set by the Government in the past. I hope that apart from finding some sort of breakthrough in the RoP, the procedures of passing a budget should be reviewed afresh.

Deputy Chairman, the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong wishes to express its support for clauses 1 and 2 standing part of the Appropriation Bill 2014 and the Third Reading of the Budget.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Financial Secretary, do you wish to speak?

(The Financial Secretary shook his head to indicate that he did not wish to speak)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for one minute.

(While the division bell was ringing, THE CHAIRMAN resumed the Chair)

(The division bell had been rung for one minute, but a quorum was not present)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(After the summoning bell had been rung, a number of Members returned to the Chamber)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Dr Kenneth CHAN voted against the motion.

Prof Joseph LEE abstained.

THE CHAIRMAN, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that there were 38 Members present, 33 were in favour of the motion, three against it and one abstained. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Council now resumes.

Council then resumed.

Third Reading of Bills

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Bill: Third Reading.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2014

FINANCIAL SECRETARY (in Cantonese): President, the

Appropriation Bill 2014

has passed through Committee without amendment. I move that this Bill be read the Third time and do pass.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the Appropriation Bill 2014 be read the Third time and do pass.

In accordance with Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure, this question shall be voted on without amendment or debate.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you as stated. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for five minutes.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Dr LAU Wong-fat, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Dr LAM Tai-fai, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr James TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr Martin LIAO, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Ms Claudia MO, Mr Gary FAN and Dr Kenneth CHAN voted against the motion.

Prof Joseph LEE abstained.

THE PRESIDENT, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE PRESIDENT announced that there were 41 Members present, 36 were in favour of the motion, three against it and one abstained. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CLERK (in Cantonese): Appropriation Bill 2014.

Resumption of Second Reading Debate on Bills

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): We now resume the Second Reading debate on the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014.

DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014**Resumption of debate on Second Reading which was moved on 19 March 2014**

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Prof Joseph LEE, Chairman of the Bills Committee on the above Bill, will address the Council on the Committee's Report.

PROF JOSEPH LEE (in Cantonese): President, in my capacity as Chairman of the Bills Committee on Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014 (the Bills Committee), I submit the report of the Bills Committee to this Council and report on the key areas of work of the Bills Committee.

The Bill mainly seeks to amend Part II of Schedule 1 to the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109) to increase the rates of duty on various types of tobacco by about 11.7%. The Bills Committee has held one meeting with the Administration to discuss the Bill. Members of the Bills Committee generally support the Bill to increase the rates of tobacco duty as a measure to protect public health.

In the course of deliberation, members of the Bills Committee have discussed the Government's justifications for the proposed tobacco duty increase. The Bills Committee has examined whether the proposed increase in the rates of tobacco duty is effective in encouraging the public to reduce smoking. A member considers it indeed questionable as to whether a further increase in tobacco duty is effective in encouraging smokers to give up smoking given that the provision of public education and publicity on smoking prevention and cessation is already sufficient and the smoking prevalence in Hong Kong is already low. A member considers that the duty increase will only end up affecting the livelihood of newspaper hawkers and the grassroots. On the other hand, a member considers that the current tobacco duty increase is small and may not have sufficient deterrence.

The Administration has explained that the tobacco duty increase is a measure to protect public health rather than raising revenue. It conveys to the public the message that smoking is hazardous to health. Relevant research has indicated that a 10% increase in the retail price of cigarettes may lead to a drop of 4% in tobacco consumption in high-income countries. Apart from tobacco duty

increase, the Administration has taken a multi-pronged approach over the years in combating smoking. The Administration considers that while the current tobacco increase is relatively modest, it will be conducive to promoting smoking cessation.

Some members have expressed concern about the current state of illicit cigarette activities and that the increase in tobacco duty will make these activities become more rampant. The Bills Committee has examined ways to address the problem and made suggestions to combat the problem, including whether the Customs and Excise Department should increase the manpower for combating illicit cigarettes, and measures for tackling sale of illicit cigarettes through telephone ordering as well as improving intelligence collection against illicit cigarettes.

During deliberations, members took the opportunity to examine the enforcement against smoking offences in statutory no smoking areas, including how the Tobacco Control Office (TCO) will enhance public awareness of the indoor smoking ban and the ways to improve the effectiveness of enforcement by the TCO on various premises.

The Bills Committee has studied the proportions of female and juvenile smokers and the prevalence of smoking among them in recent years. Many members have expressed concern about the rising trend in the number of female and juvenile smokers in recent years. The Bills Committee has also studied the various measures adopted by the Administration to combat the problem, including education, publicity work, and relevant collaborations with non-governmental organizations. Moreover, the Bills Committee has discussed the adequacy of the resources provided by the Administration for smoking prevention and cessation services.

The Bills Committee will not propose any Committee stage amendments to the Bill and supports the resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bill.

Thank you, President.

MR TOMMY CHEUNG (in Cantonese): President, as I said in my last speech on the Budget, this further increase of 11.72% in tobacco duty proposed by the Government is, in my view, regrettable. If it is said that the authorities raise the tobacco duty with the aim of reducing the smoking population, that is actually

self-deceptive and illusive. After the hefty increase of 41.5% in tobacco duty in 2011, the percentage of smokers only slightly dropped 0.4% from 11.1% to 10.7% during the period from 2010 to 2012. The result was far from satisfactory. With a comparatively lower rate of increase being proposed now, I do not see how further the smoking population can be reduced as a result.

In fact, smokers account for only less than 11% of the population in Hong Kong. Other than Bhutan where smoking is banned, there is unlikely another place where the proportion of smokers is lower than ours. But Members must not think that Hong Kong has a low percentage of smokers because of the high tobacco duty. In fact, it is only because Hong Kong people pay increasingly greater attention to their health.

For this smoking population of less than 11% that remains in Hong Kong, they are the so-called "die-hard smokers" who have smoked for years. They know better than we do the hazards of smoking. They do not have to wait till today to quit smoking, for they would have quitted it long ago had they wanted to, and if they do not want to quit smoking, they will not quit it however much the tobacco duty is raised. Therefore, I do not see what positive effects can be brought forth by a further increase in tobacco duty. On the contrary, this will adversely affect the grass-roots smokers and vendors who rely on cigarette sales to make ends meet. There are several hundred thousand grass-roots smokers, 400-odd newspaper hawkers and about 5 000 retailers, and these people will suffer the greatest loss.

President, the more well-off smokers like me certainly will not be much affected by an increase in tobacco duty but the case of grass-roots smokers is different. Faced with an inflationary environment in recent years, they already have to bear great pressure in living, and it is actually quite difficult for them to cope with a \$4 increase for each pack of cigarettes. I always say that the Government might as well impose a smoking ban direct, instead of invariably taking the moral high ground, oblivious to the plights of the people. Of course, the Secretary is not a smoker but for those grass-roots smokers who rely on smoking as a means to ease their pressure and lift their spirits over the years, what should they do?

Moreover, when smokers are made to pay more for cigarettes, this will definitely induce many more smokers to turn to illicit cigarettes, meaning that many more people may run the risk of buying counterfeit cigarettes which will

pose great hazards to their health. We must bear in mind that whenever the tobacco duty is raised, the number of cases involving the smuggling of cigarettes will increase. In February 2009, the tobacco duty was adjusted upward by 50% and for that year, the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) cracked some 8 400 illicit cigarette cases involving the smuggling, storage, distribution and peddling of cigarettes as well as incoming persons bringing in excessive duty-free cigarettes, representing an increase of about 70% over the previous year. In 2011, the tobacco duty was further raised by 41.5% and the C&ED cracked a total of some 9 100 illicit cigarette cases for the whole year, showing an increase of 44% over the previous year.

In a report published by the Oxford Economics, it is even pointed out that in 2012, as many as 35.9% of the cigarettes consumed in Hong Kong were illicit cigarettes and the market share of illicit cigarettes in Hong Kong was the second highest in 11 Asian countries and regions. The authorities questioned the findings of the report and argued that the enforcement actions were proven effective as the numbers of complaints about peddling activities and sale of illicit cigarettes dropped 10% and 40% respectively in 2013, but from another angle I can say that the number of complaints dropped because people engaging in illicit cigarette activities are more cautious and have made their plans more carefully than before, thus making it difficult for information to be leaked. On the contrary, according to the figures provided by the authorities on the illicit cigarettes seized, the number has increased from 67 million sticks in 2012 to 79 million sticks in 2013, representing an increase of 18%. This has precisely shown that the illicit cigarette market is ever growing, thus resulting in an increase in the number of cigarettes seized by the authorities.

As we all know, traffickers in illicit cigarettes in Hong Kong resort to the "ants-moving" human wave tactic by making contact with frequent customers through telephone or the Internet to introduce and expand their activities and it is, therefore, easy for them to pervade to every corner of the market. Relying solely on a team of C&ED officers to combat illicit cigarettes is like fighting a hopeless battle. Furthermore, as the peddling of illicit cigarettes becomes rampant, more people and worse still, more young people will surely be lured to take part in these criminal activities. At the meeting of the Bills Committee I already gave an advice to the authorities that as the tobacco duty increase is not meant to raise revenue since the Government is already very rich, it had better use the additional revenue thus generated to increase the informer's fees by 10 times and the result will definitely be more effective than a tobacco duty increase.

I have this piece of advice for the authorities. Instead of levying a heavy duty, it had better step up education and publicity, particularly targeting smoking among the youth. Although the smoking prevalence among secondary students has been dropping continuously, the percentage of smokers among primary students has slightly increased from 0.2% in the 2010-2011 school year to 0.3% in the 2012-2013 school year, and this does warrant concern. Although the figure still seems to be low, it represents a 50% increase if we look at it from another angle. To prevent problems from occurring and to ensure that criminals do not have the chance to lay hands on innocent primary students, the authorities should co-operate more with primary schools to impart to students knowledge on the hazards of smoking as early as possible.

President, I so submit.

MISS ALICE MAK (in Cantonese): President, according to the World Health Organization Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2011, smoking kills nearly 6 million people worldwide each year, and it is estimated that if the current trend continues, by 2030 tobacco will kill more than 8 million people worldwide each year. The hazards of smoking are known to all, and smoking may cause health problems including cerebral stroke, coronary heart disease, lung cancer, emphysema, blockage of blood vessels, and so on. Smoking will harm not only to the smokers themselves as second-hand smoke will also harm the innocent non-smokers around them. In less serious cases, passive smoking can cause sore throat, eye irritation and cough, whereas in more serious cases, long-term exposure to chemicals may cause fatal diseases such as cancer, heart attack, and so on.

The Government has twice increased the tobacco duty over the last five years, raising the duty rates by 50% in 2009 and 41.5% in 2011. This time around, the tobacco duty is proposed to increase by only 11.72%, or \$0.2 per stick, which is relatively modest. From the experience of the 41.5% duty increase in 2011, this measure was very effective as the number of smokers dropped significantly. Take the proportion of people who have a habit of smoking daily as an example. Their percentage dropped from 11.1% in 2010 to 10.7% in 2012, and many smokers said that they bought less cigarettes or quit smoking because of higher cigarette prices. Moreover, the World Health Organization has suggested that the tobacco duty should account for at least 70% of the retail price of tobacco products. After this proposed increase is brought into effect, the duty rates will then be raised to reach just this level.

In fact, the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health proposed just before the release of the Budget for the new year that the Government should substantially increase the tobacco duty by 100% in order to further reduce the number of smokers, but the Government eventually proposed an increase of 11.72% only. Therefore, we consider that the increase is relatively modest and can be supported. Having said that, I must point out that the duty increase should not be the only means of the Government to take forward the tobacco control work. We support the proposed increase in the duty rate because the increase is relatively modest. But if the Government uses the increase in tobacco duty as the only means to promote its tobacco control work, thus causing the tobacco duty rates to increase continuously, the ultimate victim would only be those people engaging in the relevant trades.

Besides, despite the drop in the overall smoking population, the numbers of smokers in individual groups have nevertheless increased. According to the Thematic Household Survey Report No. 53 of the Census and Statistics Department, the results of a survey conducted from September to November 2012 showed that 3.1% of female smokers were daily cigarette smokers, showing a slight increase of 0.1% compared to 3% based on a survey conducted from October to December 2010; and the rate of increase was particularly significant in the age groups from 30 to 39 and from 40 to 49. According to surveys conducted during the corresponding periods, the percentage of smokers who started smoking cigarette weekly at the age of 10 or below has increased from 1.1% to 1.2%, showing a trend of people starting smoking at a young age. The School of Public Health of the University of Hong Kong was commissioned by the Food and Health Bureau to conduct a survey among primary and secondary students from October 2012 to April 2013. Results showed that the percentage of smokers among Primary Four to Primary Six students increased from 0.2% in 2012 to 0.3% in 2013.

The Under Secretary, before she joined the Government, was responsible for conducting many studies on smoking and anti-smoking efforts in Hong Kong. I think she will understand that among various groups of smokers, there is a rising number of smokers among primary students and females. To achieve effective tobacco control, the Government cannot rely solely on an increase in the tobacco duty because the surveys have clearly shown that an increase in tobacco duty is not helpful to curbing the increase in the number of these two groups of smokers. The question that we would like to ask is: Is it that the Government has kept on increasing the tobacco duty only with the objective of reducing the overall smoking prevalence and therefore has not done anything to target specific groups of smokers?

We hope that the authorities will step up enforcement and formulate measures targeting various groups. In particular, illicit cigarettes are a major problem which has remained unresolved over the years. Last year, a tobacco company sponsored an institution to carry out a study on illicit cigarettes in 11 Asian regions, and it was found that in 2012, 35.9% of the cigarettes in Hong Kong were duty-not-paid cigarettes, the second highest after Brunei in Asia. Members of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions (FTU) have also complained to us that the Government's enforcement has been ineffective and rampant illicit cigarette activities have aggravated their difficult employment situation. Under the FTU there is a tobacco trade workers general union and they understand very well how the trade workers are affected by the scourges of illicit cigarettes.

Illicit cigarettes activities are now operated by syndicates and as the relevant penalty is low, the criminals actually have less to worry about in committing this offence. It is now very easy for people to buy illicit cigarettes and as we mentioned at meetings before, an order can be placed simply by making a phone call or through a WhatsApp group and the illicit cigarettes will be delivered at one's doorstep. There are a wide variety of ways to place orders and it is not difficult at all to buy illicit cigarettes. Worse still, as I said before, some primary students even take cigarettes as snacks and they will smoke with their classmates after school, enjoying the "Happy Hour" together. The Government seems to have turned a blind eye to the problem and failed to vigorously address the problem. Apart from the Customs and Excise Department stepping up enforcement actions against illicit cigarettes, are there actually other ways to mitigate the problem? For instance, heavier penalties can be imposed, the informer's fees can be increased, or efforts can be stepped up to educate the public not to buy illicit cigarettes, and so on. All these are measures that the Government can consider.

Furthermore, I have to particularly talk about the enforcement work of the Tobacco Control Office (TCO). In Hong Kong, the existing tobacco control legislation includes the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance and the Fixed Penalty (Smoking Offences) Ordinance. Since these two Ordinances came into effect in 2007 and 2009 respectively, great improvement has been made in respect of indoor smoking but there are still a lot of loopholes in law enforcement. As a result, many people can still smoke indoor openly. For example, in some restaurants and bars, while the owners often see their customers smoke, they dare

not intervene and turn a blind eye to these customers for business' sake. Recently, some shops, such as restaurants, have deliberately set aside space in their shop layout and moved the main door inward by a few feet to make room for customers to sit in that area smoking.

Another example is smoking in offices and workplaces. From what we have seen based on our actual experience, the Government's tobacco control work has no efficiency to speak of. Very often, we could smell cigarette smoke in the office and knew that there was only one person in the room from which the smell was oozing, so we called the TCO to lodge a complaint but when the TCO officers arrived, they could not find evidence and were therefore unable to deal with the problem eventually. Besides, no one knows when the TCO officers, after receiving the call, will arrive, and some colleagues have told me that if they call the TCO many times, the TCO would even tell them to turn to the caretakers of the building. In the end, all that can be done is to have "No indoor smoking" stickers put up all over the place in the building. But what actual use does this serve? How much is the fine for smoking indoor? How helpful can this be?

Non-smokers would be most innocent indeed if their health is affected by having to inhale second-hand smoke from other people, especially from people to whom they are not in any way related. To a non-smoker, if it is his family member who smokes, he can say nothing if he has to put up with the second-hand smoke from his family member smoking at home. But if he is not in any way related to the smoker or if they do not know each other but he has to be choked by the second-hand smoke from the latter, it is indeed difficult for the non-smoker to accept it. If it is our colleague who smokes, we will be exposed to his second-hand smoke from 10 o'clock in the morning till seven o'clock in the evening and it means that while we have to cope with the pressure of work, we also have to suffer from the damage done to our health. Therefore, I hope that the Bureau will consider enhancing the tobacco control work of the TCO. For example, can reference be made to circumstantial evidence? That is to say, if there is clearly only one person in the room and the room reeks of cigarette smoke and an ashtray and cigarette butts are found there, are these not evidence that this person was smoking? The TCO may even consider sending the cigarette butts for laboratory tests. I hope that the Bureau can consider ways to step up enforcement, or else the TCO is merely pretending to control tobacco, rather than truly performing the functions of the TCO.

Let me say this once again. In order to truly improve the tobacco control work of the Government, I very much hope that the Government can advise the public to reduce smoking not only by increasing the tobacco duty because if the Government solely relies on the duty increase, it would only affect the livelihood of the employees in the relevant trades without achieving the objective of tobacco control. I hope that the Government can introduce measures targeting specific groups of smokers and step up prosecution and enforcement. I particularly hope that the TCO will not go on pretending to be engaged in tobacco control work.

President, we support this Bill and hope that the Government can step up its work. Thank you, President.

MR WONG TING-KWONG (in Cantonese): President, the Financial Secretary, John TSANG, proposed in the new Budget an increase in tobacco duty. Under the proposal, the rates of duty on various types of tobacco will be increased by about 11.7% or \$0.2 per stick, meaning that the retail price of cigarettes will be raised by \$4 per pack from \$50 to \$54 on average. President, I am a smoker, and I agree that smoking is hazardous to health and so, I support that smokers should cut down on smoking and better still, quit it. However, officials of the Food and Health Bureau have said that they will continue to study whether the tobacco duty will be increased in the future. I must say that I take exception to this approach which adds to the burden on smokers in the lower class and lacks a well-thought-out tobacco control policy. The Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong (DAB) considers that while increasing the tobacco duty, the authorities should gain a full understanding of the situation and draw up effective policies in tandem. This is the guiding principle of governance.

With regard to the tobacco duty increase, the Government's reason is that Article 6 of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control states that price and tax measures are an effective and important means of reducing tobacco consumption. It considers that when the prices of tobacco products increase, the number of smokers will fall, and those who have quit smoking are less likely to start again while the young people may also be less likely to start smoking because of the prices.

However, I wish to point out that after the Government had substantially increased the tobacco duty rates by 41.6% in 2011, the proportion of smokers dropped only 0.4% from 11.1% in 2010 to 10.7% in 2012. On the contrary, the

proportion of female smokers slightly rose from 1% to 3.1%, and the number of smokers among Primary Four to Primary Six students also increased from 0.2% to 0.3%. Judging from these figures, the effectiveness of a hefty increase in tobacco duty is indeed open to question.

Yet, the Government has introduced successive increases to the tobacco duty, and officials even said that studies would be conducted on the increase of tobacco duty and the use of other measures to control tobacco. Some time ago the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) even suggested the Government to effect a 100% increase in tobacco duty. But at present, the manufacturing and sale of tobacco are legal. Is it suitable to adopt such an extreme measure? Is this reasonable to those people who are engaged in the relevant trades? I question whether the intention is to ultimately ban or drive out this industry altogether. The Coalition of Hong Kong Newspaper and Magazine Merchants has pointed out that cigarette sales account for about one third of the income of newspaper hawkers and their business will fall drastically whenever the tobacco duty is increased. According to the tobacco industry, in Hong Kong there are currently more than 6 000 sales points of tobacco products, over 400 kinds of tobacco and cigar products, and a total of more than 35 000 employees in the tobacco industry and other relevant trades, who are engaged in front-line retail, marketing, as well as delivery of goods. If this industry should really be banned, what would be the impact on the living of these people who work in the relevant trades and also on social stability? Have the authorities made proper policy arrangements?

Besides, President, I am concerned that such an extreme proposal will only force more smokers to buy illicit cigarettes, resulting in more rampant illicit cigarette activities. As illicit cigarettes offer a huge profit margin of as much as 200% of the cost or more, a further increase in tobacco duty will give them a chance to reap even greater profits. This will provide a greater incentive for the sale of illicit cigarettes and furthermore, since these operators selling illicit cigarettes mostly have a triad background, when smokers buy more illicit cigarettes, it will increase their financial income and fuel triad activities. Although the relevant authorities will announce news about seizures of illicit cigarettes from time to time, stressing that the illicit cigarette problem is under control, it is indeed questionable as to whether this is really the case. According to the report of an international study, the prices of duty-paid cigarettes in Hong Kong are higher than other Southeast Asian regions, and it is estimated that one in three packs of cigarettes consumed in Hong Kong is illicit and this has cost the Hong Kong Government a loss of \$3.3 billion in revenue from tobacco duty

annually. As the saying goes, "The law is strong, but the outlaws are ten times stronger". Illicit cigarette syndicates will try to evade arrest by various flexible means. Their sales practices are multifarious, and it is not easy for law-enforcement agencies to discover them.

President, the COSH also admitted that it requires a process for imposing a total ban on smoking and a comprehensive range of support measures should first be put in place to help smokers quit smoking — smokers like me; but there are many old smokers among people who smoke — I have smoked for 40 years and if the tobacco duty is increased substantially, people who can afford it like me will not mind it even if we have to pay a lot for cigarettes. Otherwise, health reasons aside, smokers who cannot afford the cigarettes would only have to turn to smoking cessation services which are not entirely free of charge. To those old smokers who have smoked for years and are short of means, have the authorities provided them with adequate assistance? The authorities said that a number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provide free smoking cessation services but regrettably, the supply of these services falls far short of the actual demand. Another situation is that when cigarette prices are comparable to or even higher than those of psychiatric drugs or psychotropic substances, it would indirectly provide more incentives and opportunities for people who choose to go astray to use psychiatric drugs or psychotropic substances. This situation is even more worrying, and I hope the authorities can look into it.

The DAB stresses that the number of smokers in Hong Kong is quite low and as many of the smokers belong to the lower strata of society, a duty increase will add to their financial burden. If the Administration keeps on increasing the tobacco duty and plans to extend the smoking ban without taking actions to properly address the situations described by me, the 645 000-odd smokers would be in a situation of having no cigarettes to smoke, and for this kind of anxiety, anxiety of tobacco cravings, do the authorities understand it? In fact, smoking is not an offence and smokers should not be discriminated against or driven up against the wall, and they are already on the verge of distinction. It really does not worth it if social harmony is hence affected.

Although the DAB does not agree with the approach of controlling tobacco that relies solely on increasing the tobacco duty, we do not oppose the passage of the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014 for the sake of public health.

President, I so submit.

MS STARRY LEE (in Cantonese): President, Mr WONG Ting-kwong has made a wonderful speech on this Bill on behalf of the DAB. In fact, I would like to make a sincere appeal to the Government once again. A pack of cigarettes already costs \$55, members of the public know that smoking is hazardous to health, and the Government considers how to raise tobacco duty in order to serve as a disincentive to smoking on a regular basis every year and in fixed time intervals. However, there are still 11% of the people who maintain this habit. I implore the Administration to give serious thoughts to the question of whether a further increase in tobacco duty would serve its purpose and whether this will further reduce the number of smokers when it has to ponder how to encourage people to quit smoking next time if the Bill is passed in this Council today. I have raised this point because many Members who spoke earlier expressed the same observations and concerns.

The DAB will support the proposal and is well aware that the World Health Organization (WHO) has exerted certain pressure on the SAR Government, apart from the fact that the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health has regularly put forth recommendations to the Government. Therefore, the finalized rate of increase is lower than the original figure which was intimated in advance. I believe the Government has taken into account views expressed by various stakeholders before making the final decision. In fact, I must mention that many Members have conveyed the feelings of the smokers. I hope the Government will send a clear message to grass-roots smokers, that they should not harbour the misapprehension that the Government has no other measures than increasing tobacco duty to compel them to quit smoking or kick the habit. In fact, the Government might have made a lot of efforts in the past. However, it failed to realize that many smokers have been complaining that the increase in tobacco duty has left them with no option than buying illicit cigarettes. The fact tells us that the prevalence rate of illicit cigarettes in housing estates is quite high. I believe the Secretary also realizes the actual situation and it is not difficult for the Secretary to find it out. Hence, what is the point of the Government to further force the smokers to buy illicit cigarettes? What are the merits of the policy in this regard? How would the Government explain the policy directly to the smokers?

In addition, there is one point that baffles me. Since I have not joined any relevant committees, I wish the Secretary can offer some elaboration when he has the opportunity to do so. As regards the rate of increase of tobacco duty, the

WHO requests that the tax should account for 70% of the price of cigarettes. A well-known theory of economics which is most familiar to us is the law of diminishing returns. Currently, the price of cigarettes has risen to a very high level. A 10% increase of the current price is not a significant figure compared with the actual price of cigarettes. To what extent could such an increase effectively reduce the number of smokers? Has the Administration conducted any relevant research? Apart from being subject to some pressure, what scientific rationale does the Administration have in accepting the justifications of its counterpart?

Moreover, I am more concerned about the situation of young smokers, particularly female smokers. Although figures have shown a downward trend in the number of young smokers, I have found that female smokers are quite common from my observations made during visits to the communities, as Mr WONG Ting-kwong also mentioned earlier. Apart from increasing tobacco duty, has the Government's policy on young smokers achieved the objective? In what ways would the Administration assess the effectiveness of the increase in tobacco duty on compelling young smokers to quit smoking? I believe this is a major concern of the general public because many young people have told me that Ketamine is very popular and sold at a low price. Would a further increase in tobacco duty drive them into abusing Ketamine? Has the Administration considered such a collateral effect? To accept the recommendations of the WHO or the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health does not render other assessments unnecessary.

Nevertheless, I believe the increase rate proposed by the Government is an outcome of consultation among various stakeholders. Therefore, we will support it. I hope the Government will continue to exert itself in this regard. In particular, it should redouble its efforts in communicating the effectiveness of the measure to different communities and stakeholders.

President, I so submit.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): If not, I will call upon Secretary for Food and Health to reply.

SECRETARY FOR FOOD AND HEALTH (in Cantonese): President, the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014 (the Bill) seeks to give effect to the proposal announced in the 2014-2015 Budget, which is to increase the duty on cigarettes by \$0.2 per stick, or 11.72%. The duty on other tobacco products will also be increased by the same rate. The increase in tobacco duty is proposed to protect public health.

The justifications for increasing the duty on tobacco, the support provided for smoking cessation services, and the impact of the duty increase on illicit cigarette activities as well as the livelihood of newspaper hawkers have been discussed in detail in the Bills Committee. The majority of Members support the Government's proposal to increase the duty on tobacco.

To protect public health, it is the established policy of the Government to discourage smoking, to contain the proliferation of tobacco use and to protect the public from passive smoking as far as possible. To achieve this, the Administration adopts a step-by-step and multi-pronged approach comprising legislation, taxation, publicity, education, enforcement, smoking cessation, and increasing tobacco duty progressively, with a view to reducing tobacco consumption and smoking prevalence as well as preventing youngsters from picking up smoking. After many years of publicity, education and enforcement, the number of smokers has been decreasing in Hong Kong. Smoking prevalence dropped significantly from 23% in the early 1980s to 10.7% at present. However, each year there are still close to 7 000 deaths caused by chronic diseases as a result of smoking or passive smoking in Hong Kong. As shown by studies of local academics, the economic loss caused by active and passive smoking amounts to \$5.3 billion each year. The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society recently pointed out that one third of the male cancer cases and one eighth of the female cancer cases found in rich countries around the world were caused by smoking or tobacco use. To improve public health and reduce the pressure on healthcare services, we must encourage members of the public to quit smoking and prevent them from picking up smoking, so as to minimize the hazards of smoking.

According to Article 6 of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, price and tax are effective and important means of reducing tobacco consumption. The WHO considers that

when prices of tobacco products increase, fewer people use tobacco; those who continue to smoke consume less; those who have quit smoking are less likely to start again; and the young are less likely to start smoking. In this regard, the WHO encourages its members to raise taxes on tobacco products periodically, and recommends raising tobacco taxes to accounting for at least 70% of retail prices.

Other international organizations have also presented some data on the effectiveness of increasing tobacco duty:

- (1) The World Bank's findings indicated that, on average, a price rise of 10% on a pack of cigarettes is expected to reduce demand for cigarettes by about 4% in high-income countries and by about 8% in low- and middle-income countries; and
- (2) The US Centre for Disease Control Taskforce on Community Preventive Services indicated that increasing the unit price for tobacco was effective in reducing tobacco use. A decrease of 8.6% in tobacco use initiation among young people would be noted for every 20% increase in product price.

We last increased the level of tobacco duty rates by 41.46% in 2011, or \$0.5 per cigarette stick. The overall smoking prevalence has subsequently dropped from 11.1% in 2010 to 10.7% in 2012. There has also been a decrease in the average daily consumption of cigarettes among daily smokers from 13.4 cigarettes per day in 2010 to 13.0 cigarettes in 2012. Among daily cigarette smokers, about one third indicated that they had bought fewer cigarettes because of the tobacco tax increase in 2011. About one fifth of ex-smokers quit because of the cigarette prices. It proves that increasing the duty on tobacco is effective in encouraging smokers to quit smoking, thus having an obviously positive effect on public health and tobacco control.

As most smokers started smoking in adolescence, deterring young people from becoming addicted to smoking is most crucial to the reduction of smoking population. Increasing the duty on tobacco is an effective measure to reduce smoking and prevent young people from picking up smoking.

In addition to increasing the duty on tobacco, smoking cessation service is an integral and indispensable part of the Government's tobacco control policy. Some Members are concerned about the adequacy of smoking cessation services.

In addition to the expansion of cessation clinic services provided by the Hospital Authority, there has been a three-fold increase, from \$35.8 million in 2008-2009 to \$102.6 million in 2012-2013, in the resources allocated by the Department of Health (DH) to smoking prevention and cessation services in the past few years, mainly to support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in launching community-based smoking prevention and cessation programmes. The number of patients/smokers who attended smoking cessation clinics, including those under the Hospital Authority, has increased substantially from about 4 100 in 2009 to over 23 000 in 2013.

The Government has in recent years engaged local NGOs in providing free smoking cessation services which are community-based and adopt different approaches like Chinese medicine acupuncture, mobile clinics, outreach smoking cessation service to workplace, helping ethnic minorities and new immigrants, and so on. The number of people using the smoking cessation services provided by these organizations has increased significantly. The Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) has also solicited support from district partners and organized the "Quit-to-Win" Smoke-free Community Campaign in all the 18 districts. We will continue to seek collaboration with NGOs and allocate resources for both the public sector and NGOs to provide a comprehensive range of smoking cessation services, including enquiry, counselling, clinic services and campaigns.

Some members of the Bills Committee have expressed concern about the rising trend in the number of female and juvenile smokers. The COSH and the DH have been mounting promotional and education programmes targeted at women over the years, such as the series of publicity campaigns launched in 2010 to align with the theme of World No Tobacco Day 2010, "Gender and tobacco with an emphasis on marketing to women". During the year, the COSH produced an Announcement in Public Interest "Smoke-free Women" to bring out the side-effects of smoking to women and their loved ones, and thus encourage women smokers to quit smoking and urge young women to refuse the first cigarette. The Administration will continue to allocate resources to mounting promotional and education programmes targeted at women. In response to the findings of the latest Thematic Household Survey and the concerns raised by the Bills Committee, we will continue to collaborate with the COSH and NGOs to further promote the benefits of a smoke-free lifestyle among female smokers and encourage them to quit smoking.

Furthermore, to enhance smoking cessation service for young smokers, the DH has collaborated with the HKU School of Nursing to operate the Youth Quitline since 2011, which offers smoking cessation telephone counselling services to youth smokers aged 25 or below. The COSH visits primary and secondary schools, as well as kindergartens, across all districts to conduct health talks and interactive education drama performances in order to disseminate knowledge of smoking hazards, second-hand smoke and third-hand smoke. In addition, youngsters aged 14 to 18 were recruited for its Smoke-free Youth Ambassador Leadership Training Programme to promote smoke-free lifestyle. The DH has recently collaborated with the Po Leung Kuk to develop a pilot programme for smoking prevention in kindergartens.

Enforcement is an important part of tobacco control. Some Members are concerned about the effectiveness of the Government's enforcement against smoking offences in statutory no smoking areas. The Tobacco Control Office (TCO) under the DH conducts inspection in response to each and every complaint received in relation to smoking offences. In 2013, the TCO received about 18 000 complaints. In the same year, it conducted over 27 000 inspections and issued some 8 000 fixed penalty notices. Moreover, TCO enforcement staff will carry out proactive and targeted inspections on black spots of frequent smoking offences. They will also involve the police and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in these inspections if necessary. During the inspections, TCO staff will also encourage customers and other members of the public to report illegal smoking on food premises.

Some Members have also expressed concern about the issue of illicit cigarettes and that the increase in tobacco duty would make illicit cigarette activities more rampant. In fact, there are problems of illicit cigarette activities and smuggling activities all over the world. The Government has been rigorously combating such illegal activities. The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) has also been taking robust enforcement actions against illicit cigarette activities. It has been using the Road Cargo System to combat illicit cigarette activities at source. In 2013, the C&ED detected 25 major cases of illicit cigarettes involving 39.3 million sticks of illicit cigarettes seized, representing almost half of the total 89 million sticks of illicit cigarettes seized in 2013. This shows that the C&ED's current strategy to stop the inflow of illicit cigarettes at source is effective. The illicit cigarettes peddling activities in Hong Kong and the related complaints on the sale of illicit cigarettes in 2013 dropped by around 10% and 40% respectively. In the first quarter of 2014 during which the current tobacco duty increase was announced, the number of major cases of

illicit cigarette detected was more or less the same as that in the same period in 2013 while illicit cigarettes peddling activities in Hong Kong dropped by 10%. The C&ED is also aware that some illicit cigarettes are sold through telephone ordering and has therefore set up two task forces to take focused action against it. The number of cases detected by the C&ED in relation to telephone ordering of illicit cigarettes in 2012 and 2013 were 131 and 195 respectively. In the first quarter of 2014, the number of complaints on the telephone ordering of illicit cigarettes dropped by 70%. This reflects the effectiveness of the Administration's enforcement action.

Members are concerned about the impact of the increase in tobacco duty on newspaper hawkers. In this connection, the Government has been closely communicating with newspaper hawkers to proactively explore and deal with options to improve their business environment, which include expanding in 2009 the list of commodities permitted to be sold by licensed newspaper hawkers, and allowing licensed newspaper hawkers to apply for installation of WiFi hotspots and electronic display boards at their newspaper stalls in mid-2013. The Administration will continue to listen to the concerns of the representatives of newspaper hawkers and their suggestions on ways to improve their business environment. The FEHD will offer assistance as far as appropriate.

Our experience in tobacco control over the past three decades shows that the tobacco control policy requires long-term, sustained and all-out efforts to be successful. We have the need to pass the Bill to increase the duty on tobacco in furtherance of a step-by-step and multi-pronged approach in implementing our tobacco control policy with the aim of protecting public health. Regarding the question raised by Members as to whether the Hong Kong Government has only one method for tobacco control, namely increasing the duty on tobacco, I hope to be able to clarify, with what I said earlier, that it is not the case. We have also made a lot of efforts in other areas, such as publicity, education and tobacco control, including the control of illicit cigarettes. Moreover, we will take into full account some constructive suggestions made earlier by Members. I can assure Members that in future we will not rely on a single method, namely increasing the duty on tobacco, as an effective means of tobacco control either. As regards individual Members, including Mr WONG, if they have the need to receive smoking cessation service, our relevant organizations will provide such service as far as possible. I implore Members to support the Second Reading of the Bill.

Thank you, President.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014 be read the Second time. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(Members raised their hands)

Mr Gary FAN rose to claim a division.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Mr Gary FAN has claimed a division. The division bell will ring for five minutes.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please proceed to vote.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please check their votes. If there are no queries, voting shall now stop and the result will be displayed.

Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr WONG Kwok-hing, Prof Joseph LEE, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Kin-por, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mrs Regina IP, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Michael TIEN, Mr NG Leung-sing, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Miss CHAN Yuen-han, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Miss Alice MAK, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr POON Siu-ping, Mr TANG Ka-piu, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr Christopher CHUNG and Mr Tony TSE voted for the motion.

Mr Tommy CHEUNG and Mr Paul TSE voted against the motion.

Mr Gary FAN abstained.

THE PRESIDENT, Mr Jasper TSANG, did not cast any vote.

THE PRESIDENT announced that there were 35 Members present, 31 were in favour of the motion, two against it and one abstained. Since the question was agreed by a majority of the Members present, he therefore declared that the motion was passed.

CLERK (in Cantonese): Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014.

Council went into Committee.

Committee Stage

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Committee stage. Council is now in Committee.

DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the following clauses stand part of the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014.

CLERK (in Cantonese): Clauses 1, 2 and 3.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Does any Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you and that is: That clauses 1, 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(No hands raised)

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.

CHAIRMAN (in Cantonese): Council now resumes.

Council then resumed.

Third Reading of Bills

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Bill: Third Reading.

DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014

SECRETARY FOR FOOD AND HEALTH (in Cantonese): President, the

Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014

has passed through Committee without amendment. First of all, I wish to express my gratitude to Prof Joseph LEE, Chairman of the Bills Committee, and all Members for their understanding and support during the scrutiny of the Bill. I now move that this Bill be read the Third time and do pass.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014 be read the Third time and do pass.

Does any Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now put the question to you as stated. Will those in favour please raise their hands?

(Members raised their hands)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Those against please raise their hands.

(No hands raised)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.

CLERK (in Cantonese): Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2014.

MEMBER'S MOTION ON SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Member's motion on Subsidiary Legislation and Other Instruments. Mr Andrew LEUNG will move a motion under Rule 49E(2) of the Rules of Procedure to take note of the Rating (Exemption) Order 2014, which was included in Report No. 16/13-14 of the House Committee tabled before this Council.

According to the relevant debate procedure, I will first call upon Mr Andrew LEUNG, who is also Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Subsidiary Legislation, to speak and move the motion and then call upon other

Members to speak. Each Member (including the mover of the motion) may only speak once and may speak for up to 15 minutes. Finally, I will call upon the public officer to speak. The debate will come to a close after the public officer has spoken and the motion will not be put to vote.

Members who wish to speak on the motion will please press the "Request to speak" button.

I now call upon Mr Andrew LEUNG to speak and move the motion.

MOTION UNDER RULE 49E(2) OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

MR ANDREW LEUNG (in Cantonese): President, in my capacity as Chairman of the House Committee, I move the motion, as printed on the Agenda, under Rule 49E(2) of the Rules of Procedure, for a debate on the Rating (Exemption) Order 2014 listed in Report No. 16/13-14 of the House Committee on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation and Other Instruments.

In my capacity as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Rating (Exemption) Order 2014, I report on the deliberations of the Subcommittee.

The Rating (Exemption) Order 2014 (the Order) seeks to give effect to the rates exemption measure announced in the 2014-2015 Budget. In other words, all tenements are exempted from the payment of rates in respect of the first two quarters in 2014 wholly, subject to a ceiling of \$1,500.

Some members of the Subcommittee expressed concern that as rates payable in respect of small properties should largely be lower than \$1,500 per quarter, households of such properties cannot fully utilize the rates concession (that is \$3,000 in total) under the Administration's current rates concession measure. In their view, the current measure appears to be tilted to the rich, including property developers, owners of properties subject to higher rates charge, and owners with many rateable properties. They have therefore urged the Administration to consider adjusting the rates concession measure to better help the grassroots, particularly persons not living in public housing nor receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance.

The Administration said that the rates concession is one of the five measures of the package of \$20 billion one-off relief measures introduced by the Government in the 2014-2015 Budget. When drawing up the package of relief measures, the Government has taken into account the series of recurrent measures introduced by the Government earlier to help the grassroots, the financial position of the Government and the economic outlook for the future. The one-off relief measures primarily serve to help the public cope with short-term financial pressure and to achieve the counter-cyclical stimulus effect for the purpose of preserving economic stability.

Besides, the Administration points out that rates concession is implemented on an equitable basis. All ratepayers are exempted from rates payment regardless of the types of relevant properties and rateable value and whether the ratepayers are the owners of the relevant properties. Under the current rates concession measure, about 3.11 million properties assessed to rates payment will benefit, including about 1.72 million private domestic properties, 0.76 million public domestic properties and 0.4 million non-domestic properties. If the amount of rates payable per quarter equals or is below the concession ceiling of \$1,500, the ratepayers will have the whole amount of rates payable waived, and hence there should be no question of unspent rates concession. The Administration stresses that a ceiling for rates concession can achieve a regressive effect, that is, the higher the rateable value of the properties, the smaller the magnitude of benefit arising from the concession.

Some members of the Subcommittee consider that if the Government extends the concession period from two quarters to four quarters and the concession amount is lowered to a ceiling of \$750 per quarter, it will enable more households to fully utilize the total rates concession amount for each rateable property.

The Administration said that as the financial commitment due to the rates concession will reach \$6,135 million, if the rates concession period is extended to four quarters with the ceiling set at \$750 per quarter, the Government's financial commitment will increase by \$2,116 million.

Some members of the Subcommittee opine that, while maintaining the financial commitment at \$6,135 million, the Administration should consider extending the concession period to four quarters with a more suitable concession amount, thereby enabling more households to fully utilize the total rates concession amount. The Administration points out that even if the ceiling is lowered to \$600 to \$700 per quarter, there will be an additional financial commitment for the Government ranging from \$764 million to \$1,687 million.

In addition to an increase in the total rates concession amount enjoyed by the public domestic properties under this suggestion, the total amount of rates concession received by all private domestic properties (including small, medium and large units) and non-domestic properties will drop. For instance, if the ceiling is set at \$500 per quarter, the total amount of rates concession enjoyed by private domestic properties will be reduced by 15% when compared to the Government's proposal, and the total amount of rates concession enjoyed by non-domestic properties will even be reduced by 19%. The Administration reiterates that the current rates concession measure is more preferable.

Some members suggested that the Administration may consider excluding non-residential properties from the rates exemption measure or limiting the number of rateable properties in respect of which each ratepayer is to be eligible for rates concession so as to make available more resources for providing rates concession to ratepayers of residential properties.

The Subcommittee notes that 0.4 million rateable properties are non-domestic properties (including shops, offices and factories). The Administration considers that the rates exemption measure should also benefit these properties.

The Administration points out that the party liable to rates payment under a tenancy agreement is not necessarily the ratepayer as recorded in the billing system of the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD). Based on the latest information collected by the RVD, among the top 10 ratepayers that receive the highest amounts of rates concession, over 85% of their tenancy agreements are rates-exclusive, that is, the tenants pay the rates. In other words, according to the provisions of the tenancy agreements, these tenants should benefit when there is a rates concession. The Administration said that if the ratepayers are only allowed to enjoy rates concession for up to a certain number of properties, some individuals or business establishments renting properties and are responsible for paying rates under their tenancy agreements cannot benefit from the rates concession. Moreover, since a person may jointly own a property with other persons, own properties under different identities, as well as enter into different tenancy agreements or agency arrangements, there will be practical difficulties in determining objectively the number of properties that should be capped, and which properties pertaining to the same ratepayer should benefit from rates concession. Moreover, such a measure will also be controversial.

President, I so submit.

Mr Andrew LEUNG moved the following motion:

"That this Council takes note of Report No. 16/13-14 of the House Committee laid on the Table of the Council on 16 April 2014 in relation to the subsidiary legislation and instrument(s) as listed below:

| <u>Item Number</u> | <u>Title of Subsidiary Legislation or Instrument</u> |
|--------------------|--|
| (3) | Rating (Exemption) Order 2014 (L.N. 26/2014)." |

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the motion moved by Mr Andrew LEUNG be passed.

MR CHUNG KWOK-PAN (in Cantonese): President, the rates concession measure is certainly worthy of support. But in this year, the rates concession period will be valid for only two quarters with a total amount of rate concession being \$3,000, which is lower than the rates concession amount for four quarters last year. There are comments that property developers will benefit most from the rates concession measure. Some people also said that properties for operating business (that is, non-domestic properties), such as shops and industrial building units should not be covered by the measure. In addition, there are comments that ratepayers holding more than one property should only be allowed to enjoy rates concession for up to a certain number of properties.

In fact, given that there are 2.7 million residential units in Hong Kong, the amount of rates exempted is around \$5.2 billion. Among these units, 1.72 million are private residential units, most of which are held by middle-class people or small property owners. The rates concession amount to be enjoyed by them is around \$4.1 billion. In addition, as there are 760 000 public rental housing units, the rates concession amount will be around \$1 billion. The major owner of these units is the Hong Kong Housing Authority. Besides, there are 400 000 non-domestic units (including shops, offices and factories) in Hong Kong, which will be entitled to rates concession amounting to approximately \$900 million. These properties are used mainly for business operation by small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Many middle-class people and SMEs have complained that they do not benefit from any relief measures of the Budget. Rates concession is the only measure which will benefit the middle-class people and SMEs. However, the rates concession amount is only \$3,000, which is only a "small piece of candy".

The ratepayers are not necessarily the property owners. Based on the latest information collected by the RVD, over 85% of the tenancy agreements are rates-exclusive, that is, the tenants pay the rates. In other words, the tenants are required to pay rates and management fees. Under such circumstance, if it is prescribed that an owner holding several properties (one for self-occupation and the others for lease) may claim rates concession for the self-occupied property only, the tenants will not be able to benefit from the rates concession. But as we all know, as rents of various kinds of properties, including commercial units such as offices and residential units, are rising, the tenants will more or less benefit from the rates concession.

In a nutshell, small property owners, SMEs and tenants will benefit from the rates concession which is worthy of support. This measure will not benefit property developer only as some Members perceive. Although the rates concession for this year has been reduced as compared with last year's concession for four quarters subject to a ceiling of \$5,000, the Liberal Party still supports it.

I so submit. Thank you, President.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Does any other Member wish to speak?

(No Member indicated a wish to speak)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): If not, all Members have spoken. I now call upon the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury to reply. This debate will come to a close after the Secretary has replied.

SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY (in Cantonese): President, first of all, I would like to thank Mr Andrew LEUNG, Chairman of the Subcommittee, for his report on the discussions of the Subcommittee, and Members and colleagues of the Legislative Council Secretariat for their effort in enabling the scrutiny to be completed smoothly.

The Administration submitted the Rating (Exemption) Order 2014 on 19 March this year to the Legislative Council for scrutiny. The Subcommittee held one meeting to carry out the related scrutiny work. The Rating (Exemption) Order seeks to give effect to the rates concession measure proposed in the Budget, that is, to waive rates for the first two quarters of 2014-2015, subject to a ceiling of \$1,500 per tenement per quarter.

Under the concession measure, currently all properties with their rateable values assessed in Hong Kong, that is, about 3.11 million properties, will be benefited. They include 1.72 million private residential units, 760 000 public housing units and 400 000 non-residential units. The targets are all ratepayers in Hong Kong, whether or not they are the owners of the relevant properties. Tenants responsible for rates payment can be benefited as well depending on the terms of their tenancy agreements. It shows that the concession benefits a wide range of properties. The measure will result in one-off revenue forgone of \$6.1 billion.

I note that some Members hold different opinions on the vigour of the rates concession measure. I must take this opportunity to point out that in the 2014-2015 Budget, the Government has proposed one-off relief measures which are worth \$20 billion in total, including the rates concession measure. This measure was proposed by the Financial Secretary after considering such factors as the views received during the Budget consultation period, the prevailing economic condition and the financial position of the Government.

One-off relief measures aim primarily at helping the public to cope with short-term financial pressure and to achieve the counter-cyclical stimulus effect for the purpose of preserving economic stability and short-term employment. Unlike recurrent measures, the Government needs to make adjustment in the light of the economic and financial position of the year when drawing up one-off relief measures. Regarding the suggestion by some Members of changing the rates concession measure to four quarters, as my colleagues have explained in the Subcommittee meetings, according to our data analysis, if the concession measure is changed to four quarters, even if the ceiling significantly drops from \$1,500 as initially proposed by the Government to \$600, it will increase the financial burden on the Government. Therefore, this suggestion is not in line with our considerations for introducing one-off relief measures.

If the premise is to maintain the Government's financial commitment at \$6.1 billion, and to change the rates concession arrangement to four quarters, it means the concession ceiling for every quarter has to be further reduced to below \$600. It will inevitably affect the annual total concession amounts that private residential units and non-residential units would enjoy under the original arrangement proposed by the Government. With the exception of public housing units which can receive a higher total concession, the total amounts of rates concession for all private residential units, including small, medium and large units and non-residential units will drop.

I also notice that some Members of the Subcommittee have explored whether certain forms of restrictions should be attached to the rates concession measure, such as excluding non-residential properties or capping the number of properties for which a ratepayer can enjoy exemption. In this regard, I wish to point out that rates exemption is a non-discriminatory measure. It allows all ratepayers to be exempted, irrespective of whether the rateable value of the relevant property is high or low, whether the property is residential or non-residential, and whether the ratepayer is the owner of the relevant property. During the two quarters when the rates concession is effective, about 73% of the ratepayers do not need to pay any rates for the relevant properties. The imposition of a ceiling on the rates concession amount can achieve a regressive effect, meaning the higher the value of the property is, the less rate of concession it can benefit.

According to the suggestion made by some Members, which requires that ratepaying owners can only enjoy rates concession for a limited number of properties, some people or commercial organizations who have rented the property and are responsible for rates payment as per the tenancy agreement cannot benefit from the rates concession measure.

In addition, rates assessment and collection are founded on the tenement-based system, not on individual owners, occupants or agents of the rateable tenements. There will be practical difficulties, according to Members' suggestion, objectively setting a ceiling on the number of related properties and determining which tenements can be granted rates concession when the number of tenements owned by a ratepayer exceeds the specified number.

Furthermore, since any person can co-own a property with another person, own a property in different identities and sign different tenancy agreements and agent arrangements, the suggestion of setting a ceiling on the number of tenements for which each ratepayer can enjoy rates concession will cause disputes, in addition to being difficult to implement in practice.

President, the rates concession measure is a relief measure that benefits a wide range of people. The Government has taken into account various factors when considering the vigour and coverage of this measure and whether or not any restriction should be imposed. I believe the smooth and timely implementation of the Rating (Exemption) Order 2014 on 1 April will be in the general interest of all strata of society.

I so submit. Thank you, President.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): In accordance with Rule 49E(9) of the Rules of Procedures, I shall not put any question on the motion.

MEMBERS' BILLS

First Reading of Members' Bills

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Member's Bill: First Reading.

KOWLOON TONG CHURCH OF THE CHINESE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014

CLERK (in Cantonese): Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Incorporation (Amendment) Bill 2014.

Bill read the First time and ordered to be set down for Second Reading pursuant to Rule 53(3) of the Rules of Procedure.

Second Reading of Members' Bills

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Member's Bill: Second Reading.

Dr Priscilla LEUNG, you may now move the Second Reading of the Bill introduced by you.

KOWLOON TONG CHURCH OF THE CHINESE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014

DR PRISCILLA LEUNG (in Cantonese): President, I move the Second Reading of the Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Incorporation (Amendment) Bill 2014 (Bill).

The Bill is unrelated to public policies. It only makes amendments to the rules on the internal affairs of a private body corporate.

The Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance was founded in 1940. The Kowloon Tong Alliance Church incorporated the trustees then into a body corporate on 2 June 1950, which is governed by the current Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1031). I will hereinafter refer to the body corporate as "Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church". Section 3 of the Ordinance empowers the Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church to take out mortgages on the lands, buildings, messuages, tenements, mortgages, debentures, stocks, funds, shares or securities, or vessels and other goods and chattels in its possession in exchange for loans. However, Section 3 of the Ordinance does not give the Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church the general power to borrow or raise moneys.

Similar provisions can be found in the ordinances under which other churches are incorporated to give flexibility to the churches' finances, such as Section 6(2)(d) of the Church Body of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Ordinance (Cap. 1158), Section 4(k) of the Hop Yat Church of the Church of Christ in China Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1027) and Section 4(j) of the Methodist Church, Hong Kong, Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1133).

The Kowloon Tong Alliance Church was already recognized as a charity by the Inland Revenue Department on 24 April 1957 and all of its incomes must be used for charitable purposes. This amendment will give financial flexibility to the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church to not only raise more funds internally, but also raise funds from non-members of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church to carry out more charitable work.

Therefore, the Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church has after careful study entrusted me to introduce the Bill on their behalf. The main purpose is to expand the power of the Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church such that the Trustees of the Kowloon Tong Alliance Church can borrow and raise moneys on terms and in a manner they think fit.

With these remarks, President, I move the Second Reading of the Bill. I would like to appeal to Members to support the Bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): I now propose the question to you and that is: That the Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Incorporation (Amendment) Bill 2014 be read the Second time.

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, the debate is now adjourned and the Bill is referred to the House Committee.

MEMBERS' MOTIONS

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Members' motions: Two motions under the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): The first motion moved by Mr Gary FAN under the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance.

Members who wish to speak on the motion will please press the "Request to speak" button.

I now call upon Mr Gary FAN to speak and move the motion.

MOTION UNDER THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) ORDINANCE

MR GARY FAN (in Cantonese): President, I move that the motion as set out on the Agenda be passed. It is the 25th anniversary of the 4 June Incident today. As I have to carry out my duties, I cannot attend the 4 June rally.

President, the controversies over the construction works of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) have never ceased since the Government launched the advance works in 2008. In order to tie in with the Mainland authorities' "Four North-South and Four East-West" railway planning, the Government, defying public opinion in Hong Kong at that time, forcefully pressed ahead with the construction of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL. It also turned a blind eye to the misgivings raised by the public and the many academics in clearing Choi Yuen Tseun for an alignment that "torn down homes and villages". It even carried out works that bored through Tai Kok Tsui underground and insisted on siting the terminus in West Kowloon. The delay and cost overrun of the XRL works that have come about today is unfortunately fulfilment of the prophecy made by the people. The arguments opposing the works put forth by the people back then have today materialized one after another.

Facing numerous doubts, the Government not only failed to strengthen its monitoring of the works progress but gave the benefit of doubt to and effected connivance of the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL). It even conspired with the latter to cover up the delay of the project. As early as in May 2013, *The Apple Daily* exposed the delay in the XRL project. At that time, both the Government and the MTRCL unanimously claimed the XRL could commence service on time. Later on 21 November 2013, Mr YAU Ching-mu, the Under Secretary for Transport and Housing, represented the Government to hold an urgent meeting with Mr Jay WALDER, CEO of the MTRCL. Both parties even collaborated in giving false statements, conspiring to cover up the delay in the XRL project in the subsequent meeting of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways. On the day when the MTRCL officially announced the project delay five months later, Prof Anthony CHEUNG displayed acting skills comparable to an award-winning best actor to the reporters and media that he felt considerably surprised about the delay.

President, in fact the Highways Department (HyD) of the Government has in place a four-tier monitoring mechanism which supervises the progress of the XRL project with tiers of checking. The first tier of the HyD monitoring mechanism is the monthly site inspection on the progress of various construction contracts. The second tier is the holding of monthly Contract Review Meetings to learn from construction contractors the situations of all major construction contracts, including measures to catch up delays. The third tier of the mechanism is to hold monthly Project Coordination Meetings with the General Managers of the MTRCL and their teams. Only the fourth tier of the mechanism is something that has along been stressed by the Government, the Project Supervision Committee (PSC) headed by the Director of Highways which meets with the Projects Director of the MTRCL every month to review the progress of the XRL project overall and all major works contracts. With this four-tier mechanism which has woven a fail-proof net, it is not possible for the Transport and Housing Bureau to not have knowledge of the details of the serious delay in the XRL project, and it cannot possibly be just a case as claimed by the senior management of MTRCL, it being simply a result of insufficient communication.

Pressed by public opinion and the Legislative Council, the Government produced extremely simplified PSC monitoring records. The contents of these records showed that the PSC had all along been aware of the actual progress of the XRL project, which had all along been behind schedule, and the gap had never seen any narrowing. On the contrary, in over four years from the first meeting of the PSC on 26 March 2010 to the 44th meeting on 2 April 2014, the situations of delay and lag in the XRL project had only worsened.

President, for more than four years, the delay mitigation measures adopted by the MTRCL had absolutely achieved no effect. But the Secretary for Transport and Housing could outrageously accept the one-sided statement of Jay WALDER as CEO of the MTRCL and blindly believe that the MTRCL could manage to complete the project by 2015 and conspire to deceive the Legislative Council. The rationale for this is utterly incomprehensible to the public. The people of Hong Kong absolutely need to know why the Government had faith in the MTRCL.

Though the MTRCL hurriedly made remedies under the pressure from public opinion by forming an independent investigation committee to follow up and the Government has also appointed a three-member expert panel to conduct a

review, these two committee and panel specifically established are indeed both devoid of substance, unable to help the Hong Kong public to fully learn the truth. The MTRCL independent investigation committee is formed by their independent directors, but to have this group of non-executive directors carry out this task is certainly a case of peer investigation. And for the expert panel appointed by the Government, just as Chief Secretary Carrie LAM has clearly pointed out, its job is to identify the inadequacies and strengthen the system, not to apportion blame or make recommendations on punishment. It completely disregards and ignores the fact that under the Accountability System of Principal Officials, government officials have to be responsible for their mistakes. Instead, an attempt is made to use the technical arrangements under the system and procedures to cover up the blunders of individual officials.

The terms of reference of the Government expert panel also will not touch on the role played by the Board of Directors of the MTRCL and their responsibility in the delay of the project. Raymond CH'IEN as Chairman of the MTRCL even claimed he has had no knowledge of the situation of the project delay. And CHEW Tai-chong, Projects Director and a member of the Board, claimed that he had concealed the delay of the project from the Board, in an attempt to take all the blame, then hastily announced his early retirement.

President, if the accounts of these two people are true, it means only very few people in the MTRCL Board are really aware of the works progress, indicating a serious management problem in the MTRCL. As the principal shareholder of the MTRCL, the Government definitely has a responsibility to rectify it by all means. On the contrary, if the MTRCL Board is only trying to evade its responsibility after the exposure of the incident and before the revelation of the truth, in an attempt to protect itself, it is even more imperative to clarify the truth. This Council should invoke the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance to order the MTRCL to produce documents and minutes of meetings of the Board, and so on, so that the public will be able to understand where the responsibility of the MTRCL Board lies.

(Ms Claudia MO stood up)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Ms Claudia MO, what is your point?

MS CLAUDIA MO (in Cantonese): President, I request a headcount.

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Mr FAN, please hold on. Will the Clerk please ring the bell to summon Members back to the Chamber.

(While the summoning bell was ringing, some Members left their seats for conversations)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please return to their seats for the headcount.

(During the continued ringing of the summoning bell, some Members stood up for conversations)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): Will Members please sit down to facilitate the Clerk in doing the headcount.

(The summoning bell had been rung for 15 minutes. But the Clerk indicated that a quorum was still not present after the headcount)

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): The summoning bell has been rung for 15 minutes but a quorum is not present in the Chamber.

NEXT MEETING

PRESIDENT (in Cantonese): In accordance with Rule 17(2) of the Rules of Procedure, I now adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned accordingly at four minutes to Ten o'clock.