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### Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs**

**Session No. : 20**

**File Name : CMAB-2-e1.doc**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB001**

**(Question Serial No. 2358)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau provide in the table below expenditure details of the duty visits outside Hong Kong made by the Director of Bureau and Deputy Director of Bureau in the past 3 years (2012-13 to 2014-15), including the date of visit, place of visit, officers joining the visit, purpose of visit, expenses on hotel accommodation, air tickets and meals and total expenditure for each visit? Please provide the amounts and names of the sponsors of the sponsorships received (if any) of each visit.

Date of visit	Place of visit	Officers joining the visit	Purpose of visit	Hotel accommodation expenses	Air ticket expenses	Meal expenses	Total expenditure

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 14)

Reply:

From 2012-13 to 2014-15, the relevant information on duty visits outside Hong Kong made by the Director of Bureau and Deputy Director of Bureau is provided below –

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Place of visits	No. of officers in Director of Bureau's Office joining the visits	Objectives of duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure <sup>Note1</sup> (\$) (A)	Flight/train/vessel ticket expenditure <sup>Note2</sup> (\$) (B)	Other expenses <sup>Note3</sup> (\$) (C)	Total expenditure (\$) (A)+(B)+(C)
2012-13 (11)	Mainland (Beijing, Hainan, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Sichuan, Tianjin), Taipei, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-1 officer per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	14,900	142,000	16,700	173,600
2013-14 (11)	Mainland (Beijing, Zhuhai, Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Shenzhen) and Macao, Taipei, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-1 officer per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	33,050	179,340	24,490	236,880
2014-15 (13)	Mainland (Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Beijing, Fuzhou, Quanzhou, Xiamen) and Macao, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-3 officers per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	41,880	134,930	33,410	210,220

Notes:

- (1) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (2) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.
- (3) Other expenses include subsistence allowance for duty outside Hong Kong and local transportation expenses, but exclude the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government (if any).

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB002**

**(Question Serial No. 2387)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in this Programme that the Office of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs is responsible for providing support to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in undertaking political work. This includes the support provided by the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant. The work includes the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions. Will the Bureau set out in table form the dates and venues of public and community functions attended by the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in the past 3 years, as well as the number of officers accompanying the Secretary, the expenditure involved and details of the functions?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 43)

Reply:

The Director of Bureau will attend public and community functions on the basis of operational need. We do not keep a separate account to capture the related expenses and details.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 2388)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated that there is an estimated 153 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2015 rising by 3 posts to 156 posts as at 31 March 2016 in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. What are the types and nature of jobs in respect of the new posts? In the meantime, there are 21 directorate posts in the Bureau. Will the Government advise this Committee of the types, salaries, allowances and job nature in respect of these 21 directorate posts, as well as the types, numbers, salaries, allowances and job nature in respect of the 156 non-directorate permanent posts?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will create 3 new posts, the details of which are as follows:

- (a) 1 Senior Executive Officer post for supporting work on promotion of regional co-operation; and
- (b) 2 posts at the liaison unit to be set up in the Central Region of the Mainland, namely 1 Senior Administrative Officer post and 1 Trade officer post.

2. The respective directorate establishment and non-directorate establishment of this Bureau in 2015-16 by Programmes are as follows:

Programme	No. of directorate posts	No. of non-directorate posts
(1)	1	4
(2)	10	75

Programme	No. of directorate posts	No. of non-directorate posts
(3)	8	64
(4)	2	13
(5)	No government staff under this Programme	
Total	21	156

Ranks of the above directorate posts range from Administrative Officer Staff Grade C to Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1, while non-directorate posts include those of Administrative Officer, Executive Officer, Analyst/Programmer, Official Languages Officer, Immigration Officer, Trade Officer, Information Officer, Personal Secretary, Confidential Assistant, Supplies Supervisor, Clerical Officer, Assistant Clerical Officer, Office Assistant and Chauffeur grades at different ranks. Each post has its distinct areas of responsibility and the job nature varies from planning, execution, management to review to ensure that the initiatives of CMAB under various Programmes are taken forward smoothly.

3. The estimated expenditure on personal emoluments for the above establishment of 21 directorate posts and 156 non-directorate posts in 2015-16 is around \$181 million.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB004**

**(Question Serial No. 2389)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in this programme that the Bureau will continue to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities. In this connection, will the Bureau:

- (1) set out in table form the education and publicity programmes conducted in the past year (2014), including the nature, objective of, and promotion platform for the programmes, as well as the manpower, resources and expenditure involved?
- (2) set out in table form the education and publicity programmes to be conducted in the coming year (2015), including the nature, objective of, and promotion platform for the programmes, as well as the manpower, resources and expenditure involved?
- (3) advise on the number of public and private sector organisations that have adopted the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation as a result of the Bureau's promotion effort and provide a list of organisations that have pledged to adopt the Code of Practice; the estimated manpower, resources and expenditure for promoting the Code of Practice, as well as the number of public and private sector organisations targeted at in the coming year (2015). In case of contravention of the Code of Practice, what follow-up actions will be taken?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 45)

Reply:

The Government's education and publicity measures for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities in 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Activities/Promotion platform</b>	<b>2014-15 Revised estimated expenditure</b>	<b>2015-16 estimated expenditure</b>
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Community projects organised by non-government organisations	\$0.97 million	\$1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (Code of Practice))	Television, radio, train stations and other public transport network, Internet, seminars, briefings, etc.	\$3.79 million (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU))	\$2.63 million (including the staff cost of the GISOU)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4.76 million</b>	<b>\$3.88 million</b>

The above work is undertaken mainly by the GISOU.

2. As at February 2015, over 140 public and private sector organisations have pledged to adopt the Code of Practice, and a list of these organisations can be downloaded from the website of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (web address: [http://www.cmab.gov.hk/doc/issues/Bilingual\\_List\\_of\\_Organisations.pdf](http://www.cmab.gov.hk/doc/issues/Bilingual_List_of_Organisations.pdf)). In 2015, we will continue with our promotion and appeal efforts to encourage more public and private sector organisations to adopt the Code of Practice through different means. The Code is of a voluntary nature; no information about any breach of the Code of Practice has been received by the GISOU.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB005**

**(Question Serial No. 2390)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) was established in May 2005 to manage and monitor the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, and maintain a hotline for enquiries and complaints on issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. In this connection, will the Bureau please advise on:

- (1) the existing establishment, staff salary and nature of work of the GISOU;
- (2) the GISOU's actual expenditure in 2014 and estimated expenditure for 2015;
- (3) the total amount of sponsorship granted to community organisations under the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme in the past year, the details of the sponsored community projects, including the actual amount of sponsorship approved for each community organisations;
- (4) the estimated total amount of sponsorship to be granted under the Funding Scheme in the coming year, and whether the sponsorship will cover or is allowed to cover the sponsored organisations' salary expenses for at least one full-time staff;
- (5) the quantities and kinds of promotional items produced by the GISOU in the past year and the production cost involved;
- (6) the GISOU's expenses on posters, pamphlets, Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) on television and radio as well as mobile publicity in relation to elimination of discrimination against sexual minorities in the past year, including the promotion platform, time slots and frequencies;
- (7) the manpower involved in the production of APIs on television in relation to elimination of discrimination against sexual minorities and the production cost;
- (8) set out in table form the number of enquiries and complaints received by the GISOU through the hotline in the past year, and advise on the number of cases being processed, followed up or have completed investigation, the number of cases related to discrimination on the ground of gender identity or sexual orientation, the

substance of the complaints and the domains that the discrimination occurred (including workplace; education; provision of services and goods; premises; public services; religious sites; etc.) as well as the manpower and resources involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

The establishment of the GISOU comprises 1 officer at Executive Officer I-equivalent rank and 1 officer at Executive Officer II rank. The revised estimate of its staff cost in 2014-15 is \$0.93 million, while the estimate for 2015-16 is \$0.97 million.

2. The GISOU carries out education and promotion programmes to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities. The relevant expenditures in 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Activities/Promotion platform</b>	<b>2014-15 Revised estimated expenditure</b>	<b>2015-16 estimated expenditure</b>
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (Funding Scheme)	Community projects organised by non-government organisations	\$0.97 million	\$1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation)	TV, radio, train stations and other public transport network, Internet, seminars, briefings, etc.	\$2.86 million	\$1.66 million

3. In 2014-15, \$0.97 million has been granted to eligible organisations under the Funding Scheme to organise community projects to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders, or provide support services for sexual minorities. The sponsored projects are as follows:

<b>Name of Applicant</b>	<b>Nature of Activities</b>	<b>Approved Amount (\$)</b>
Association of World Citizens Hong Kong China	Support group for transgenders	19,500
BigLove Alliance	Seminars, song composing competition and concert	79,700
Bravo Theatre	Drama performances	122,300
Dynamic Art Theatre	Drama performances	111,700
G.A.S. Theatre	Drama performances	104,100
Gay Harmony	Training for volunteers, workshops, outreaching service for sexual minorities and production of leaflets	47,700
Gay Harmony and Women Coalition of HKSAR	Training for volunteers, workshops and production of booklets	61,000
Hong Kong Women Christian Council	Workshops, support group and talk	27,200
Post Gay Alliance	Training for volunteers, workshops, competition and award presentation ceremony cum carnival	35,700
Rainbow of Hong Kong	Counselling service for sexual minorities and production of booklets	76,200
Rainbow of Hong Kong Queer Teen Force	Training for volunteers, outreaching service for young sexual minorities and workshops	67,000
Rainbow of Hong Kong Transgender Team	Talks and counselling service for transgenders	18,300
The Society for Truth and Light	Talks, production of booklets and short film	75,400
Transgender Resource Center	Hotline and counselling services for transgenders and production of booklets	45,700
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals CEASE Crisis Centre	Training for volunteers, outreaching service for sexual minorities and production of leaflets	74,600

The sponsorship may be used to meet the cost of necessary additional manpower recruited directly for the project on the condition that the maximum sponsorship of manpower cost incurred for administering/coordinating the project shall not exceed 15% of the total budget of the project. In 2015-16, the estimate for the Funding Scheme is \$1.25 million, but the amount of approved sponsorship will ultimately depend on the result of assessment of applications.

4. In 2013-14, the Government produced and launched TV and radio APIs to promote the message of “Eliminate Discrimination, Embrace Inclusion; Equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders” to the general public. The APIs were produced by a contractor selected by tender at a cost of \$0.4 million. In 2014-15, the TV and radio APIs have been broadcast about 24 000 times on various platforms, including TV, radio, shopping malls and public transport network, at different time slots; in addition, they have also been viewed on the Internet and other new media about 2.11 million times.

5. In 2014-15, the GISOU did not produce any promotional souvenirs.

6. The GISOU received a total of 31 enquires and 2 complaints in 2014. Both complaints were about dissatisfaction with the Government’s broadcast of the above-mentioned TV API. The handling of the two cases were completed following the GISOU’s explanation to the complainants that the purpose of broadcasting the TV API was to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB006**

**(Question Serial No. 2391)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is responsible for co-ordinating attendance of the HKSAR Government delegations at meetings of the monitoring bodies of the United Nations human rights conventions. In this connection, will the Government:

- (1) set out in table form the number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegation attending the hearing on report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2014 and the expenditure involved;
- (2) set out in table form the number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegation attending the hearing on report under the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2015 and the expenditure involved; and
- (3) set out in table form the manpower and expenditure requirements for preparation of the sixth report under the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including the number of copies of report to be published and the cost for printing?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 47)

Reply:

The number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegations attending the hearing on report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2014, and the expenditure involved are set out below:

Hearing	Number and position of delegation members	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (A)	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) <sup>note</sup> (A)+(B)
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	<p>7 officers</p> <p><u>Expenses for the following 3 officers were met by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs;</li> <li>- Senior Government Counsel, Department of Justice; and</li> <li>- Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs</li> </ul> <p><u>Expenses for the following 4 officers were met by the respective bureau/department</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Principal Assistant Secretary for Security;</li> <li>- Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare;</li> <li>- Assistant Commissioner for Labour; and</li> <li>- Principal Education Officer, Education Bureau</li> </ul>	146,100	10,600	156,700

- Note: (1) The above expenditure excludes overseas subsistence allowance provided to members, communication expenses, etc.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other details.

2. As the actual date of the hearing by the United Nations Committee Against Torture in 2015 has yet to be finalised, we are not able to provide the number and position of and the estimated expenditure for government officials of the HKSAR attending that hearing.



3. On the basis of environmental consideration, in addition to disseminating HKSAR's human rights reports through the Government's website, after consulting relevant parties, hard copies are distributed upon request. In 2014-15, the expenditure on publishing the sixth report under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (including 900 hard copies in Chinese, 850 hard copies in English and 1 000 CD-ROM copies) was \$91,000. Staff cost for the preparation of human rights reports constitutes an integral part of the CMAB's overall expenditure, and a separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB007**

**(Question Serial No. 3165)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Security

Question:

In this Programme, the Government has set up a number of offices in the Mainland and Taiwan to assist in enhancing liaison and communication with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan. In this connection, will the Government:

- (1) set out in table form the respective operating expenditure of the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuhan, Liaoning Liaison Unit and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in the past year, as well as the estimated expenditure of each office for the coming year (2015);
- (2) set out the types of posts in these offices and their respective numbers, salaries, allowances and job nature;
- (3) set out in table form the number of requests for assistance "relating to immigration matters", "relating to personal safety matters" and "other assistance cases" received by each office in the past year (2014), and advise on the number of cases to be followed up, being processed and resolved;
- (4) set out the operating expenditure of the Liaoning Liaison Unit and its staff establishment, including the types of posts in the liaison unit and their respective numbers, salaries, allowances and job nature;
- (5) in respect of the liaison unit to be set up in Shandong Province in the first half of this year as stated in the Policy Address, set out the estimated expenditure of the liaison unit for the coming year and its staff establishment, including the types of posts in the liaison unit and their respective numbers, salaries, allowances and job nature;

- (6) in respect of the liaison unit to be set up in the central region upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO as stated in the Policy Address, set out the proposed location of the liaison unit, its estimated expenditure and staff establishment?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 49)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO)) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Their major responsibilities include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong, promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels; providing information and other appropriate support to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland/Taiwan; and providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress.

2. The revised estimated expenditure of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices for 2014-15 and estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are set out in the table below:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	69.75	74.33
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	54.78	54.92
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	34.78	39.49
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	36.72	40.94
<b>Wuhan ETO</b>	20.67	23.77
<b>HKETCO</b>	24.59	24.49

3. The establishment of the BJO for 2015-16 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 16 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$27.15 million.

4. The establishment of the Guangdong ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$19.25 million.

5. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers and 1 Senior Information Officer). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$11.34 million. The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in Shandong Province this year.

6. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$13.87 million.

7. The establishment of the Wuhan ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer and 1 Executive Officer I). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$7.93 million. The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

8. The establishment of the HKETCO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 7 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 2 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Secretary I). The estimated expenditure on salaries and allowances for the above posts in 2015-16 will be \$10.37 million.

9. We set up the Liaoning Liaison Unit under the BJO in December 2014 and its establishment comprises 1 Senior Administrative Officer and 1 Trade Officer. The revised estimated expenditure of the BJO for 2014-15 has included the manpower and expenses of the Liaoning Liaison Unit. We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Shanghai ETO this year, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In deciding the location of the liaison unit to be set up in the central region, we will take into account relevant factors, including the positioning, development situation and potential of the provinces/municipalities concerned; their economic and trade relations with Hong Kong and room for complementarities; and views of the industries. We have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units in 2015-16. The setting up of these two liaison units involves creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

10. Staff of the above liaison units will assist the BJO, the Shanghai ETO and the Wuhan ETO in liaising with a province under the coverage of the respective Offices, and their main functions include strengthening liaison and communication with the relevant local government authorities, enhancing economic and trade relations, fostering co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities and promoting Hong Kong, and supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc.

11. The number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland Offices in 2014 is set out in the table below:

<b>2014</b>	<b>Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters</b>	<b>Other assistance cases</b>
<b>BJO</b>	136	24
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	166	79
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	Covered by BJO	20
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	38	7
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	Covered by BJO	14

<sup>#</sup> The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

As the nature and complexity of the cases vary greatly, further breakdown on the basis of whether the cases have been resolved is not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB008**

**(Question Serial No. 2031)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government advise on the following:

- (a) In each of the past 3 years, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices have called on senior officials/personnel/organisations on over 2 000 occasions. Will the Government give a detailed account of the types of senior officials/personnel/organisations visited, the ways in which the visits are conducted, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (b) Given that there will be an increasing number of Hong Kong students pursuing studies in the Mainland or Taiwan, will the Mainland and Taiwan Offices undertake any initiatives to render support to these students? If they will, what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (Member Question No. 34)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, and, from time to time, call on senior officials/personnel/organisations, including paying courtesy calls or conducting general meetings or working meetings with local government departments, industrial and commercial organisations/enterprises, cultural groups, Hong Kong people and enterprises, and student associations, etc.

2. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices proactively liaise with Hong Kong students pursuing studies in the Mainland and Taiwan to render support to them. The initiatives taken include visiting the universities in the Mainland and Taiwan in which Hong Kong students are studying, maintaining close contact with student groups to understand their living conditions and their studies, assisting them in organising activities to promote Hong Kong, and holding student gatherings and career talks for them. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also issue messages about education, employment, living and entry arrangements to Hong Kong students, and actively invite and encourage various organisations and enterprises to open up more exchange and internship opportunities for Hong Kong students.

3. As the above two areas of work are an integral part of the duties and functions of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB009**

**(Question Serial No. 0203)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What are the respective estimated provisions for the salary and allowances of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and Political Assistant to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16? Please provide a breakdown by positions.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 200)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 are \$3.58 million, \$2.33 million and \$1.25 million respectively.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB010**

**(Question Serial No. 0204)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the first stage of public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016, will the Government advise this Committee of:

- a) the cost incurred for the production of related TV Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs), their broadcast frequencies and the total expenditure involved;
- b) the cost incurred for the production of related radio APIs, their broadcast frequencies and the total expenditure involved;
- c) the cost incurred for the design and production of related newspaper advertisements, the number of times for which the advertisements were placed in newspapers or magazines as well as the total advertising expenditure involved;
- d) the cost incurred for the design and production of related publicity leaflets, pamphlets, souvenirs, Internet and non-Internet advertisements as well as the quantities of various materials produced;
- e) the dates, venues, target audiences, numbers of participants of district consultation sessions for various sectors or organisations and the expenses incurred? Please provide a breakdown by consultation sessions.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 201)

Reply:

In 2013-14 and 2014-15, the expenditures on and revised estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2013-14	2014-15
Printing	0.9	2.0
Publicity	6.1	9.4
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.7
Total	7.2	12.1

Note: The above-mentioned printing and publicity expenses already include the expenses incurred in the production and broadcast of the television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs), the printing of about 181 400 copies of consultation document and report, as well as the production of about 2.27 million publicity and souvenir items; no expenditure on promotion in newspaper and magazines was incurred.

2. During the period from 4 December 2013 to 7 March 2015, a total of 8 TV and 8 radio APIs relating to constitutional development were broadcast on 5 local TV stations and 5 radio stations, taking up 5.26% and 5.1% of the total free air time for broadcasting APIs on TV stations and radio stations during the same broadcast period respectively.

3. Details of the relevant consultation sessions are set out in Annex I and Annex II to the Report on the Public Consultation on the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2016. As the Government attended most of these events on invitation, no additional expenses were involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB011**

**(Question Serial No. 0205)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses  
Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the second stage of public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 conducted in 2014-15, will the Government advise this Committee:

- a) of the cost incurred for the production of related TV Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) and the number of times they were broadcast on individual television channels;
- b) of the cost incurred for the production of related radio APIs and the number of times they were broadcast on individual radio channels;
- c) of the number of copies of related leaflets and pamphlets produced and the cost incurred;
- d) whether advertisements were placed in newspapers or magazines for the second stage public consultation exercise; if yes, the newspapers/magazines in which advertisements were placed and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 202)

Reply:

In 2014-15, the revised estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are as follows:

	Million (\$)
Printing	2.0
Publicity	9.4
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7
Total	12.1

Note: The above-mentioned printing and publicity expenses already include the expenses incurred in the production and broadcast of the television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs), the printing of about 120 900 copies of consultation document and report, as well as the production of about 1.47 million publicity and souvenir items; no expenditure on promotion in newspaper and magazines was incurred.

2. During the period from 4 December 2013 to 7 March 2015, a total of 8 TV and 8 radio APIs relating to constitutional development were broadcast on 5 local TV stations and 5 radio stations, taking up 5.26% and 5.1% of the total free air time for broadcasting APIs on TV stations and radio stations during the same broadcast period respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB012**

**(Question Serial No. 0206)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will resources be set aside by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 to conduct a large scale public opinion poll or even referendum on the resolution to amend Annex I to the Basic Law to be introduced by the Government to the Legislative Council? If yes, what is the relevant work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? Will the Government make public the findings of the poll? If not, what are the reasons? If no public opinion poll or referendum on the above resolution will be conducted by the Government, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 203)

Reply:

The Government reiterates that the constitutional and legal system of Hong Kong does not provide for any so-called "referendum" mechanism. As regards public opinion polls, the Government notes that various polls have been conducted from time to time by academic, non-governmental and media organisations on issues related to constitutional development. We do not rule out the possibility of conducting public opinion polls as needed; we will allocate resources from within the departmental vote for the purpose.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB013**

**(Question Serial No. 0207)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

If the Government insists to introduce to the Legislative Council (LegCo) a resolution on amendments to Annex I to the Basic Law drafted in accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on amendment to Annex I to the Basic Law adopted on 31 August 2014, the resolution will most likely be vetoed by the LegCo. Has resources been set aside by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16 to take forward work to restart the process of amending Annex I and Annex II to the Basic Law? If yes, what are the relevant work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? If no such work will be taken forward, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 204)

Reply:

The Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on Issues Relating to the Selection of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region by Universal Suffrage and on the Method for Forming the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the Year 2016 (Decision) adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on 31 August 2014 provides that "if the specific method of universal suffrage for selecting the Chief Executive is not adopted in accordance with legal procedures, the method used for selecting the Chief Executive for the preceding term shall continue to apply." Moreover, according to the Decision, the existing formation method and voting procedures for the Legislative Council (LegCo) as prescribed in Annex II to the Basic Law will not be amended. The formation method and procedures for voting on bills and motions of the fifth term LegCo will continue to apply to the sixth term LegCo of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in 2016. Therefore, the Government has not set aside resources in 2015-16 for the so-called restart of the process to amend Annex I and Annex II to the Basic Law.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB014**

**(Question Serial No. 1640)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in the Estimates that (the relevant Mainland Offices will) “continue to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units” this year. Please advise on the number of liaison units planned to be set up this year, their locations and the provision set aside for taking forward the relevant work?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kam-lam (Member Question No. 35)

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai in 2015, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

2. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for meeting recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB015**

**(Question Serial No. 3276)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government advise this Committee of the respective provision earmarked for the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office to meet the operational expenses, as well as the staff establishment and estimated provision for salaries of these offices in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wai-yip, Albert (Member Question No. 55)

Reply:

A breakdown of the provision earmarked for the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) under Programme (3) for 2015-16, and the estimated expenditure on salaries for Hong Kong-based staff posted to the offices is provided below:

Office	Provision earmarked (\$ million)	Estimated expenditure on salaries for Hong Kong-based staff (\$ million)
BJO	74.33	20.2
Guangdong ETO	54.92	15.1
Shanghai ETO	39.49	9.52
Chengdu ETO	40.94	11.45
Wuhan ETO	23.77	6.28
HKETCO	24.49	8.43



2. The establishment of the Beijing Office for 2015-16 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 16 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary).

3. The establishment of the Guangdong ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer).

4. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers and 1 Senior Information Officer). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in Shandong Province this year.

5. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers).

6. The establishment of the Wuhan ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, and 1 Executive Officer I). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit planned to be set up in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

7. The establishment of the HKETCO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 7 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 2 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Secretary I).

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB016**

**(Question Serial No. 0695)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in Brief Description under this Programme that the Bureau will promote equal opportunities on the ground of gender, family status, race and sexual orientation. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee:

- a. whether such work includes initiatives to promote women's rights and encourage women employment; if so, of the specific plan; and
- b. of the provision and staff establishment for such initiatives?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

Promoting women's rights and encouraging women employment are not under the purview of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). Nevertheless, the CMAB has been promoting that everyone is born equal and should not be discriminated against for any reasons (including sex). For instance, the CMAB introduced the Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Ordinance 2014 to the Legislative Council and was passed by the Council last year, to protect service providers (including female) from sexual harassment by their customers.

2. Besides, the CMAB has provided resources to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) to carry out promotion and education programmes and enforcement work within its statutory framework to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities. As advised by the EOC, it has been, over the years, advancing the Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value principle and enforcing the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance to protect employees (including female) against discrimination at work. The EOC's estimated expenditure on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) in 2015-16 is \$19.53 million, about 25% of which is related to publicity and educational efforts on eliminating sex discrimination.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB017**

**(Question Serial No. 1045)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please list the estimated expenditures and actual expenditures of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) in the next year, this year and the past year respectively. According to the statistics of the Security Bureau, the number of cases of Hong Kong people moving to reside in Taiwan last year is 7 498, hitting a record high since Hong Kong's return to China. Some immigration consulting companies anticipate that there will be more Hong Kong people moving to Taiwan in the coming 2 years. In view of the increase in the number of emigrating Hong Kong people, would the Government inform this Committee what assistance the HKETCO will provide to Hong Kong immigrants in Taiwan? Did the HKETCO receive any requests for assistance from Hong Kong immigrants in Taiwan in the past 3 years? If so, please list the details of the assistance cases. Has the Government considered deploying more staff to provide support and assistance for Hong Kong people in Taiwan more effectively?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 23)

Reply:

The estimated expenditures and actual expenditure of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) are as follows:

Actual expenditure in 2013-14: \$24,934,000

Revised estimate for 2014-15: \$24,586,000

Estimated expenditure in 2015-16: \$24,494,000

2. We note that some media deduce from the statistics of Hong Kong and Macao residents applying for "residence permits" from the Taiwan authorities that the number of Hong Kong people emigrating to Taiwan has increased. According to the information

from the Taiwan authorities, the number of Hong Kong and Macao residents granted “residence permits” in 2014 was 7 498. Applications for “residence permits” include entry applications for work or study in Taiwan (such as Hong Kong and Macao students who study in tertiary institutions in Taiwan). These are not for permanent residency purpose.

3. On supporting Hong Kong residents in Taiwan, the HKETCO collects practical information such as medical care, education, legal services etc., and disseminates such information through production of information booklets and the office’s website to assist Hong Kong residents to adapt to living in Taiwan. Besides, the HKETCO also actively maintains close liaison with organisations of Hong Kong residents, Hong Kong business associations, Hong Kong enterprises and student groups in Taiwan to better understand the situations of Hong Kong residents working, studying and living in Taiwan, and to provide assistance when necessary.

4. In the past 3 years, the numbers of requests for assistance (excluding general enquiries) received by the HKETCO are as follows:

2012: 35

2013: 30

2014: 35

Those who requested assistance included Hong Kong tourists and Hong Kong residents staying or settling in Taiwan. Generally speaking, the requests for assistance are related to loss of travel documents, enquiries about the progress of judicial cases involving Hong Kong residents, requests for legal assistance in Taiwan or injuries/deaths due to accidents. Upon receipt of the requests, the HKETCO will provide assistance in light of the actual circumstances.

5. The existing establishment of the HKETCO is able to cope with delivering the above work in Taiwan. We will review the resources for the HKETCO regularly to ensure the smooth performance of its functions.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB018**

**(Question Serial No. 1046)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (1) What were the efforts made by the Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in 2014-15 to “promote Hong Kong’s many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia”? What were the efforts undertaken to promote Hong Kong’s financial services industry? What is the promotional plan for 2015-16?
- (2) In his budget speech, the Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang, has pledged to “work with the industry to stage roadshows in the Mainland to promote Hong Kong’s securities market to Mainland investors”. Will the Government please advise whether the Mainland Offices have any plans to complement this initiative? If they have, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 24)

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices continued to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting the strengths of Hong Kong, strengthening Hong Kong's economic and trade liaison with and enhancing the investment promotion function in the Mainland, and promoting economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan through appropriate channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; as well as gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and latest economic developments in the Mainland and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through circulars/newsletters/press releases, etc.

2. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to promote the economic interest of Hong Kong, enhance investment promotion in the Mainland and Taiwan, and promote economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan through various channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts, as well as organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops.

3. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland and Taiwan. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland and Taiwan Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland and Taiwan in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland or Taiwan.

4. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland and Taiwan enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

5. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.

6. According to the Financial Services and Treasury Bureau (FSTB), the FSTB plans to join hands with the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx) to work with the industry to stage roadshows in the Mainland to promote Hong Kong's securities market to Mainland investors. The FSTB is now working out the arrangements with the HKEx. When further details are available, the Mainland Offices will be pleased to offer necessary support.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB019**

**(Question Serial No. 1047)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government please advise on the specific work planned for promoting public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law in the coming financial year? What are the resources and manpower involved for such work?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 25)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB020**

**(Question Serial No. 1396)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
Subhead (No. & title): ( )  
Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual  
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the Bureau's operational expenses on activities to promote equal opportunities and human rights in 2014-15, there is a significant increase in the revised estimate over the original estimate. Please advise:

1. on the reasons for the significant increase in revised estimate over the original estimate, and list out the activities that have overspent and the expenses involved;
2. whether the Bureau could set out the planned activities in 2015-16 to promote equal opportunities and human rights and the expenses involved as per following table?

Activities	Date of activities	Estimated expenses

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

The increase in expenditure under Programme (4) in 2014-15 is mainly due to deployment of extra resources within the year to enhance promotion of the Code on Access to Information and equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders. The revised estimated expenditures for promotions in these two areas are \$3.12 million and \$3.79 million respectively.

2. Estimated expenditures on activities for promoting rights of the individual in 2015-16 (the dates of activities are yet to be fixed) are as follows:

Activity / Programme	Estimated expenditure
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Programme	\$1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	\$1.66 million
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	\$0.7 million
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, public education and promotional programmes and Children's Rights Forum	\$3.32 million

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB021**

**(Question Serial No. 2819)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of public opinion surveys on subjects such as constitutional matters conducted/to be conducted by the Bureau and the Central Policy Unit, will the Bureau advise this Committee:

- (a) of the surveys conducted in the past 2 years and planned to be conducted in the coming year, including the title, subject, and the expenditure and institution engaged for each survey;
- (b) whether findings of the surveys have been/will be made public; if no, of the reasons?

Asked by: Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick (Member Question No. 25)

Reply:

The Central Policy Unit (CPU) commissions academic and commercial research institutes to conduct opinion polls on different public policy issues as it deems necessary. The findings are for the Government's internal reference; the CPU normally will not make public information about its opinion polls.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB022**

**(Question Serial No. 2834)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of the second round public consultation on constitutional development launched in January 2015, will the Government: (1) give a detailed account of events in relation to constitutional development attended by relevant officials during the consultation period (in chronological order), including the organisers and forms of events (seminars/talks/street interviews, etc.), and advise whether press releases have been issued to inform the public or media of the activities in advance, whether the events are open to the public or conducted in closed door; (2) advise on various expenses incurred during the consultation period (including public relations and publicity expenses) and the manpower involved; and (3) set out the timetable for submission of a package of proposals to the Legislative Council and the proposals being put to vote, etc.

Asked by: Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

The HKSAR Government conducted, from 7 January 2015 to 7 March 2015, the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) by universal suffrage. During the consultation period, members of the Task Force on Constitutional Development and other related politically appointed officials attended a number of consultation sessions, including meetings with the Legislative Council, political parties, District Councils, various organisations and individuals, and visited various districts to publicise the public consultation on constitutional development, etc. Regular updates on the details of relevant events have been uploaded to the website on constitutional development for public information.

2. In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of expenditure on publicity for the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
Total	12.1	5.0

3. In 2014-15, we created 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 time-limited posts (including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for the public consultation exercise on constitutional development. In 2015-16, the above 6 time-limited posts will be extended.

4. The HKSAR Government will consolidate and summarise the views received as soon as possible with a view to publishing in April 2015 the consultation report and subsequently submitting to the Legislative Council a motion to amend Annex I to the Basic Law regarding the method for selecting the CE.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB023**

**(Question Serial No. 1796)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Provision for 2015-16 is \$16.6 million (6.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014-15. This is mainly due to the increased provision for continuing to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. Will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

1. How many additional liaison units will be set up in 2015-16 and where are they located?
2. The Chief Executive has stated in his 2014 Policy Address that each Mainland office would ultimately be linked with one or two liaison units. At present, only Guangdong ETO has two liaison units, one in Shenzhen and another in Fujian, while other Mainland Offices have only one or even no liaison unit. What are the Government's specific plan and timetable for setting up liaison units in the Mainland?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

Currently, the HKSAR Government has four liaison units in the Mainland, namely the Shenzhen Liaison Unit and Fujian Liaison Unit under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Guangdong, the Chongqing Liaison Unit under the Chengdu ETO, and the Liaoning Liaison Unit set up in December 2014 under the Beijing Office. To further improve the network of the Mainland Offices, we plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Shanghai ETO this year, and a liaison unit in the central region upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO next year, so that each Mainland Office will be linked with one or two liaison units.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB024**

**(Question Serial No. 1817)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The major responsibilities of the Mainland Offices include encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong, and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong. As such, maintaining Hong Kong's image as an open, accommodating and friendly city is of vital importance. Recent actions against the tourists from the Mainland in individual districts might have tarnished the image of Hong Kong. In this connection, will the Government put in resources to study the perception of the Mainland people about Hong Kong and explain to them Hong Kong still welcomes investors to come here to do business. If it will, what are the additional resources, staffing and work initiatives? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

The Mainland Offices, together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland. In 2015-16, the Mainland Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

2. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

3. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.

4. Invest Hong Kong has earmarked around \$5.4 million for promoting investment in the Mainland through the Investment Promotion Units in 2015-16. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has earmarked a sum of \$203 million under Programme (3) for the Mainland Offices to enhance trade opportunities, promote the strengths of Hong Kong and undertake investment promotion work, etc.

5. The above work is an integral part of the roles and functions of the Mainland Offices, the manpower and resources involved cannot be singled out and will be absorbed within the above provision.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB025**

**(Question Serial No. 1818)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

1. Please give a detailed account of the 174 new projects expected to be generated in 2015. What are the reasons for the increase in new projects over the past two years?
2. The "Occupy Movement" occurred last year has seriously tarnished the image of Hong Kong. Its damage to the social order and rule of law in Hong Kong is particularly profound. Investment promotion efforts of Hong Kong have been affected. In this connection, how many of the above new investment promotion projects are generated in the light of the above situation? If none, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 45)

Reply:

In 2015, Invest Hong Kong, with the support of the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, aims to generate 174 new investment projects, with the potential of becoming completed investment projects in Hong Kong, from the Mainland and Taiwan markets. The new projects are expected to be related to financial services, creative industries, as well as industrial and logistics services, etc. The increase in the number of new projects to be generated in 2015 as compared with the past two years is mainly due to the anticipated increase in enterprises intending to set up or extend their business operations in Hong Kong under the national policy of "going global".

2. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices, together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests;



encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

3. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland and Taiwan enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

4. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB026**

**(Question Serial No. 3120)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

- (1) The revised estimate of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) for 2014-15 is \$73.9 million, which is 8% higher than the original estimate. Separately, the PCPD issued a total of 90 enforcement notices in 2014. The marked increase in the number of enforcement notices issued in the past year is due to the conduct of 71 self-initiated investigations against blind recruitment advertisements in April 2014 which resulted in the issuance of 69 enforcement notices. In this connection, is the additional financial provision of 8% in the revised estimate attributed to the substantial increase in workload arising from the abovementioned self-initiated investigations and issuance of enforcement notices? If not, does it mean no additional resources and manpower provision are needed despite an increase in workload of the PCPD?
- (2) If the PCPD does not need any additional resources and manpower provision despite an increase in workload, how come the PCPD cannot maintain the same performance level as in the previous year in respect of the relevant work in 2015?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 43)

Reply:

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) has the discretion to deploy its operating expenditure. As advised by the PCPD, there was a significant increase in the numbers of self-initiated investigations and issuance of enforcement notices as a result of the investigations in 2014. Most of these cases were similar and related to blind recruitment advertisements. In 2015 there may not be a similar special situation; in any event the PCPD will continue to discharge its functions and duties effectively by flexibly deploying its resources.

2. The revised estimate for the PCPD in 2014-15 is \$5.48 million higher than the original estimate, of which \$2.48 million is an increased provision arising from the 2014-15 civil service pay adjustment, while the remaining \$3 million is a non-recurrent subvention for commissioning the Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a television docudrama on protection of personal data privacy. The revision in the estimate is unrelated to the increase in the numbers of self-initiated investigations and issuance of enforcement notices.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB027**

**(Question Serial No. 1583)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in this Programme that during 2015-16, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee:

- (1) of the cities in which liaison units are planned to be set up and the reasons;
- (2) of, in table form, the number of new posts to be created for and the estimated additional recurrent expenditure arising from the new liaison units; and
- (3) whether the enhanced efforts as a result of the setting up of new liaison units has been reflected in the indicators for 2015; if yes, of the figures in respect of these new liaison units and the percentage of such figures against the respective total numbers; if no, of the figures in respect of these new liaison units expected to be included in various indicators and the percentage of such figures against the respective total numbers?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 14)

Reply:

To further improve the network of the Mainland Offices so that each office will be linked with one or two liaison units, we plan to set up a liaison unit in Jinan City of Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai this year to undertake liaison work with Shandong Province. Shandong Province, which borders the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Metropolis Circle to the north and the Yangtze River Delta Region to the south, is an important economic growth pole in the eastern coastal areas of the Mainland. Jinan is the capital city of Shandong Province. Setting up a liaison unit there will help strengthen liaison and communication with the provincial government, and facilitate Hong Kong people and enterprises to capitalise on the opportunities brought about by the development of the eastern region. We also plan to set up a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

2. These two liaison units will assist the Shanghai ETO and the Wuhan ETO in liaising with a province under the coverage of the respective Offices, and their main functions include strengthening liaison and communication with the relevant local government authorities, enhancing economic and trade relations, fostering co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities and promoting Hong Kong, and supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc.

3. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for meeting recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units. The setting up of these two liaison units involves creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

4. The 2015 indicators have reflected the enhanced efforts of the liaison unit planned to be set up in Shandong Province. Given the work to be undertaken by the liaison unit is to support the overall efforts of the Shanghai ETO in taking forward various initiatives, the indicators of the liaison unit cannot be computed individually. As the liaison unit in the central region is planned to be set up next year, the enhanced efforts of the liaison unit have not been reflected in the indicators for 2015.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB028**

**(Question Serial No. 1584)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is stated in this programme that the Government will pay special attention in 2015-16 to promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan as well as to strengthen economic and trade liaison with and enhance the investment promotion function in the Mainland, and promote economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan. In this connection, will the Government:

- (1) set out in table form the programmes of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices conducted in 2014-15, including the nature, objective of and promotion platform for the programmes, as well as the manpower, resources and expenditures involved; and
- (2) set out in table form the programmes of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices to be conducted in 2015-16, including the nature, objective of and promotion platform for the programmes as well as the anticipated manpower, resources and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 15)

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices continued to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting the strengths of Hong Kong, strengthening economic and trade liaison with and enhancing the investment promotion function in the Mainland, and promoting economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan through appropriate channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; as well as gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and latest economic developments in the Mainland and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through circulars/newsletters/press releases, etc.

2. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to promote the economic interest of Hong Kong, enhance investment promotion in the Mainland and Taiwan, and promote economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan through various channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts, as well as organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops.
3. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland and Taiwan. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland and Taiwan Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland and Taiwan in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland or Taiwan.
4. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland and Taiwan enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.
5. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.
6. Invest Hong Kong has earmarked around \$6.4 million for promoting investment in the Mainland and Taiwan through the Investment Promotion Units in 2015-16. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has earmarked a sum of \$227 million under Programme (3) for the Mainland and Taiwan Offices to enhance trade opportunities, promote the strengths of Hong Kong and undertake investment promotion work, etc. The revised estimated expenditure of Invest Hong Kong and CMAB on the relevant work for 2014-15 is \$6.6 million and \$212 million respectively.
7. The above work is an integral part of the roles and functions of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices. The manpower, resources and expenditure involved cannot be singled out and will be absorbed within the above provision.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB029**

**(Question Serial No. 1585)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated that the Bureau will continue to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities in 2015-16. In this connection, will the Bureau set out in table form the details of activities for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities in which government employees and public funds are involved, including the type and objective of the programmes, the promotion platform, manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 16)

Reply:

Education and promotion programmes for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities to be conducted by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Activities / Promotion platform</b>	<b>2015-16 estimated expenditure</b>
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Community projects organised by non-government organisations	\$1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code on Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation)	Television, radio, train stations and other public transport network, Internet, seminars, briefings, etc.	\$1.66 million



The relevant work is undertaken by the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit, the establishment of which comprises 1 officer at Executive Officer I-equivalent rank and 1 officer at Executive Officer II rank. The estimate of the Unit's staff cost in 2015-16 is \$0.97 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 1586)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

I noticed that during Occupy Central, several police officers who participated in rendering assistance to bailiffs in executing injunctions in Mong Kok were cyber-profiled by some Internet users. By disclosing online the personal data (such as names, photos, UI numbers, residential addresses, telephone numbers) of these police officers and their family members, the Internet users vented their dissatisfaction with the ways individual police officers assisted the bailiffs in executing injunctions. In fact, many members of the public have suffered from this conduct of non-consensual disclosure of personal data on online platforms well before the onset of Occupy Central. In 2015-16, will the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data allocate resources to conduct review and study on the relevant existing legislation and to explain to the public the conducts that are not covered under the existing legislation? If so, what are the relevant work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

Cyber-bullying may involve different areas of law depending on the actual activities involved. In particular, if the conduct constitutes criminal intimidation, blackmail, obtaining access to computer with criminal or dishonest intent, etc. which are criminal offences under the Crimes Ordinance, the Theft Ordinance or other legislation, the Police will follow up in accordance with the law.

2. Where Cyber-bullying activities involve wrongful collection and misuse of personal data, regulation under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO) is applicable. In this regard, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) issued in October 2014 a leaflet entitled “Cyber-bullying – What you need to know” to inform users of social media networks of different forms of cyber-bullying and the legal protection available, and to explain the risks of sharing information online and the remedial measures or responses the victims of cyber-bullying can take. The leaflet can be downloaded from the website of the PCPD and is also available at the office of the PCPD. Any relevant complaints to the PCPD will be handled in accordance with the PDPO. The PCPD considers there is at present no need to set aside resources specifically for studying or reviewing the privacy issues in cyber-bullying in 2015-16.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB031**

**(Question Serial No. 1587)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under this Programme, it is stated that the Equal Opportunities Commission will promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities in 2015-16. In this connection, will the Government:

- (1) set out, in table form, programmes launched in 2014-15 to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities, including the nature of, objective of, promotional platform for and the manpower, resources and expenditure involved for such programmes; and
- (2) set out, in table form, programmes to be launched in 2015-16 to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities, including the nature of, objective of, promotional platform for and the estimated manpower, resources and expenditure involved for such programmes?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) enforces the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO) and implements outreach, publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness of the RDO and racial equality. As advised by the EOC, information on relevant programmes launched by the EOC to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities in 2014-15 is set out as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Nature</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Promotional platform</b>
Community Participation Funding Scheme on Equal Opportunities	Funding scheme	To provide funding support to community groups for organising activities to promote equal opportunities and racial integration	Community
Roving exhibition on “An Inclusive Society Starts with Respect”	Roving exhibition	To increase public awareness and understanding of equal opportunities, facilitating the public to have a better understanding of the rights enshrined in the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances	Community
Community outreach services for ethnic minorities	Outreach services	To promote understanding by the public, employers, employees and ethnic minorities of the work of the EOC and the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances	Community
Ethnic minority youth mentorship programme	Mentorship programme	To allow participants to learn from the mentors’ successful experience in overcoming difficulties	Schools
Roving drama performances	Drama performance	To encourage students to get acquainted with the concept of equal opportunities and ethnic minorities and to promote racial integration through interesting and vivid drama performances	Schools
Co-operation programmes with community groups	Partnership programme	To allow the public to have a better understanding of the advantages of a diverse and inclusive society through co-operation programmes with various community groups	Community groups
Radio programmes	Radio promotional programme	To promote racial integration and encourage employers to employ more ethnic minorities through radio programmes	Members of the public

2. As advised by the EOC, information on relevant programmes to be launched by the EOC to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities in 2015-16 is set out as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Nature</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Promotional platform</b>
School promotional programme on equal opportunities in education	Training workshop	To encourage educators to create a racially harmonious and equal learning environment for students	Schools
Online education programme on racial integration	Online training	To encourage educators to provide training on cultural sensitivity to students	Internet
Multi-ethnic workplace promotional programme	Promotional programme	To encourage local employers to employ ethnic minorities	Employers and business associations
Survey on employment situation of ethnic minorities	Survey	To study the problems and situations of ethnic minorities in employment and to put forward recommendations	Employers and ethnic minority groups
Outreach programme on equal opportunities for ethnic minorities	Outreach and training workshop	To increase ethnic minorities' awareness and understanding of their rights to education and employment and the RDO	Ethnic minority groups
Roving promotion programme on equal opportunities for ethnic minorities	Roving exhibition	To enhance the awareness by members of the community of the RDO and encourage them to accept ethnic minorities as an equal part of the community	Community
Partnership programme on equal opportunities	Partnership promotional programme	To partner with non-governmental organisations and encourage people of Chinese descent and ethnic minorities to study and work together	Non-governmental organisations and tertiary education institutions
Community Participation Funding Scheme on Equal Opportunities	Funding scheme	To provide funding support to community groups for organising activities to promote equal opportunities and racial integration	Community
Ethnic minority youth mentorship programme	Mentorship programme	To allow participants to learn from the mentors' successful experience in overcoming difficulties	Schools
Roving drama performances	Drama performance	To encourage students to get acquainted with the concept of equal opportunities and ethnic minorities and to promote racial integration through interesting and vivid drama performances	Schools
Radio programmes	Radio promotional programme	To promote racial integration and encourage employers to employ more ethnic minorities through radio programmes	Members of the public

3. The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) in 2014-15's revised estimate is \$22.12 million, and the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$19.53 million; about 25% of both figures are used for publicity and public education programmes on racial discrimination. Separately, starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the EOC for enhancing publicity and public education on the RDO. To this end, the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. Besides, the Government also provided an additional funding of \$2 million to the EOC in 2014-15 for promoting the RDO.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB032**

**(Question Serial No. 1588)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of the Equal Opportunities Commission's indicators for promotional/training activities, the hit rates of online resource centre are down from 30 411 646 in 2013 to 25 889 665 in 2014 (-14.9%) and is estimated to be further reduced to 23 282 912 in 2015 (-10.1%), representing a year-on-year decrease of more than 10% for two consecutive years. In its 2014-15 Estimates, the Government explained that the reason for the decrease in the hit rates of the online resource centre was that the centre was revamped in 2012 to enhance the efficiency of accessing information and thereby reducing the number of hits required to search information, and the number of hits was used in compiling the hit rates. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of whether other objective criteria are available to measure the utilisation of online resource centre; if yes, of the details; if no, of how the effectiveness of online resource centre is evaluated.

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 19)

Reply:

The purpose of the online resource centre of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is to provide the public with information on equal opportunities. EOC has started to revamp the layout of its website since 2012 to facilitate the public to retrieve information more efficiently with fewer clicks. Through the decline in hit rates of the online resource centre, EOC considers that the public can retrieve information more efficiently after revamping the design of the website.

2. As the online resource centre is a major component of the EOC website, the number of visits to the website is also a major indicator in accessing the efficiency of the resource centre; the indicator was included in the report of the controlling officer. From 2012 to 2014, the visits to the website of EOC are 1 044 131, 1 330 694 and 1 644 787 respectively



with an annual increase of approximately 20%. This shows that there is an upward trend in the number of visitors to EOC's website in the past 3 years.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB033**

**(Question Serial No. 2205)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses  
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office  
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Director of Bureau in 2014-15, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Director of Bureau in 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

The provision for the salary in respect of the position of Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2014-15 is \$3.42 million. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside \$3.58 million for the salary in respect of this position for 2015-16.

2. In 2014-15 and 2015-16, we do not have any expenditure or estimate of expenditure on regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance for the Director of Bureau.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB034**

**(Question Serial No. 2213)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Deputy Director of Bureau in 2014-15, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Deputy Director of Bureau in 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

The provision for the salary in respect of the position of Deputy Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2014-15 is \$2.22 million. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside \$2.33 million for the salary in respect of this position for 2015-16.

2. In 2014-15 and 2015-16, we do not have any expenditure or estimate of expenditure on regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance for the Deputy Director of Bureau.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB035**

**(Question Serial No. 2220)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Political Assistant in 2014-15, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Political Assistant in 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

The provision for the salary in respect of the position of Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2014-15 is \$1.2 million. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside \$1.25 million for the salary in respect of this position for 2015-16.

2. In 2014-15 and 2015-16, we do not have any expenditure or estimate of expenditure on regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance for the Political Assistant to Director of Bureau.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB036**

**(Question Serial No. 2761)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office  
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the expenditure for overseas duty visits made by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in the past year? What is the estimated expenditure for such visits for 2015-16? If visits have been made/planned, please set out in table form the place of visit, officers joining the visit, results and follow-up actions.

Asked by: Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 16)

Reply:

In 2014-15, a total of 57 official duty visits outside Hong Kong were undertaken by officers of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual. The relevant information is provided below –

<b>Place of visit/Objective</b>	<b>Officers joining the duty visit</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Gansu, Sichuan, Hubei, Liaoning, Hainan, Guangdong, Fujian, etc.</li> </ul>	1-14 officers of different ranks per duty visit and led by a senior officer or directorate officer.	654,120

Place of visit/Objective	Officers joining the duty visit	Expenditure (\$) <sup>Note</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings in Beijing and the Philippines</li> <li>• participating in hearing of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Switzerland</li> </ul>		

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure includes expenditure on hotel accommodation and flight tickets, but excludes –
  - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
  - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other relevant details.

By conducting the above official duty visits, CMAB achieved the intended objectives and expected results, i.e., attending the meetings as planned or enhancing liaison between Hong Kong and the places of visit, and fostering co-operation and exchanges. CMAB will continue to follow up with relevant authorities and organisations on the co-operation initiatives, with a view to implementing the relevant policies and projects smoothly.

2. In 2015-16, officers of CMAB will undertake official duty visits outside Hong Kong on the basis of operational needs including promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland, enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan, and participating in concerned meetings. We do not have any specific plan for the time being.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB037**

**(Question Serial No. 2762)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

During 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will conclude the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage and submit to the Legislative Council a package of proposals to amend Annex I to the Basic Law. Please list out the expenditure incurred during the consultation period and the estimated expenditure for the coming year, including publicity expenditure (expenses on electronic media and public venues, transportation expenses, etc.), expenditure for holding forums, entertaining guests, etc.

Asked by: Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of expenditure for the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB038**

**(Question Serial No. 2763)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

An incumbent legislator has indicated his intention to resign to trigger by-election for the purpose of initiating the so-called "referendum" for future constitutional development. Have provision and manpower been earmarked by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to cope with the above situation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

If there is a need to conduct Legislative Council (LegCo) by-election, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will work closely with the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) on the necessary preparatory work. These tasks are CMAB's routine election-related work and will be carried out by the staff in the existing establishment of the Bureau.

2. The EAC has the statutory responsibility for the conduct and supervision of elections. If there is a need to conduct LegCo by-election, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will provide the EAC with the necessary support in conducting the by-election. The costs for conducting the LegCo by-election will be met by the REO.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB039**

**(Question Serial No. 2764)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

One of the main responsibilities of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is to promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. Will the Government give a detailed account of the promotion work undertaken in the past year and to be undertaken in 2015-16, the expenditure involved and the staffing arrangements? Has effectiveness of such work been evaluated? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 19)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has spent/set aside about \$16 million in 2014-15 and 2015-16 for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:
- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
  - (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and

- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

3. The CMAB evaluates the effectiveness of the promotional activities through different means, such as activity reports, number of visits to the Internet website, number of downloads of the smart-phone applications, participation rates at events and public feedback, etc.

4. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB040**

**(Question Serial No. 3110)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

During 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, Fujian and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region. Please give a detailed account of the work done in this respect in the past and to be undertaken in 2015-16. What are the expenditure and staff arrangement involved?

Asked by: Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 20)

Reply:

Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" are mainly handled by 2 divisions of staff in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work on deepening regional co-operation is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in the CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or separately quantified. Generally speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$149 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for the CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2015-16.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and the Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB041**

**(Question Serial No. 2124)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the estimated provisions for the salary in respect of the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 19)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 are \$3.58 million, \$2.33 million and \$1.25 million respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB042**

**(Question Serial No. 2125)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. In engaging the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council in the negotiation of priority co-operation areas, have any agreements been reached last year? If yes, what are the co-operation areas concerned?
2. Which areas of activities are expected to be included as priority co-operation areas in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 20)

Reply:

Since their establishment in 2010, the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) have convened annual joint meetings to promote Hong Kong-Taiwan co-operation in various priority areas on the economic and trade, cultural, tourism, social livelihood, city management and law enforcement exchange fronts. After each annual joint meeting, the ECCPC and THEC will hold a press conference and issue press releases to report on the discussion topics and outcomes.

2. The 5th joint meeting was held in December 2014 in Taipei. At the meeting, both sides discussed the latest progress of areas pursued on the ECCPC-THEC platform, which included: both sides signed an agreement last year to launch the Asia Cruise Fund, encouraging cruise lines to include Hong Kong and Taiwan in more cruise itineraries; deposit protection agencies on both sides signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance information sharing and co-operation in dealing with cross-region deposit matters; the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Industrial Technology Research Institute in Taiwan signed a co-operation agreement to create a platform for matching investors and business partners for high-tech enterprises in the two places; the

leading Chinese orchestras of the two places signed a co-operation agreement to enhance artistic exchange and resource sharing etc. In addition, both sides agreed to establish a point-to-point communication mechanism on 4 fronts including communicable diseases, food safety, Chinese medicine and Western drugs, facilitating information exchange and responsive communication between relevant bodies on related matters. Hong Kong and Taiwan will enhance exchanges and co-operation in 2015-16 on the basis above. Both sides also agreed to explore 3 new co-operation areas, namely co-operation and exchanges in meteorological services, combating landslides and combating floods, through the ECCPC-THEC discussion platform.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB043**

**(Question Serial No. 2126)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

1. Regarding investment projects resulting in a Mainland or Taiwan company setting up or expanding its business in Hong Kong, please list out the titles of projects conducted in 2014-15 and the names of companies involved.
2. Regarding the efforts made in these projects, up to what level is the Government's participation considered to have facilitated the successful completion of such projects?
3. The Bureau states that it will set up more liaison units in the Mainland in 2015-16. Please list out the locations of such liaison units, and the set-up cost for each of these liaison units respectively.
4. Regarding office accommodation for the liaison units to be set up in 2015-16, please specify whether the accommodation is rented or purchased. Please list out the cost of renting (or purchasing) office accommodation for each of these liaison units.
5. What is the staff establishment of each liaison unit?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

In 2014, Invest Hong Kong completed 75 investment projects from the Mainland and 8 projects from Taiwan. These projects cover a wide range of business including transport and industrial services, innovation and technology, financial services, tourism and hospitality, business and professional services, creative industries, consumer products as well as information and communications technology. As consent of the companies concerned has not been obtained, we cannot provide information about the investment projects and names of the companies.



2. Invest Hong Kong organises marketing activities and seminars, and conducts investment promotion visits to attract and assist Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong. When an enterprise prepares to set up or expands its business in Hong Kong, Invest Hong Kong will provide a range of support services, including, inter alia, providing information on the targeted market and industry; analysing business strategy; assisting it in registration and application for licences; assisting the enterprise's staff and its families in applying for visas, seeking appropriate schools and finding accommodation; introducing relevant government departments and professional service providers; and providing networking opportunities, etc. Where an enterprise has set up an office and established a presence or expanded its business in Hong Kong after receiving the above services from Invest Hong Kong, it will be considered that the department has facilitated the successful completion of a project.

3. We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai in 2015, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units. The setting up of these two liaison units involves creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts. As the exact locations of the liaison units are yet to be decided, we are not able to provide specific information on the set-up cost in respect of renting/purchasing office accommodation for the new liaison units.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****CMAB044****(Question Serial No. 2127)**Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs BureauSubhead (No. & title): ( )Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan OfficesControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland AffairsQuestion:

1. What are the actual, revised estimated expenditure and estimated expenditure of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively?
2. What are the respective staff establishment of these offices in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 22)Reply:

Regarding the Mainland Offices (namely the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan), the actual expenditure in 2013-14, the revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 and estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Actual expenditure in 2013-14 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	64.54	69.75	74.33
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	51.09	54.78	54.92
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	29.85	34.78	39.49
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	33.55	36.72	40.94
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	0.96 (expenditure for early preparatory work)	20.67	23.77

<sup>#</sup> The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

2. The respective numbers of posts in the establishment of the Mainland Offices in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Establishment in 2013-14 (Number of posts)</b>	<b>Establishment in 2014-15 (Number of posts)</b>	<b>Establishment in 2015-16 (Number of posts)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	17	19	19
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	15	15	15
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	7	9	9
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	12	12	12
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	0	7	9

# The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB045**

**(Question Serial No. 2129)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. Please list out the expenditure items of, organisations responsible for and target groups of the activities for promoting human rights in 2014-15 as well as the estimated provision earmarked for activities for promoting human rights in 2015-16 and the main area of activities.
2. Are there any officers under the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau responsible for looking into the work and budget of other government departments for the promotion of human rights through channels like school education, community activities and other publicity activities? If yes, what are the ranks of the responsible officers?
3. What is the total expenditure of various government departments on the promotion of human rights in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 24)

Reply:

The Government's work on promoting human rights spans across a number of policy bureaux, notably the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Education Bureau (EDB), the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB).

2. The CMAB has been promoting the community's awareness of, respect for and protection of human rights through the allocations to the Programmes "Rights of the Individual" and "Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data". Under these 2 Programmes, the revised estimates of expenditure for 2014-15, and the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are \$208.2 million and \$200.3 million respectively.
3. The CMAB launched a series of activities for promoting human rights in 2014-15, as set out at the Annex.

4. In 2015-16, the CMAB will continue its work on promoting the rights of the individual, equal opportunities irrespective of gender, family status, race and sexual orientation, and children's rights. The Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data will continue to carry out their publicity, promotion and education programmes and enforcement work for areas within their statutory framework.

5. The CMAB works closely with other government bureaux and departments for the promotion of human rights. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education (including human rights) outside schools, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials. In tandem, the LWB organises territory-wide public education activities and provides sponsorship to the 18 District Councils and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society.

6. Regarding the expenditure to be incurred in 2015-16, after consulting relevant bureaux, the information provided by them is summarised as follows. Expenditure related to human rights education constitutes an integral part of the EDB's expenditures, and a separate breakdown of the expenditures for human rights education is not available from the EDB. Similarly, the CPCE does not maintain a separate breakdown on the promotion of specific civic values. LWB's expenditure on the aforementioned public education activities for 2015-16 is about \$13.5 million.

### Activities on promoting rights of the individual in 2014-15 under the CMAB

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsible organisation</b>	<b>Target</b>
Publication of United Nations Human Rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g., Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
Co-operate with the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to produce a television (TV) programme to promote the rights of children	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public, in particular children
Co-operate with the RTHK to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme on integration with ethnic minorities	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public and secondary school students
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB046**

**(Question Serial No. 2130)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

International human rights treaties applicable to Hong Kong include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, how much has been spent by the Government on publishing promotional booklets on the above human rights treaties to promote human rights? What is the total number of copies of booklets on the text of respective treaties as well as the number of copies in different languages that have been produced? What is the total number of booklets on the text of Concluding Observations made by respective Committees on human rights treaties on Hong Kong's report as well as the number of copies in different languages that have been produced?

What is the Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties on the Internet? Please provide details on the work of setting out translations of the texts of various treaties, Concluding Observations and general comments on the Internet.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 25)

Reply:

Hard copies of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's (HKSAR) reports as required under the 7 United Nations (UN) human rights treaties are published in accordance with the reporting cycles of the respective treaties, and are distributed to the Executive Council, the Legislative Council, District Councils and stakeholders through various

channels; they are also available to members of the public upon request. Hard copies of the Concluding Observations made by UN treaty bodies on the reports of the HKSAR Government are attached to the papers for discussion at the relevant Legislative Council Panel meetings. To facilitate public access, the HKSAR Government's reports under these UN human rights treaties, the texts of these treaties, the HKSAR's respective reports, as well as the Concluding Observations by the relevant UN treaty bodies are available in bilingual versions on the websites of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and (as necessary) the Labour and Welfare Bureau. The General Comments made by the UN treaty bodies are available in different official languages of the UN at those bodies' websites.

2. The expenditure on publishing promotional materials on the human rights treaties concerned in hard copy (including texts of the treaties, the HKSAR's reports and other promotional materials) was \$70,000, \$44,000 and \$91,000 in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively. (The relevant expenditures are incurred having regard to whether the HKSAR's reports have to be published in the concerned years and the length of the reports. Also, on the basis of environmental consideration, in addition to disseminating HKSAR's human rights reports through the Government's website, after consulting relevant parties, hard copies are distributed upon request.)

3. The Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties on the Internet for the past 3 years has mostly been absorbed in the expenditure for public education programmes as well as regular maintenance and updates of the websites of relevant bureaux. Separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB047**

**(Question Serial No. 2131)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

On the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance, please provide the following information:

1. The Equal Opportunities Commission's expenditure on and estimated expenditure for production of promotional booklets on the above ordinances to promote the message of everyone is equal in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15.
2. What is the total number of copies and different language versions of introduction to the above ordinances that have been produced?
3. What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's expenditure on the promotion of the above ordinances in the Internet?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 26)

Reply:

According to information provided by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), its expenditure on publishing promotional booklets on the above ordinances in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is set out below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Expenditure on publishing promotional booklets on the above ordinances (\$'000)</b>
2012-13	606
2013-14	334
2014-15 (revised estimate)	750

2. From 2012-13 to 2014-15, the total number of copies of introduction to the above ordinances that have been produced is set out below:

<b>Different language version</b>	<b>Number of copies (‘000)</b>
Bilingual in Chinese and English	400
Chinese	80
English	80
Hindi	24
Bahasa Indonesia	28
Nepali	24
Tagalog	24
Thai	26
Urdu	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>714</b>

The above publications are also uploaded to the EOC website for public access.

3. The EOC’s expenditure on the promotion of the above ordinances on the Internet, including placing online advertisements, developing mobile applications and organising video-clip production competition at social networking websites is set out below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Expenditure on online promotion (\$’000)</b>
2012-13	989
2013-14	504
2014-15 (revised estimate)	650
2015-16 (estimate)	500

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 2132)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)'s promotion of equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities, please provide the following information:

1. the staff establishments of the EOC, the Education Bureau and the Labour and Welfare Bureau with respect to the said promotion work;
2. the details of the planned promotion work; and
3. the budget for the promotion work.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 27)

Reply:

Starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) for enhancing publicity and public education on the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO). It is understood that the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. The taskforce comprises 7 full-time staff, including a Senior Equal Opportunities Officer, a Training Officer, a Community Outreach Officer, 2 Assistant Community Outreach Officers, an Assistant Information Technology Officer and an Assistant Equal Opportunities Officer (Operations).

2. As advised by the EOC, on advocacy, the taskforce will maintain close liaison with government bureaux and departments in charge of education and employment matters, relay to them the difficulties encountered by ethnic minority students, job seekers and employees and advise on relevant measures. On training and public education, the taskforce will launch online training courses, workshops for teachers, roving exhibitions and partnership programmes with non-governmental organisations to enhance the cultural sensitivity of

teachers and the general public and create an integrated learning environment for ethnic minority students. On promotion, the taskforce will actively reach out to ethnic minority groups, organise workshops for them to increase their awareness and understanding of their education/employment rights and the RDO; a multi-ethnic workplace promotional programme will also be launched to encourage local employers to employ ethnic minorities. In addition, the taskforce will also conduct a survey on the employment situation of ethnic minorities to gain an understanding of their employment problems and situation, and make recommendations on employment support measures.

3. Besides, as advised by the Labour Department (LD), it will continue to proactively help ethnic minority job seekers find work and promote the working abilities of ethnic minorities to employers. The LD launched a pilot project on Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities in September 2014 to employ ethnic minority trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme as Employment Services Ambassadors to provide services to job seekers, in particular ethnic minorities. A first batch of 15 ethnic minority trainees was employed to receive a 6-month on-the-job training. In 2015-16, the LD will continue to canvass suitable vacancies for ethnic minority job seekers and organise 2 large-scale and 12 district-based inclusive job fairs to enhance the employment opportunities of ethnic minorities. When inviting employers to participate, the LD will specifically request the employers to provide vacancies suitable for application by ethnic minorities and encourage employers to employ them. The work involved in providing employment support services for ethnic minorities is undertaken by existing staff in the LD in addition to their own duties, hence the manpower involved cannot be separately identified. As for the LD's employment services and district-based job fairs for ethnic minorities, the expenditures involved will be absorbed in the operating costs of the LD, while the estimated expenditure for organising large-scale job fairs for 2015-16 is \$0.48 million. The LD will continue to implement the pilot project on Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities in 2015-16; the estimated expenditure on the pilot project for 2015-16 is about \$1.65 million.

4. On education, the Government is committed to supporting the integration of non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students, notably ethnic minority students, into the community including facilitating their early adaptation to the local education system and mastery of the Chinese language. The Education Bureau (EDB) has, starting from the 2014/15 school year, allocated about \$200 million per year to step up the education support for NCS students in learning the Chinese language through, among others, facilitating schools' implementation of the "Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework" ("Learning Framework"), provision of the Applied Learning Chinese (for NCS students) subject and the creation of an inclusive learning environment in schools. Developed from the perspective of second language learners, the "Learning Framework" seeks to further address the concern about NCS students' learning of Chinese as a second language with a view to enabling them to bridge over to mainstream Chinese Language classes, and to ensure equal opportunities for all NCS students in learning Chinese on par with their Chinese-speaking counterparts.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB049**

**(Question Serial No. 2133)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, please set out the respective expenditure of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data for promoting the Ordinance to the public sector organisations, the business sector and the public from 2012-13 to 2014-15, as well as the estimated provision and the detailed promotion plan for 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 28)

Reply:

Expenditure of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) on promotion, publicity and education activities to enhance awareness and understanding of, and compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$ million)</b>
2012-13	5.18* (actual)
2013-14	2.77 (actual)
2014-15	2.50 (revised estimate)
2015-16	5.74^ (estimate)

\* including non-recurrent expenditure for production of a television docudrama "Privacy Beyond Price" and for promotion and publicity of the Ordinance as amended in 2012

^ including non-recurrent expenditure for special activities referred to in paragraphs 2(a) and (j)

2. The PCPD's planned promotion, publicity and education activities in 2015-16 include:

- (a) a television docudrama for education and promotion to the general public;
- (b) free talks for the public on the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and on privacy concerns arising from the use of information technology and enhancement of the online platform for educational resources;
- (c) strengthening and updating the contents of the thematic websites "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" and the "Youth Privacy Portal";
- (d) dissemination of educational messages on privacy protection in daily life to the public through various channels, including roving exhibitions, the mass media, Youtube channel and Facebook page;
- (e) Privacy Awareness Week 2015 – an annual regional promotional event in Asia Pacific;
- (f) Student Ambassador Programme – a learning opportunity for secondary school students to foster a culture of respect for personal data privacy, together with an Inter-school Quiz Contest on Online Privacy and Data Protection;
- (g) University Privacy Campaign – promoting privacy protection to students around the campuses of universities in Hong Kong and organising seminars for the teaching staff;
- (h) platforms for exchange and training as well as activities for Data Protection Officers' Club members, including regular meetings, briefing sessions, seminars and designated websites;
- (i) professional workshops on personal data protection – the contents are tailored for the needs of professionals in public and private sectors who handle personal data in different fields;
- (j) an international conference on "Big Data from a Privacy Perspective" for data users in the public and business sectors;
- (k) a campaign titled "Developing Mobile Apps: Privacy Matters" to help developers of mobile applications understand and comply with their legal obligations under the legislation; and
- (l) hosting the 43<sup>rd</sup> Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities Forum – representatives from over 10 countries/regions will exchange views on matters relating to cross-border policies, education and law enforcement. There will be a half-day open session for overseas privacy authorities to exchange views with local privacy advocates.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB050**

**(Question Serial No. 2137)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the networking and co-operation between the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas, please provide the following information:

- (1) the names of equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas which networked and co-operated with the EOC in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15;
- (2) the details of such networking and co-operation;
- (3) how such networking and co-operation helps with promoting the awareness of equal opportunities among the public; and
- (4) the estimated provision for such networking and co-operation between the EOC and equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 32)

Reply:

As advised by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), networking with equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas is important, as this provides a valuable platform for exchanges of knowledge and ideas, which is the key to development and enhancement of the EOC's work.

2. In 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, the EOC has received 38, 42 and 22 Mainland and overseas equivalent bodies respectively, and introduced to them the anti-discrimination ordinances in Hong Kong and the EOC's work in implementing the law and promoting equal opportunities. These bodies include the Xinle Employment Equality Promotion Commission of Hebei Province, the Association for Supervision & Curriculum

Development of the United States, and the China Disabled Persons' Federation and the State Bureau for Letters and Calls of the Mainland. Moreover, the EOC has also maintained contact and relationships with organisations of a similar nature in the Mainland and overseas. The expenditure incurred in the above work is absorbed in the operational expenses and staff costs of the EOC and no separate breakdown is available.

3. Representatives of the EOC have also participated in various international conferences and meetings relating to equal opportunities, such as meeting with the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the 18th Annual Meeting and Biennial Conference of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and hearings under the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women etc.

4. In 2015-16, the EOC will continue to network and co-operate with equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas. While meeting with and calling on equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas are part of the EOC's daily work, at this stage it has no plan to take part in overseas conferences or meetings, or engage in large-scale co-operation initiative and hence no specific estimate is available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB051**

**(Question Serial No. 2000)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Complaint investigations and self-initiated investigations are expected to increase in 2015. Has consideration been given to increasing the manpower or resources to cope with the increasing workload so as to speed up investigation? If yes, what are the details, the manpower requirement and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

There are currently 25 staff in the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) principally responsible for handling complaints. The existing manpower is considered to be sufficient to handle the work. Besides, the EOC will deploy manpower to undertake investigation work in the light of actual need, and will continue to study the streamlining of investigation procedures to shorten the time required for investigation.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB052**

**(Question Serial No. 2508)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. What is the funding earmarked for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme in 2014-15?
2. Please set out in table form the names of non-profit-making organisations that have submitted application under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme in 2014-15, results of the applications and reasons for unsuccessful application, as well as the details of activities successfully applied for sponsorship and the expenditure incurred.
3. What is the funding earmarked for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme for 2015-16? What are the Sponsorship Scheme's direction in promoting the Basic Law, details of the Sponsorship Scheme and criteria for assessing applications?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 27)

Reply:

In both 2014-15 and 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has set aside about \$16 million, including the provision for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme, to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law.

2. In 2014-15, eligible organisations have successfully applied for sponsorship amounting to a total of \$1.2 million under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme for organising activities to promote the Basic Law to different sectors of the community, with a view to enhancing public understanding on the "one country, two systems" principle and the Basic Law. Another four applications have failed to meet the assessment criteria.

3. Organisations who successfully applied for sponsorships are set out as follows:

<b>Sponsored organisation</b>	<b>Content of activities</b>	<b>Amount of sponsorship applied (HK\$)</b>
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law *	Seminar	200,800
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law	Debate competition for secondary school students	282,100
New Arrivals Services Foundation	Design competition, workshop and drama performance	115,300
www.gcyouth.net	Debate competition for tertiary and secondary school students	208,900
www.gcyouth.net	4 thematic talks	166,900
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law	Debate competition for primary school students	221,700

\* The Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law comprises 64 organisations.

4. The year 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme will encourage non-profit-making organisations to organise activities incorporating elements of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. Applications for the 2015-16 Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme have not yet commenced.

5. Funding applications received under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme are considered and assessed by a Vetting Committee comprising both official and non-official members. The assessment criteria include:

- (a) objectives of the proposed activity;
- (b) content of the proposal (for example, scope of the project, the relevance of the content with the promotion of the Basic Law, the target and anticipated number of beneficiaries);
- (c) financial considerations (for example, overall financial estimates for the proposed project, budget and cost-effectives of the proposal);
- (d) feasibility of the activity;
- (e) background of the applicant (for example, its experience and management capability, its previous performance in the Sponsorship Scheme (if applicable), etc.);
- (f) publicity plan; and

- (g) other factors which the Vetting Committee considers relevant (for example, whether the activity is expected to generate revenue, involve other sponsorships, be held together with other projects, etc.)

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB053**

**(Question Serial No. 2509)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

- 1) What are the details of the study on the “right to be forgotten” and related efforts undertaken by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data in 2014-15? What is the expenditure incurred for various activities?
- 2) What is the estimated provision for work in relation to the subject of the “right to be forgotten” in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 8)

Reply:

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) has not set aside dedicated resources for the subject of the “right to be forgotten”. In 2015-16, the Privacy Commissioner and the Information Technology Advisor of the PCPD will continue to closely monitor development on the subject and conduct related studies.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB054**

**(Question Serial No. 2511)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in this programme that the Bureau will continue to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities and the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (Code of Practice) among the public. In this connection, will the Bureau advise the following:

1. What were the details of the different means, including activities, promotion platforms, expenditures involved and the number of public and private sector organisations participating in such activities, that the Bureau adopted in 2014 to promote the Code of Practice?
2. What are the details of the different means, including activities, promotion platforms, expenditures involved and the anticipated number of public and private sector organisations participating in such activities, that the Bureau will adopt in 2015 to promote the Code of Practice?
3. Will the Bureau follow up in case of contravention of the Code of Practice by any organisation? If yes, what was the number of organisations that the Government followed up in 2014 and what were the follow-up actions taken?
4. What are the direction, work plan, timetable and expenditure for reviewing the Code of Practice?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 28)

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Government has promoted the Code of Practice to public and private sector organisations through various channels, including advertisements; seminars; briefings; letters to employers in local major public and private sector organisations appealing for their adoption of the Code of Practice; and publishing the list of organisations that have pledged to adopt the Code of Practice. The relevant expenditure is absorbed in the expenditure on publicity and education for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities, for which the revised estimate in 2014-15 is \$3.79 million (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit and an enhanced provision for publicity in the year); the corresponding estimate in 2015-16 is \$2.63 million.

2. As at February 2015, over 140 public and private sector organisations have pledged to adopt the Code of Practice. In 2014-15, representatives of over 370 public and private sector organisations have participated in related seminars and briefings. In 2015-16, we will continue our promotion to public and private sector organisations through various means as mentioned above, and appeal for adoption of the Code of Practice by employers in different sectors and of different scales.

3. The Code of Practice is of a voluntary nature; no information about any breach of the Code has been received. We shall also review the Code of Practice from time to time as necessary. The resources required are absorbed in the recurrent expenditure of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, and a separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB055**

**(Question Serial No. 3227)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in this programme that the Bureau will continue to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities and review the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (Code of Practice). In this connection, will the Bureau advise:

- (1) in case of contravention of the Code of Practice by any organisation, whether the Bureau will follow-up; if yes, what were the number of cases of contravention that required follow-up action in 2014, the number of organisations involved and the follow-up actions taken?
- (2) the specific work plan for reviewing the Code of Practice in 2015-16, the expenditure involved and the timetable?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 30)

Reply:

The Code of Practice is of a voluntary nature; no information about any breach of the Code has been received. We shall also review the Code of Practice from time to time as necessary. The resources required are absorbed in the recurrent expenditure of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, and a separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB056**

**(Question Serial No. 3274)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. Please set out the list of non-profit-making organisations that have submitted application under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme in 2014-15, results of the applications and reasons for unsuccessful application, as well as the details of activities successfully applied for sponsorship and the expenditure incurred.
2. What is the funding earmarked for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme for 2015-16?
3. In 2015-16, what are the Scheme's direction in promoting the Basic Law and criteria for assessing application?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 31)

Reply:

In both 2014-15 and 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has set aside about \$16 million, including the provision for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme, to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law.

2. In 2014-15, eligible organisations have successfully applied for sponsorship amounting to a total of \$1.2 million under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme for organising activities to promote the Basic Law to different sectors of the community, with a view to enhancing public understanding on the "one country, two systems" principle and the Basic Law. Another four applications have failed to meet the assessment criteria.

3. Organisations who successfully applied for sponsorships are set out as follows:

<b>Sponsored organisation</b>	<b>Content of activities</b>	<b>Amount of sponsorship applied (HK\$)</b>
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law *	Seminar	200,800
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law	Debate competition for secondary school students	282,100
New Arrivals Services Foundation	Design competition, workshop and drama performance	115,300
www.gcyouth.net	Debate competition for tertiary and secondary school students	208,900
www.gcyouth.net	4 thematic talks	166,900
Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law	Debate competition for primary school students	221,700

\* The Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law comprises 64 organisations.

4. The year 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme will encourage non-profit-making organisations to organise activities incorporating elements of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. Applications for the 2015-16 Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme have not yet commenced.

5. Funding applications received under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme are considered and assessed by a Vetting Committee comprising both official and non-official members. The assessment criteria include:

- (a) objectives of the proposed activity;
- (b) content of the proposal (for example, scope of the project, the relevance of the content with the promotion of the Basic Law, the target and anticipated number of beneficiaries);
- (c) financial considerations (for example, overall financial estimates for the proposed project, budget and cost-effectiveness of the proposal);
- (d) feasibility of the activity;
- (e) background of the applicant (for example, its experience and management capability, its previous performance in the Sponsorship Scheme (if applicable), etc.);
- (f) publicity plan; and

- (g) other factors which the Vetting Committee considers relevant (for example, whether the activity is expected to generate revenue, involve other sponsorships, be held together with other projects, etc.)

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB057**

**(Question Serial No. 0369)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In what ways will the estimated provision for 2015-16 under this Programme be used to monitor and disseminate information to Hong Kong business sector on policies and regional development in the Mainland and Taiwan that have significant bearing on the business environment and opportunities to Hong Kong enterprises, as well as to promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew (Member Question No. 6)

Reply:

To facilitate the Hong Kong business sector to keep abreast of the major developments in the Mainland and Taiwan and capitalise on the markets, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan), in 2015-16, will continue to gather relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and significant regional development, and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through various channels, such as issuance of special trade-related messages, webpages, workshops, seminars and exhibitions.

2. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices, together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in

showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB058**

**(Question Serial No. 2163)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office  
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices  
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please advise this Committee, in tabular form, of the information on the directorate establishment, ranks, salaries and relevant allowances and staff-related expenses in respect of the following units in the Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16:

1. Office of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs;
2. Permanent Secretary and Deputy Secretaries;
3. Division 1 of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB);
4. Division 2 of CMAB;
5. Division 3 of CMAB;
6. The Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing;
7. Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Guangdong;
8. Hong Kong ETO in Shanghai;
9. Hong Kong ETO in Chengdu; and
10. Hong Kong ETO in Wuhan.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 505)

Reply:

The directorate establishment of the following units in 2015-16 is as follows:

	Directorate rank
1. Office of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
2. Permanent Secretary and Deputy Secretaries	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 2 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B
3. Division 1 of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB)	4 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
4. Division 2 of CMAB	2 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
5. Division 3 of CMAB	2 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
6. The Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
7. Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Guangdong	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B
8. Hong Kong ETO in Shanghai	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B
9. Hong Kong ETO in Chengdu	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
10. Hong Kong ETO in Wuhan	1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C

2. The estimated expenditure on personal emoluments for the above directorate establishment in 2015-16 is around \$46 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB059**

**(Question Serial No. 2164)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please advise this Committee in detail a breakdown of the increased provision of \$16.6 million for 2015-16 under Programme (3) by staff establishment, rank, salaries, relevant allowances and personnel related expenses in table form.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 506)

Reply:

Provision under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for 2015-16 is \$16.6 million higher than the revised estimate for 2014-15. The increased provision is mainly for continuing to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. We set up the Liaoning Liaison Unit under the Beijing Office in December 2014. We also plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai this year, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In 2015-16, an additional provision of \$11.46 million has been allocated to Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above three liaison units, which covers the estimated expenditure on salaries, allowances and personnel related expenses arising from the net increase of 1 Senior Administrative Officer post and 1 Trade Officer post in 2015-16. The remaining increased provision of \$4.96 million is for the estimated expenditure on increased staff cost for staff posted to the other Mainland and Taiwan Offices.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB060**

**(Question Serial No. 1167)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015-16 that the Bureau will conclude the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) by universal suffrage and submit to the Legislative Council (LegCo) a package of proposals to amend Annex I to the Basic Law. However, the Government so far does not have full confidence in securing the passage of the proposals by the LegCo, making the public worry that universal suffrage for selecting the CE by "one person, one vote" cannot be implemented in 2017. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee:

1. of the resource input for securing passage of the method for selecting the CE by universal suffrage in 2017 over the past 3 years, the amount of expenses and manpower involved;
2. whether effectiveness of its efforts has been evaluated and whether passage of the proposals by the LegCo is ensured; if yes, of the details; if no, of the reasons;
3. given that the Government's approach on the publicity of constitutional reform is considered to be passive and conservative, whether an aggressive publicity approach, say by speaking boldly and confidently with the knowledge that it is on the right side, or using the tactic of retreat for the sake of advance, or acting proactively to win the hearts and minds of Hong Kong people, will be adopted to lobby legislators and the public for their support of the Government's package of proposals?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. 22)

Reply:

The respective expenditures on, the revised estimates and estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

	Million (\$)		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	0.9	2.0	1.2
Publicity	6.1	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.7	0.3
Total	7.2	12.1	5.0

2. On staff establishment, 6 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers posts, were created in 2013-14, 2014-15 and for 2015-16. In 2014-15, we also created 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months.

3. The HKSAR Government will consolidate and summarise the views received during the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) by universal suffrage as soon as possible with a view to publishing in April 2015 the consultation report and subsequently submitting to the Legislative Council a motion to amend Annex I to the Basic Law regarding the method for selecting the CE. The HKSAR Government will continue to mobilise the support of different sectors of the community to implement universal suffrage for the CE election in 2017 in strict compliance with the Basic Law and the relevant Interpretation and Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB061**

**(Question Serial No. 1173)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Quite a number of people and religious groups have been subjected to verbal abuse for disagreeing with homosexuality and same sex marriage which has resulted in reverse discrimination, making the community worry that freedom of religious belief and freedom to preach in Hong Kong are being jeopardised. In this connection, will the Bureau advise this Council on the resource input for safeguarding freedom of religious belief and sexual orientation in Hong Kong over the past 3 years, and provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditure for various measures?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. 28)

Reply:

Like other fundamental rights, religious freedom is protected under the Basic Law, and is widely recognised and respected in Hong Kong. Over the past 3 years, the Government has not set aside itemised resources specifically for religious freedom.

2. The Government's expenditures on education and publicity measures for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations/gender identities in the past 3 years are as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>2012-13 Actual expenditure</b>	<b>2013-14 Actual expenditure</b>	<b>2014-15 Revised estimated expenditure</b>
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	\$0.64 million	\$0.81 million	\$0.97 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation)	\$2.05 million (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU))	\$2.2 million (including the staff cost of the GISOU)	\$3.79 million (including the staff cost of the GISOU)
	<b>\$2.69 million</b>	<b>\$3.01 million</b>	<b>\$4.76 million</b>

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB062**

**(Question Serial No. 0317)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please list out separately:

- (a) the expenditure on promotion of the Basic Law and strengthening the sense of national identity for each of the recent 5 years (including the estimated expenditure for 2015-16, which marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law);
- (b) details of the expenditure/estimated expenditure items;
- (c) the percentage of expenditure/estimated expenditure on promotion of the Basic Law against the total annual expenditure of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau; and
- (d) the percentage of expenditure/estimated expenditure on strengthening the sense of national identity against the total annual expenditure of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has spent/set aside about \$16 million in each of the recent 5 financial years (including 2015-16) for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:
  - (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
  - (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
  - (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), Education Bureau (EDB), Civil Service Bureau (CSB), Trade and Industry Department (TID) and Information Services Department (ISD), assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors. Regarding non-government organisations, the CMAB receives applications from non-profit-making organisations for funding support under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme to organise various Basic Law promotional activities.

4. Taking 2015-16 as an example, the CMAB has set aside about \$16 million among its total allocation of \$580 million for organising Basic Law promotional activities. Riding on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law, we will focus on organising more in-depth and diverse activities, such as seminars, large-scale exhibition, exhibition booth in the Flower Show, commemorative stamps and territory-wide promotional programmes like giant wall banners, buntings and advertisements and Internet publicity. Relevant bureaux/departments will also stage special promotional activities this year to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. For example, the EDB will produce visual teaching kits on the Basic Law for primary and secondary schools, the CSB will conduct thematic talks on the Basic Law, the TID will organise thematic seminars on the Basic Law and souvenir design competition, and the ISD will assist in the making of Basic Law promotional videos. Besides, Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE) under the HAB has also written to the Chairmen of 18 District Councils to encourage commemorative activities for the districts be organised under the CPCE's Co-operation Scheme with District Councils, to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law at district level.

5. The CMAB has not earmarked specific provision for national education or for promoting the sense of national identity.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB063**

**(Question Serial No. 0319)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please list out the respective expenditure of the Beijing Office, the four Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for discharging each of the following major responsibilities in the past three years, as well as the percentage of such expenditure against the total expenditure of the offices:

- (a) liaise and communicate with governments and organisations in the areas under their coverage;
- (b) represent and promote Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests in the areas under their coverage;
- (c) encourage and attract investments to Hong Kong;
- (d) promote the strengths of Hong Kong to the areas under their coverage;
- (e) provide information and other appropriate support to Hong Kong residents.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

The total expenditure of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu in 2011-12 was \$125 million. The total expenditure of the above offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in 2012-13 and 2013-14 was \$176 million and \$205 million respectively. The total expenditure of Wuhan ETO, which was set up on 1 April 2014, is not covered in the above figures.

2. As the responsibilities of the above offices and the activities held are inter-related, the expenditure involved in each responsibility cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB064**

**(Question Serial No. 0320)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

With respect to the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, the revised estimate in 2014-15 (\$241.3 million) is 4.1% lower than the original estimate (\$251.6 million). What are the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

The revised estimate for the Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) in 2014-15 is \$10.3 million (about 4.1%) lower than the original estimate. The main reason is that the departmental expenses and other charges of Wuhan ETO in its first year of operation, as well as the actual expenditure on salaries and related allowances for officers posted to the office, were lower than the original estimate.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB065**

**(Question Serial No. 0321)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In 2015-16, more liaison units will continue to be set up to improve the network of the Mainland Offices. In this connection, please list out the estimated expenditure involved, including details of the expenditure items, as well as the number and locations of the units to be set up.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (Member Question No. 4)

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai in 2015, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of Wuhan ETO.

2. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for meeting recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB066**

**(Question Serial No. 2674)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

(a) Please list out the expenditure and manpower arrangement of the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for promoting cultural exchanges in the past year, as well as the percentage of such expenditure against the total expenditure.

(b) What specific plans do the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan have to promote cultural exchanges this year? What are the related expenditure and manpower arrangement?

(c) Have local cultural organisations ever approached the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan, reflecting the need to engage in cultural exchanges with the Mainland and Taiwan as well as to promote local culture? If yes, what is the number of such requests made and how they are handled by the Government?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 1.31)

Reply:

The Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (Mainland and Taiwan Offices) have taken continuous efforts to assist in enhancing cultural and arts exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Over the past year, the initiatives taken include organising, co-organising or supporting the launching of film festivals, dance performances, theatrical shows, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, book fairs, lantern carnivals, talks, radio programmes, etc., to showcase Hong Kong's unique culture and arts.

2. Over the past year, a number of Hong Kong cultural and arts organisations, such as the City Contemporary Dance Company, Asian Youth Orchestra, Chung Ying Theatre Company, Hong Kong Film Development Council, Hong Kong Publishing Federation, The Hong Kong Printers Association, Hong Kong Harmonica Association, etc. approached the Mainland and Taiwan Offices with a view to conducting cultural exchange activities in the areas under their coverage. Appropriate follow-up actions, such as assisting in promoting the performances, liaising and communicating with relevant authorities in the Mainland and Taiwan, have been taken by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices.

3. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to assist relevant Hong Kong cultural and arts organisations in liaising with local authorities and bodies as necessary, and in promoting the related events as appropriate to support the performances of these cultural and arts organisations, and further promote Hong Kong's unique culture and arts.

4. As the work involved in promoting cultural exchanges is an integral part of the duties and functions of the offices, the expenditure and manpower involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 0905)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of the estimated provision for the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, will the Government advise this Committee of:

- a. the specific provision and manpower for investigating suspected breaches of the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance upon receipt of complaints from data subjects or on his own initiative; and
- b. the specific steps to be taken to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications as mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) estimates that in 2015 it will investigate on its own initiative 12 suspected breaches of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance) and conduct 180 compliance checks. As for complaints, the PCPD expects to receive 1 700 new cases in 2015. Together with the 280 cases carried forward from the past year, the PCPD estimates that the total number of complaints to be handled in 2015 is 1 980.

2. Self-initiated investigations and compliance checks are conducted by the Compliance and Policy Division of the PCPD. The establishment of the Division comprises 1 Chief Personal Data Officer, 3 Senior Personal Data Officers, 4 Personal Data Officers, 6 Assistant Personal Data Officers and 3 Executive Assistants. Complaints lodged by data subjects are handled by the Operations Division of the PCPD. The

establishment of the Division comprises 2 Chief Personal Data Officers, 6 Senior Personal Data Officers, 7 Personal Data Officers, 10 Assistant Personal Data Officers and 1 Executive Assistant. The provisions for staff remuneration for the Compliance and Policy Division and Operations Division in 2015-16 are \$10.66 million and \$17.79 million respectively.

3. In 2015-16, the PCPD will help developers of mobile applications understand and comply with their legal obligations under the Ordinance through a campaign titled “Developing Mobile Apps: Privacy Matters”. The campaign will be co-organised by 10 professional organisations and trade associations with support from 9 professional/academic institutions in the field of information and communications technology. The campaign will include the following training activities:

- Regular seminars (once to twice in every quarter) to explain the “Best Practice Guide for Mobile App Development”;
- Talks, seminars and exhibitions as part of the two-week “IT Fest 2015” for the industry to enhance their awareness of the protection of personal data privacy;
- Training courses and teaching materials relevant to the development of mobile applications and with enhanced content on privacy protection for students of universities and vocational training institutes and young entrepreneurs; and
- A one-stop website with online training courses and teaching resources for developers of mobile applications.

4. The PCPD will also strengthen the contents of the thematic website “Think Privacy! Be Smart Online” to disseminate educational messages, and provide handy guidelines to the public through television Announcements in Public Interest, social media and thematic websites to raise awareness of online privacy protection.

5. The PCPD has conducted random checks on mobile applications since 2013-14 and will continue to conduct such checks in 2015-16 to ascertain whether the mobile applications in question comply with the requirements under the Ordinance in handling personal data, and take enforcement actions where necessary.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB068**

**(Question Serial No. 0906)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme, it is mentioned that the Bureau will continue to promote the rights of children. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of:

- a. the provision earmarked for this purpose;
- b. its plan to take forward the above work in this financial year to promote children's rights; and
- c. the specific reasons for the estimated reduction of 10 projects funded under the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme in 2015 against 2014?

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Government will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme (CREFS), the Children's Rights Forum, and continued efforts in publicity and public education, including co-operating with the Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV programme on promotion of children's rights. The estimated provision for the above work (excluding manpower expenditure) is about \$3.32 million.

2. Applications for the 2015 CREFS were accepted from 10 September to 24 October 2014. The CREFS received a total of 41 applications and approved sponsorship for 25 of them; the total amount of sponsorship approved in 2015 was \$1.13 million, similar to the amount approved in 2014. In assessing the applications, the Assessment Committee considers the project proposals on their individual merits and in accordance with a set of assessment criteria like objectives and feasibility of the proposed projects; content of the

proposal; financial consideration; experience and network of the organisation; publicity plan; project evaluation and assessment methodology. As such, the number of projects sponsored each year depends on the number of proposals and whether they meet the assessment criteria.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB069**

**(Question Serial No. 2411)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

(a) Please provide in the table below the number of complaints on discrimination lodged under the Race Discrimination Ordinance received by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC).

	No. of complaints on racial discrimination received	No. of complaints on racial discrimination handled	No. of complaints on racial discrimination substantiated	No. of cases successfully convicted
2012				
2013				
2014				
2015 (as at March)				

(b) Regarding complaints on racial discrimination, please provide information as per following table.

	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against public sector organisations	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against private sector organisations	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against actions of individuals	Others (please specify)
2012				
2013				
2014				
2015 (as at March)				



(c) What are the EOC's publicity and educational measures in relation to racial discrimination taken in the past 3 years and the expenditure involved? What is the expected expenditure on publicity and educational efforts in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (Member Question No. 20)

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) enforces the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO) and implements publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness of the RDO and racial equality. The EOC advised that the number of complaints on discrimination it received under the RDO is set out as follows:

	No. of complaints on racial discrimination received	No. of complaints on racial discrimination handled (Note 1)	Outcome of complaint cases handled (Note 2)		No. of cases successfully convicted
2012	43	48	Conciliation attempted	11	0
			Investigation discontinued	32	
2013	28	46	Conciliation attempted	6	0
			Investigation discontinued	22	
2014	39	42	Conciliation attempted	15	0
			Investigation discontinued	14	
			Investigation in progress	10	
2015 (as at 8 March)	9	21	Conciliation attempted	0	0
			Investigation discontinued	1	
			Investigation in progress	8	

2. The number of complaints on racial discrimination against public and private sector organisations received under the RDO is set out below:

	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against public sector organisations (Note 3)	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against private sector organisations	No. of complaints on racial discrimination against actions of individuals	Others (please specify)
2012	6	27	10	0
2013	4	19	5	0
2014	4	18	17	0
2015 (as at 8 March)	0	6	3	0

Note 1: The number of cases handled includes the cases received in that year and those brought forward from the previous year.

Note 2: Cases which have been handled by the EOC are categorised as “Conciliation attempted” and “Investigation discontinued”; the figures provided reflect the follow-up situation/outcome of the cases received in that year.

Note 3: Public sector organisations include government departments.

3. Over the past 3 years, the major publicity and public education programmes relating to racial equality included a funding programme for non-profit-making organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities, radio programmes, drama performances in schools, youth mentorship programmes, outreaching programmes for ethnic minorities, roving exhibitions, and seminars and trainings for employers, employees, non-governmental organisations and community groups, etc. The EOC’s expenditures on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are \$24.67 million, \$18.33 million and \$22.12 million (revised estimate) respectively, and the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$19.53 million; about 25% of the aforementioned expenditures are used for the publicity and public education programmes on racial discrimination. Separately, starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the EOC for enhancing publicity and public education on the RDO. To this end, the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. Besides, the Government also provided an additional funding of \$2 million to the EOC in 2014-15 for promoting the RDO.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB070**

**(Question Serial No. 2434)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The current-term Government has attached great importance to “homeland relationship” and government officials at different ranks and public officers have made frequent visits to the Mainland. Please provide a list of gifts purchased with public funds for presentation to Mainland officials or authorities during the above visits in the past year with the cost of the gifts.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. As the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau does not specifically maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, relevant breakdowns are not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB071**

**(Question Serial No. 1466)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015-16 under Programme (5), it is mentioned that the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data will take steps to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications. Please advise on the details, including the plan of activities, the relevant target groups, objectives and estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) will help developers of mobile applications understand and comply with their legal obligations under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance) through a campaign titled "Developing Mobile Apps: Privacy Matters". The campaign will be co-organised by 10 professional organisations and trade associations with support from 9 professional/academic institutions in the field of information and communications technology. The campaign will include the following training activities:

- Regular seminars (once to twice every quarter) to explain the "Best Practice Guide for Mobile App Development";
- Talks, seminars and exhibitions as part of the two-week "IT Fest 2015" for the industry to enhance their awareness of the protection of personal data privacy;
- Training courses and teaching materials relevant to the development of mobile applications and with enhanced content on privacy protection for students of universities and vocational training institutes and young entrepreneurs; and
- A one-stop website with online training courses and teaching resources set up for developers of mobile applications.

2. The PCPD will also strengthen the contents of the thematic website “Think Privacy! Be Smart Online” to disseminate educational messages, and provide handy guidelines to the public through television Announcements in the Public Interest, social media and thematic websites to raise awareness of online privacy protection.

3. In 2015-16, the PCPD has set aside \$2.63 million for promotion, publicity and educational activities. Expenditure on the aforementioned activities is included in this sum.

4. The PCPD has conducted random checks on mobile applications since 2013-14 and will continue to conduct such checks in 2015-16 to ascertain whether the mobile applications in question comply with the requirements under the Ordinance in handling personal data, and will take enforcement actions where necessary. The PCPD will handle the work in this respect through deployment of its existing manpower and resources. No breakdown of the relevant expenditure is available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB072**

**(Question Serial No. 1467)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the work of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), please inform this Committee:

- (1) of the numbers of enquiries and complaints relating to the Police received in 2014-15; among them, how many had to be handled or investigated?
- (2) whether the PCPD will, in accordance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance), actively conduct compliance actions such as inspections or self-initiated investigations with regard to the recording, storage, access, use, transfer and deletion of the personal data collected by the Police in major events to evaluate whether the Police complies with the requirements of the Ordinance and make recommendations. If yes, what are the expenditure and manpower to be incurred?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 47)

Reply:

- (1) From April 2014 to February 2015, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) handled a total of 82 enquiries relating to the Police's handling of personal data. The number of relevant complaints to the PCPD was 16. One complaint led to a formal investigation which is still underway.
- (2) The PCPD has no plan at this juncture to conduct compliance checks in respect of video-recording by the Police in major events. In case of need, the PCPD will make suitable arrangements through deployment of existing manpower.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB073**

**(Question Serial No. 3169)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In respect of the work in relation to the Code on Access to Information (the Code), please advise on:

- (1) the total number of requests for information under the Code processed in the past 3 years and the number of requests met in full, in part or refused. Please provide statistics in relation to requests refused by bureaux/departments by reasons of refusal;
- (2) the work plans, targets, initiatives and timetable for promoting the Code in 2014-15 and 2015-16, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved; and
- (3) whether there are plans to revamp the content of the website on the Code in 2015-16 and release statistics in relation to requests for information under the Code and details of cases more frequently in machine-readable formats to enhance transparency and safeguard the public's right to know; if yes, of the details of the plans, the timetable, and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 48)

Reply:

During the period from January 2012 to September 2014, bureaux and departments received and responded to 9 868 requests for information made under the Code on Access to Information (the Code). (The number excludes requests withdrawn and requests for information not held by relevant bureaux/departments.) Among these requests, 9 486 were met in full, 155 were met in part and 227 were refused. A breakdown of the 227 cases by reasons for refusal is as follows:

<b>Reason for refusal (relevant paragraph of the Code)</b>	<b>No. of times quoted</b>
Defence and security (para. 2.3)	3
External affairs (para. 2.4)	7
Nationality, immigration and consular matters (para. 2.5)	2
Law enforcement, legal proceedings and public safety (para. 2.6)	25
Management and operation of the public service (para. 2.9)	18
Internal discussion and advice (para. 2.10)	17
Public employment and public appointments (para. 2.11)	2
Improper gain or advantage (para. 2.12)	2
Research, statistics and analysis (para. 2.13)	17
Third party information (para. 2.14)	85
Privacy of the individual (para. 2.15)	44
Business affairs (para. 2.16)	23
Premature requests (para. 2.17)	3
Legal restrictions (para. 2.18)	25

Note: The total number of refusal cases is exceeded by the total number of times the reasons for refusal are quoted, as there may be more than one reason to refuse a request.

2. In 2014-15, we promoted the Code through different media and outdoor advertisement with the production of a new television Announcement in the Public Interest and posters, and commissioned a television broadcaster to produce a series of 5 one-minute episodes on the content of the Code for broadcast on television and on the Internet. The expenditure incurred was \$3.12 million. In 2015-16, we shall continue promoting the Code; the estimated expenditure in this regard is \$0.7 million.

3. We are planning to revamp the Code on Access to Information Website in 2015-16 to include such content as quarterly statistics on requests for information handled by bureaux/departments and their outcome. We shall study in detail whether the additional statistics will be suitable for publication in machine-readable formats. The revamp is expected to be completed in 2015. The work of revamping the website and promoting the Code as mentioned above will be undertaken with the Bureau's existing manpower.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB074**

**(Question Serial No. 0971)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In the introduction of the Policy Address announced by the Chief Executive in January 2015, it is stated that “On constitutional development, we have to be wary of suggestions that deviate from the Basic Law. Discussions on constitutional development over the past year or so have revealed that many fail to properly understand the relationship between the Central Authorities and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and the constitutional requirements relating to constitutional development. ....They (university students and other young people) should be guided towards a full understanding of the constitutional relationship between our country and Hong Kong so that the discussion on constitutional development would not be fruitless.” This demonstrates the importance of promoting and letting the public to have a correct understanding of the Basic Law in taking forward Hong Kong’s constitutional development effectively. However, the 2015-16 estimate for Programme (2) where the above area of work falls under is lower than that of 2014-15.

Regarding the Bureau’s efforts in promoting public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, please list out the specific work initiatives, resource input, manpower involved and government departments or non-government organisations that the Bureau has worked with or will work with.

Asked by: Hon NG Leung-sing (Member Question No. 7)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has spent/set aside about \$16 million in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors. Regarding non-government organisations, the CMAB receives applications from non-profit-making organisations for funding support under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme to organise various Basic Law promotional activities.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 0972)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Estimate for 2015-16 under Programme (2) where initiatives to take forward Hong Kong's constitutional development fall under is \$5.6 million (4.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2014-15. According to analysis, this is mainly due to the reduced provision arising from the conclusion of the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 in 2015-16.

Please list out the specific initiatives, resource input and allocation of manpower for taking forward Hong Kong's constitutional development in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon NG Leung-sing (Member Question No. 8)

Reply:

The HKSAR Government conducted, from 4 December 2013 to 3 May 2014, the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016. The HKSAR Government published on 15 July 2014 the Report on the Public Consultation on the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2016. On the same day, the CE submitted his report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) to invite the NPCSC to make a determination on whether there is a need to amend the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016. On 31 August 2014, the NPCSC adopted the Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on Issues Relating to the Selection of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region by Universal Suffrage and on the Method for Forming the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the Year 2016. Subsequently, the HKSAR Government conducted, from 7 January 2015 to 7 March 2015, the public consultation on the method for selecting the CE by universal suffrage.

2. The respective expenditures on, the revised estimates and estimates of the above public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

	Million (\$)		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	0.9	2.0	1.2
Publicity	6.1	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.7	0.3
Total	7.2	12.1	5.0

3. On staff establishment, 6 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers posts were created in 2013-14, 2014-15 and for 2015-16. In 2014-15, we also created 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB076**

**(Question Serial No. 2459)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government list out the expenditure of the Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuhan as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, and the estimated expenditure of these offices in 2015-16? Does the Government have any plan to set up an office in Fujian in the coming three years? If yes, what are the plan and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 8)

Reply:

Regarding the Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO)), the actual expenditure in 2012-13 and 2013-14, the revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 and estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure in 2012-13 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure in 2013-14 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	61.48	64.54	69.75	74.33
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	43.71	51.09	54.78	54.92
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	24.07	29.85	34.78	39.49

<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	22.92	33.55	36.72	40.94
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	-	0.96 (expenditure for early preparatory work)	20.67	23.77
<b>HKETCO</b>	23.86	24.93	24.59	24.49

# The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

2. The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region attaches great importance to our relations with the Fujian Province, especially on economic and trade co-operation. To leverage on the developments of the Fujian Province and the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait, the Fujian Liaison Unit was set up in 2012.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB077**

**(Question Serial No. 2460)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government list out the expenditure on promotion of the Basic Law in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15? What are the specific initiatives and expenditure for promoting the Basic Law in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 9)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has spent about \$16 million in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. In 2015-16, we will continue to set aside about \$16 million for organising various Basic Law promotional activities. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the "one country, two systems" principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB078**

**(Question Serial No. 2461)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the expenditure for promoting universal suffrage for the Chief Executive (CE) election in 2017 in 2014-15, the specific promotional initiatives in 2015-16 and the expenditure involved? What is the expenditure for formulating the package of proposals on universal suffrage for the CE election in 2017?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of expenditure on publicity for the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
Total	12.1	5.0

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB079**

**(Question Serial No. 2462)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual  
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The estimated expenditure for the Programme: Rights of the Individual for 2015-16 is \$3.6 million lower than the revised estimate for 2014-15, representing a substantial decrease of 12.7%. What are the reasons for reduction in expenditure?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 11)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau's expenditure under Programme (4) in 2014-15 is higher than that in 2015-16 mainly due to deployment of extra resources in 2014-15 to enhance promotion of the Code on Access to Information and equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB080**

**(Question Serial No. 1896)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, Fujian and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region. In this connection, will the Government advise:

1. on the specific work plan in 2015-16 and provide a breakdown on estimate of expenditure, including estimated expenditure of each Mainland office; and
2. whether it has any plans to set up more offices in the Mainland; if it has; of the details?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 36)

Reply:

Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" are mainly handled by 2 divisions of staff in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work on deepening regional co-operation is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in the CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or quantified by region. Generally speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$149 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for the CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2015-16.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and the Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

3. We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Shanghai ETO this year, and a liaison unit in the central region upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO next year.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB081**

**(Question Serial No. 1897)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In 2015-16, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of the locations identified for setting up these units and the reasons for selecting the locations, as well as the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai this year. Shandong Province, which borders the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Metropolis Circle to the north and the Yangtze River Delta Region to the south, is an important economic growth pole in the eastern coastal areas of the Mainland. Setting up a liaison unit in Shandong Province will facilitate Hong Kong people and enterprises to capitalise on the opportunities brought about by the development of the eastern region. We also plan to set up a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In deciding the location of the liaison unit to be set up in the central region, we will take into account relevant factors, including the positioning, development situation and potential of the provinces/municipalities concerned; their economic and trade relations with Hong Kong and room for complementarities; and views of the industries. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB082**

**(Question Serial No. 1898)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2015-16, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices will promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. In this connection, will the Government advise:

1. on the specific work plan and provide a breakdown of the estimated expenditure; and
2. whether the effectiveness or cost-effectiveness of the initiatives taken has been evaluated; if yes, of the details; if no, of the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 38)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan.

2. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural

exchange functions and events; visiting enterprises with potential and interest in investing in Hong Kong; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

3. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices will review the cost-effectiveness of various initiatives from time to time to improve the relevant promotional work. On cost-effectiveness, promotional activities organised by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices last year achieved the effect of extensively promoting Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan, for example, the “Harbin Hong Kong Week 2014” launched in Harbin attracted over 60 000 participants; the “Hong Kong Week 2014” launched in Taiwan recorded an attendance of 120 000; the “Shanghai-Hong Kong Co-operation Summit” was attended by some 300 people from different sectors; and the “2014 Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic Co-operation Forum” was participated by some 250 representatives of the financial services, industrial and commercial sectors and academics from the two places.

4. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices’ work on promoting Hong Kong is an integral part of their roles and functions. The estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB083**

**(Question Serial No. 1120)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
Secretary for Security

Question:

It is stated under this Programme that information and other appropriate support will be provided to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan. In this connection:

1. The number of cases of provision of practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland and the number of enquiries handled by the Immigration Divisions of the Beijing Office / the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong / the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu are provided, but the number of requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in Taiwan is not. What is the reason? Is there any difference between the mechanism or manner in handling requests from Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and that in Taiwan? If so, what are the details?
2. What were the number of requests for assistance received from Hong Kong residents in Taiwan, of cases resolved and of cases followed up in the past three years? What was the nature of such cases?
3. In 2015-16, what are the specific measures for promoting Hong Kong's edge? What are the respective expenditure, manpower and implementation schedule involved? What are the changes made as compared with those in 2014-15 and what are the reasons? Has the Government evaluated the effectiveness and reviewed whether the existing establishment could cope with the workload for promoting economic, trade and cultural exchange with Taiwan? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
4. Regarding the information disseminated to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan, what are the major areas covered and by which means or system is the information disseminated? What are the expenditures and manpower involved?



5. Will a new information platform be created in 2015-16 and will manpower be deployed to facilitate more speedy dissemination of information to users? If so, please provide details of the new information system, the provision involved, the number of staff to be increased, the relevant posts to be created and the terms of employment involved. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO)) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, and their responsibilities include providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress. The Mainland Offices and the HKETCO also submits to the Legislative Council annual work reports which include the statistics and an overview of such requests for assistance. At present, the Hong Kong Immigration Department has three immigration divisions in the Mainland, stationed in the Beijing Office as well as the Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong and Chengdu respectively, which provide assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. In handling requests for assistance involving Hong Kong residents in distress in Taiwan, the HKETCO maintains close liaison with the Hong Kong Immigration Department and offers possible assistance in light of the circumstances, including providing advice on such matters as local administrative procedures, and on how to liaise with the relevant organisations or seek legal advice.

2. In the past 3 years, the numbers of requests for assistance (excluding general enquiries) received by the HKETCO are as follows:

2012: 35

2013: 30

2014: 35

Generally speaking, the requests for assistance are related to loss of travel documents, enquiries about the progress of judicial cases involving Hong Kong residents, requests for legal assistance in Taiwan or injuries/deaths due to accidents.

3. Promotion work on Hong Kong's comparative advantages by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in 2015-16 is primarily based on that in 2014-15. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases. As for promoting economic, trade and cultural exchange with Taiwan, the existing establishment of the HKETCO is able to cope with delivering the above work in Taiwan. We will review the resources for the HKETCO regularly to ensure the smooth performance of its functions.

4. On supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices collect practical information such as medical care, education, legal services etc., and disseminate such information through production of information booklets and the offices' websites to assist Hong Kong residents to adapt to living in the area. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to disseminate practical information to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan through producing information booklets and updating the offices' websites.

5. As promoting Hong Kong's comparative advantages and disseminating information are integral parts of the functions of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, the estimated expenditure and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

<b>CMAB084</b>
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**(Question Serial No. 0249)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under this Programme, it is mentioned that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will conclude the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee:

- a. of the expenditure on publicity (e.g. advertisement, public events, etc.) since the launch of the public consultation;
- b. whether it has set aside or allocated additional provision for the publicity of the public consultation in 2015-16; and
- c. whether it has mapped out any specific plans or directions for the above publicity work; if yes, of the details?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of expenditure on publicity for the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>

2. In 2015-16, we will continue the publicity work to mobilise the support of different sectors of the community to implement universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017 in strict compliance with the Basic Law and the relevant Interpretation and Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB085**

**(Question Serial No. 0250)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under Brief Description of this Programme, it is mentioned that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau promotes public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. Will the Government advise on:

- a. its plan to promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law;
- b. the specific programmes launched under the strategies of using electronic media, organising promotional activities and strengthening co-operation with community organisations respectively in undertaking the above work in the past year; and
- c. the provision set aside for the above work?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer

of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

3. In 2014-15, we have adopted the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB086**

**(Question Serial No. 0607)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention:

1. It is stated that more liaison units will continue to be set up. What are the number and locations of liaison units intended to be set up in 2015-16? What factors will be taken into account in selecting the locations and what are the reasons for that? What are the additional funding and staffing resources involved?
2. It is stated that economic and trade liaison with the Mainland will be strengthened and investment promotion function in the Mainland will be enhanced. What are the details of the plan and work arrangements involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai this year. Shandong Province, which borders the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Metropolis Circle to the north and the Yangtze River Delta Region to the south, is an important economic growth pole in the eastern coastal areas of the Mainland. Setting up a liaison unit in Shandong Province will facilitate Hong Kong people and enterprises to capitalise on the opportunities brought about by the development of the eastern region. We also plan to set up a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In deciding the location of the liaison unit to be set up in the central region, we will take into account relevant factors, including the positioning, development situation and potential of the provinces/municipalities concerned; their economic and trade relations with Hong Kong and room for complementarities; and views of the industries.

2. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units. The setting up of these two liaison units involves creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

3. For the coming year, the Mainland Offices will continue to promote the economic interest of Hong Kong, and enhance investment promotion in the Mainland through various channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland counterparts, as well as organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops.

4. The Mainland Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland. The related reports are available online at TDC’s website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland.

5. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB087**

**(Question Serial No. 1276)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

One of the Bureau's work is to engage the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) to take forward various priority co-operation areas agreed between the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and THEC.

How many meetings were held between the THEC and the ECCPC last year? How were the contents of various priority co-operation areas agreed between both sides followed up? What are the current progress and effectiveness of the relevant work?

The Hong Kong Tourism Board has commented that Taiwan is a highly potential visitor source for Hong Kong. What activities (such as exchange and promotion) will the Government organise in co-operation with the THEC in the future to enhance promotion of Hong Kong in Taiwan?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (Member Question No. 62)

Reply:

Since their establishment in 2010, the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) have convened annual joint meetings to promote Hong Kong-Taiwan co-operation in various priority areas on the economic and trade, cultural, tourism, social livelihood, city management and law enforcement exchange fronts. The 5th joint meeting was held in December 2014 in Taipei. At the meeting, both sides discussed the latest progress of areas pursued on the ECCPC-THEC platform, which included: both sides signed an agreement last year to launch the Asia Cruise Fund, encouraging cruise lines to include Hong Kong and Taiwan in more cruise itineraries; deposit protection agencies on both sides signed a memorandum of understanding to

enhance information sharing and co-operation in dealing with cross-region deposit matters; the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Industrial Technology Research Institute in Taiwan signed a co-operation agreement to create a platform for matching investors and business partners for high-tech enterprises in the two places; the leading Chinese orchestras of the two places signed a co-operation agreement to enhance artistic exchange and resource sharing etc. In addition, both sides agreed to establish a point-to-point communication mechanism on 4 fronts including communicable diseases, food safety, Chinese medicine and Western drugs, facilitating information exchange and responsive communication between relevant bodies on related matters.

2. In respect of efforts in promoting Hong Kong in Taiwan, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) has been organising joint activities with the Taiwan office of the Hong Kong Tourism Board to promote Hong Kong's tourism industry. The HKETCO will also continue to promote Hong Kong through other public relations functions and cultural events, including:

- (a) investment promotion and trade seminars in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote Hong Kong's various advantages, and encourage Taiwan enterprises to invest in Hong Kong;
- (b) a series of talks on Hong Kong culture in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote cultural exchanges between the two places, and cultural activities co-organised with the city and county authorities to promote Hong Kong's unique culture and image;
- (c) the annual "Hong Kong Week" activities co-organised with the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee to showcase Hong Kong's unique arts and culture to the Taiwan community;
- (d) an inter-city forum jointly organised with a city or county authority to publicise the experience and success stories of Hong Kong in city management; and
- (e) joint activities with the Taiwan office of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to strengthen liaison with different sectors in Taiwan.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB088**

**(Question Serial No. 1277)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Provision for 2015-16 is \$16.6 million (6.9%) higher than the revised estimate for the previous financial year due to the increased provision for continuing to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. In addition, there will be a net increase of 2 posts.

How many Mainland Offices and liaison units have been set up so far? Will the Government set out in table form the relevant staff establishment and expenditure on salaries?

What are the considerations for setting up liaison units in the Mainland? Does the Government have any plans to further set up more liaison units in the coming years?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

Following the establishment of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan in April 2014, the HKSAR Government has a more comprehensive network of offices in the Mainland, with the Shanghai ETO in the east, the Guangdong ETO in the south, the Chengdu ETO in the west, the Beijing Office (BJO) in the north and the Wuhan ETO in the central region.

2. Currently, we have set up the Shenzhen Liaison Unit and the Fujian Liaison Unit under the Guangdong ETO, and the Chongqing Liaison Unit under the Chengdu ETO. To further improve the network of Mainland Offices so that each Office will be linked with one to two liaison units, we set up the Liaoning Liaison Unit under the BJO in December 2014. We also plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Shanghai ETO this

year, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

3. The establishment of the BJO for 2015-16 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 16 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary). The estimated expenditure of the BJO on salaries for the year is \$20.2 million. The above figures have included the manpower and estimated expenditure on salaries for the Liaoning Liaison Unit.

4. The establishment of the Guangdong ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer). The estimated expenditure of the Guangdong ETO on salaries for the year is \$15.1 million. The above figures have included the manpower and estimated expenditure on salaries for the Shenzhen Liaison Unit and the Fujian Liaison Unit.

5. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers and 1 Senior Information Officer). The estimated expenditure of the Shanghai ETO on salaries for the year is \$9.52 million. The above figures have included the additional manpower and estimated expenditure on salaries for the liaison unit intended to be set up in Shandong Province this year.

6. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers). The estimated expenditure of the Chengdu ETO on salaries for the year is \$11.45 million. The above figures have included the manpower and estimated expenditure on salaries for the Chongqing Liaison Unit.

7. The establishment of the Wuhan ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, and 1 Executive Officer I). The estimated expenditure of the Wuhan ETO on salaries for the year is \$6.28 million. The above figures have included the additional manpower and estimated expenditure on salaries for the liaison unit intended to be set up in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB089**

**(Question Serial No. 0049)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the estimated provision for the salary and allowances of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provision for the salary in respect of the position of Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 is \$3.58 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB090**

**(Question Serial No. 0061)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the estimated provision for the salary and allowances of the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provision for the salary in respect of the position of Deputy Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 is \$2.33 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB091**

**(Question Serial No. 0062)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the estimated provision for the salary and allowances of the Political Assistant to the Secretary of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provision for the salary in respect of the position of Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 is \$1.25 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB092**

**(Question Serial No. 1344)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Will the Government please advise:

1. the public relations, cultural and tourism promotion events for promoting the strengths of Hong Kong organised by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in the past three years, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved;
2. the public relations and cultural events for promoting Hong Kong's tourism to be organised in 2015-16 to open up markets, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved; and
3. in organising the above events, the ways in which the Mainland and Taiwan Offices share resources with the Hong Kong Tourism Board to promote Hong Kong jointly?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

The Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (Mainland and Taiwan Offices) have taken continuous efforts in actively promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and organising or co-organising public relations, cultural and tourism promotion events. The initiatives taken over the past three years include organising or co-organising the launching of film festivals, dance performances, theatrical shows, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, comic exhibitions, book fairs, lantern carnivals, radio and television programmes, etc. The Offices also co-operated with the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) to launch large-scale promotional events, such as organising the "Taste of Hong Kong" gourmet art exhibition, producing and publicising the handbook on "Pioneer of Art in Asia - Hong Kong", to showcase Hong Kong's culture, arts and tourism from different perspectives.



2. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to promote the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including the following public relations cultural and tourism promotion events:

- (a) supporting Hong Kong organisations in launching book fairs, film exhibitions and philharmonic orchestra performances in the Mainland;
- (b) co-operating with Mainland radio stations to launch programmes promoting Hong Kong's positive image; and
- (c) organising a series of talks on Hong Kong culture in Taiwan to promote cultural exchanges between the two places, and co-organising with the city and county authorities in Taiwan cultural activities to promote Hong Kong's unique culture and image.

The Mainland Offices have planned to roll out joint promotions with HKTB in the eastern, central and western regions of the Mainland, with a view to attracting overnight visitors to Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan will stage in Taiwan an exhibition of photos of Hong Kong collected from the two places to showcase Hong Kong's unique scenery and travel experience, with a view to attracting Taiwan visitors to Hong Kong.

3. As the work involved in promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and organising or co-organising public relations, cultural and tourism promotion events is an integral part of the duties and functions of the offices, the expenditure and manpower involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB093**

**(Question Serial No. 2017)**

Head: (163) Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It was reported that a Legislative Council member of the District Council (second) functional constituency might announce resignation to trigger a by-election. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

In the Budget of the coming year, has the Government earmarked a sum for the by-election? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office has reserved approximately \$200 million in 2015-16 for the preparation and conduct of any possible by-election.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB094**

**(Question Serial No. 2018)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In the District Council election in 2011, there were many rumours of illegal vote-rigging activities. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) Has the Government taken any measures to prevent vote-rigging? If so, what are the manpower, expenditure and measures involved? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) Has the Government conducted any publicity campaigns to prevent vote-rigging in the District Council election to be held in late 2015? If so, what are the manpower, expenditure and measures involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (Member Question No. 19)

Reply:

In the light of public concern on the accuracy of residential addresses recorded in the voter register in recent years, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has stepped up publicity since the 2012 Voter Registration (VR) cycle to remind the public about the importance of providing true and accurate information for registration and updating their registered residential addresses. Besides, the REO has implemented various checking measures and inquiry process to improve the accuracy and completeness of VR records. The checking measures include follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections; cross-matching of the residential addresses of electors with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on residential addresses with multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors; random sample checks on registered and newly registered electors; checks on addresses with incomplete information or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses situated at buildings already demolished or to be demolished.

2. In the 2015 VR cycle, the REO will continue the checking work and conduct full-scale verification with the Housing Department and the Hong Kong Housing Society in respect of electors with registered residential addresses in public housing units. The number of electors covered by the checking measures in the 2015 VR cycle will be around 1.6 million, representing about 46% of electors contained in the register.

3. The REO will increase manpower and resources in 2015-16 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the 2015 District Council election and the 2016 Legislative Council election, and to enhance the checking work. The VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 98 civil servants (including 12 time-limited civil service posts) and around 500 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$111 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB095**

**(Question Serial No. 1027)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The number of new electors registered in the coming year will increase significantly to 159 100 from 78 837 in 2014 and the number of elector records updated will also increase substantially from 124 422 this year to 242 800 next year. What is the basis for such estimation? To which age group are the majority of the new electors expected to belong?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 31)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office estimates the total number of newly registered electors in the 2015 voter registration cycle after making reference to the number of applications for voter registration handled in past election years and recent years. We have not made further estimation of the number of newly registered electors by different age groups.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB096**

**(Question Serial No. 1048)**

Head: (163) Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

A pan-democratic Legislative Council member announced earlier that he would resign from the office of legislator in order to trigger de facto "referendum" through resignation and by-election. Has the Government earmarked resources to prepare for by-election after his resignation? If so, what is the amount of provision? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 26)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office has reserved approximately \$200 million in 2015-16 for the preparation and conduct of any possible by-election.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB097**

**(Question Serial No. 1059)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is pointed out in the Estimates that the Registration and Electoral Office will continue to encourage eligible persons (including young persons in particular) to register as electors. Besides public broadcasting channels, will publicity be made through social media popular among young persons?

Given the expanding population of the ethnic minorities, will the Government put in place measures to encourage and assist members of the ethnic minorities who are Hong Kong permanent residents to register as electors?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will make use of different channels to encourage appeal to members of the public in different age groups to register as electors. Publicity measures include traditional media (such as television, radio and newspaper) and new media that are more popular among young people (such as websites and mobile applications), etc.

2. To help ethnic minorities register as electors, the voter registration website of the REO ([www.voterregistration.gov.hk](http://www.voterregistration.gov.hk)) provides, in 7 languages of the ethnic minorities, information on the eligibility for registration, means to collect and submit application forms, statutory deadlines and enquiry hotline services. Besides, the REO will, through the Home Affairs Department, set up voter registration counters in the support service centres for ethnic minorities during the voter registration campaign to encourage and help eligible ethnic minorities register as electors. The REO will also post publicity notices and distribute publicity leaflets in the support service centres; applications forms are also available for completion by eligible persons. The REO will disseminate information on voter registration to ethnic minorities through radio and newspapers for ethnic minorities so as to call upon eligible persons to register as electors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB098**

**(Question Serial No. 1060)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

A total of 45 posts will be created in the Registration and Electoral Office in 2015-16 for undertaking election-related duties. While more manpower will be required in the 2016 Legislative Council election year, the establishment still sees a significant increase of 39% over that of 2012. What are the major areas of duties of the additional staffing establishment? Will the additional manpower be adjusted correspondingly in the non-election year in 2017-18?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. The major responsibilities of such posts are amending the relevant electoral legislation; reviewing, updating and issuing guidelines on election-related activities; conducting the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring electoral materials and support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities. The REO will suitably adjust its manpower according to the requirements for various electoral tasks in the election cycle. All the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB099**

**(Question Serial No. 1794)**

Head: (163) Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

A pan-democratic Legislative Council member plans to trigger a so-called “de-facto referendum” by resigning after the vote on the electoral reform package in the middle of this year. Has the Government earmarked resources for the by-election? If so, what is the budget? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office has reserved approximately \$200 million in 2015-16 for the preparation and conduct of any possible by-election.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB100**

**(Question Serial No. 1795)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The number of constituencies will increase by 19 to 431 for the 2015 District Council election. How much resources will the Government allocate to conduct this election? What is the increase in expenditure when compared to that of the 2011 District Council election?

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

As far as a District Council ordinary election is concerned, it normally spans several financial years from the preparation to the completion of all winding-up work. Regarding the 2015 District Council election, the preparatory work commenced in 2014-15 and a provision of \$100 million is included in the 2014-15 revised estimate for the purpose. As for 2015-16, the provision for the Registration and Electoral Office for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council election is \$365 million. Since the 2015 District Council election will be held in November 2015, it is anticipated that the payment of part of the election expenses incurred has to be settled in 2016-17.

2. As for the preparation and conduct of the 2011 District Council election, the actual expenditure is \$194 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB101**

**(Question Serial No. 1597)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Provision for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Registration and Electoral Office increases by 300.5% when compared with the revised estimate for 2014-15, and it is expected that 45 posts will be created. Please set out the ranks, nature of work and expenditures involved for the posts created.

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (Member Question No. 53)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. The major responsibilities of such posts are amending the relevant electoral legislation; reviewing, updating and issuing guidelines on election-related activities; conducting the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring electoral materials and support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities. All the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017. The estimated salary expenditure for these 45 posts in 2015-16 is around \$16 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB102**

**(Question Serial No. 2252)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

According to Government's web page on voter registration, the number of registered electors aged between 18 and 30 remains low. Does the Registration and Electoral Office have any plans to encourage young people to register as electors in the 2015 and 2016 election years so that they can vote in elections in Hong Kong? Please give details of the plans, including the format and number of the publicity activities to be held, timing and estimates of expenditure required.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Dennis (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will make use of different channels to appeal to members of the public in different age groups to register as electors. Publicity measures include traditional media (such as television, radio and newspaper) and new media that are more popular among young people (such as websites and mobile applications), etc. In addition, the REO will launch the following publicity measures during the 2015 Voter Registration Campaign to encourage eligible young people to register as electors if they have yet to do so:

- (a) setting up registration counters at the Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to encourage and facilitate young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at these Offices to register as electors;
- (b) displaying posters in universities, tertiary institutions and secondary schools to appeal to eligible students to register as electors;
- (c) setting up registration counters in universities and tertiary institutions to appeal to and assist eligible students to register as electors;

- (d) appealing to secondary school students who will reach the age of 18 to register as electors through the school visit programme; and
- (e) setting up registration counters at venues holding major events which young people will attend, such as the recruitment examination centres of the Civil Service Bureau, in order to appeal to and assist candidates to register as electors.

2. The total expenditure on voter registration and checking measures in 2015-16 is estimated to be around \$111 million, including expenses for the publicity of the 2015 Voter Registration Campaign, processing of voter registration applications, compilation and publication of Provisional and Final Registers of Electors as well as other operational expenses. In organising the publicity programme of the 2016 Voter Registration Campaign, the REO will make reference to the actual operational experience of the 2015 Voter Registration Campaign and make provisions for the expenditure required in the 2016-17 Draft Estimates.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB103**

**(Question Serial No. 2145)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. The Government has mentioned that this year it will particularly encourage young persons to register as electors. What are the details of and expenditure to be incurred on the relevant work?
2. Please provide a breakdown of the 45 posts to be created in 2015-16 by grade.

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will make use of different channels to appeal to members of the public in different age groups to register as electors. Publicity measures include traditional media (such as television, radio and newspaper) and new media that are more popular among young people (such as websites and mobile applications), etc. In addition, REO will launch the following publicity measures during the 2015 Voter Registration Campaign to encourage eligible young people to register as electors if they have yet to do so:

- (a) setting up registration counters at the Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to encourage and facilitate young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at these Offices to register as electors;
- (b) displaying posters in universities, tertiary institutions and secondary schools to appeal to eligible students to register as electors;
- (c) setting up registration counters in universities and tertiary institutions to appeal to and assist eligible students to register as electors;
- (d) appealing to secondary school students who will reach the age of 18 to register as electors through the school visit programme; and

(e) setting up registration counters at venues holding major events which young people will attend, such as the recruitment examination centres of the Civil Service Bureau, in order to appeal to and assist candidates to register as electors.

2. The total expenditure for voter registration and checking measures in 2015-16 is estimated to be around \$111 million, including expenses for the publicity of the 2015 Voter Registration Campaign, processing of voter registration applications, compilation and publication of Provisional and Final Registers of Electors as well as other operational expenses.

3. The REO will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB104**

**(Question Serial No. 3186)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What was the expenditure on enhancing accessibility inside polling stations of various districts for persons with disabilities, including persons with visual impairment, deaf-mutes, persons with physical impairment and persons with mental impairment, in the past 3 years? What are the details of the enhancement project? Has the Government evaluated the effectiveness? What is the estimated expenditure involved in the enhancement project for 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon LAU Wai-hing, Emily (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) adopted various measures in past elections to facilitate voting by persons with disabilities and different needs. These measures include:

- (a) persons with visual impairment may call the REO hotline on 2891 1001 to request hotline staff to provide election information and enquire their voter registration records. Besides, during the election, persons with visual impairment may also learn of the name and address of the polling station allocated to them through the aforementioned hotline and request the hotline staff to read out the contents of the relevant "Introduction to Candidates" to them;
- (b) the REO always encourages candidates to provide the text version of their Introduction to Candidates for uploading onto the election website [www.elections.gov.hk](http://www.elections.gov.hk) to facilitate persons with visual impairment to read the relevant information online using software aids;



- (c) the REO provides Braille templates for persons with visual impairment to facilitate their marking of ballot papers;
- (d) staff at the polling stations also provide a Braille list of candidates for persons with visual impairment to facilitate their reading of the relevant information;
- (e) if persons with visual impairment request staff at the polling stations to mark ballot papers for them, the Presiding Officer, Deputy Presiding Officer or Assistant Presiding Officer will do so for them according to their choice in a voting compartment. The whole process must be witnessed by another staff at the polling station to ensure the voting is conducted in a fair manner;
- (f) in the 2011 District Council and 2012 Legislative Council elections, over 90% of the polling stations were “accessible polling stations”, i.e., polling stations suitable for use by mobility-handicapped persons or wheelchair users. Regarding the District Council election to be held at the end of this year, the REO will, as always, strive to look for accessible venues to serve as polling stations with a target of setting up at least 90% of the polling stations in such accessible venues;
- (g) under safe circumstances, the REO sets up temporary ramps at the polling stations that are not readily accessible to mobility-handicapped persons or wheelchair users;
- (h) all polling stations that provide wheelchair access have more spacious voting compartments and lower polling tables to facilitate voting by wheelchair users;
- (i) through using poll cards and various promotion channels such as radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs), election website and press releases, as well as reaching out to organisations of persons with disabilities via the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the REO provides information to and reminds electors who have mobility difficulty or use wheelchairs that if they find it difficult to access the allocated polling station, they may apply to the REO for changing to a special polling station, which is accessible to them, at least 5 days before the polling day;
- (j) where circumstances permit, the REO may, via the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation, arrange Rehabuses to transport electors with disabilities to and from the polling stations;
- (k) all polling stations provide pictorial illustrations explaining voting procedures to assist persons with hearing impairment to vote; and
- (l) the REO provides, as far as possible, sign language translation in the APIs relating to the voting procedures.

Expenditure on the above measures was subsumed in the overall election expenses. Therefore, no breakdown of the individual expenditure item is available.

2. The REO will review the relevant measures when preparing for the elections of this election cycle, and is willing to meet with representatives of various groups representing persons with disabilities to listen to their comments and improve, where appropriate, the above measures to facilitate eligible electors with different needs to exercise their right to vote.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB105**

**(Question Serial No. 2503)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It was pointed out by the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) that the tasks accomplished in 2014-15 include “the enhancement of checking of electors in the current register in respect of their registered addresses” and “the conduct of cross-matching exercise with other government departments on electors’ registration particulars”. Will the REO provide the details of the following:

- (1) In 2014-15, how much resources were allocated by the REO for the updating of the register of electors, including manpower and expenditure involved? What were the specific initiatives?
- (2) In 2014-15, did the REO allocate resources for the investigation of vote-rigging cases and complaints against vote-rigging? If so, what were the details? If not, what were the reasons?
- (3) In 2015-16, how much resources does the REO plan to allocate for the investigation of vote-rigging cases and complaints against vote-rigging? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

In the light of public concern on the accuracy of residential addresses recorded in the voter register in recent years, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has stepped up publicity since the 2012 Voter Registration (VR) cycle to remind the public about the importance of providing true and accurate information for registration and updating their registered residential addresses. Besides, the REO has implemented various checking measures and inquiry process to improve the accuracy and completeness of VR records. The checking measures include follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections; cross-matching of the residential addresses of electors with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on

residential addresses with multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors; random sample checks on registered and newly registered electors; checks on addresses with incomplete information or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses situated at buildings already demolished or to be demolished.

2. The REO verified the registration particulars of about 140 000 electors through the aforementioned measures in the 2014 VR cycle. In the 2015 VR cycle, the REO will continue the checking work and conduct full-scale verification with the Housing Department and the Hong Kong Housing Society in respect of electors with registered residential addresses in public housing units. The number of electors covered by the checking measures in the 2015 VR cycle will be around 1.6 million, representing about 46% of electors contained in the register.

3. In 2014-15, the relevant work (including that related to investigations and complaints) was carried out by a team comprising 92 civil servants (including 6 time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are about \$56 million.

4. The REO will increase manpower and resources in 2015-16 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the 2015 District Council election and the 2016 Legislative Council election, and to enhance the checking work. The VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 98 civil servants (including 12 time-limited civil service posts) and around 500 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$111 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB106**

**(Question Serial No. 2504)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

With regard to the number of applications for voter registration, would the Government please provide the following information:

1) The number of newly-registered electors in 2013 and 2014 by month.

Month	Year	
	2013	2014

2) The breakdown of newly-registered electors by the 18 districts in 2013 and 2014.

District Council District	Year	
	2013	2014

3) The number of elector records updated, with a breakdown by the 18 districts, in 2013 and 2014.

District Council District	Year	
	2013	2014

4) What criteria are the estimates of the number of newly-registered electors and the updated number of electors in 2015 based on?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) does not keep statistics of newly registered electors by month. According to the 2013 and 2014 Final Registers of Electors, the number of newly registered electors in each District Council (DC) is set out below:

	2013	2014
Central & Western	1 487	1 970
Wan Chai	905	823
Eastern	3 941	5 182
Southern	1 775	2 462
Yau Tsim Mong	2 263	2 799
Sham Shui Po	3 028	4 057
Kowloon City	2 786	4 221
Wong Tai Sin	3 609	4 681
Kwun Tong	5 584	8 068
Tsuen Wan	2 310	2 849
Tuen Mun	3 791	5 355
Yuen Long	5 562	7 491
Kwai Tsing	3 735	5 839
Islands	1 139	1 665
North	2 865	4 048
Tai Po	2 345	3 511
Sai Kung	3 849	4 347
Sha Tin	5 647	7 893
Total	56 621	77 261

2. According to the 2013 and 2014 Final Registers of Electors, the number of electors with updating of registration particulars in each DC is set out below:

	2013	2014
Central & Western	4 087	3 761
Wan Chai	2 221	1 885
Eastern	9 912	9 667

Southern	3 875	4 465
Yau Tsim Mong	4 291	3 880
Sham Shui Po	8 936	6 866
Kowloon City	5 862	12 151
Wong Tai Sin	6 519	6 162
Kwun Tong	10 911	10 632
Tsuen Wan	4 975	3 957
Tuen Mun	7 878	8 237
Yuen Long	10 784	11 444
Kwai Tsing	6 065	7 587
Islands	2 052	2 126
North	4 704	4 283
Tai Po	4 476	5 866
Sai Kung	7 694	6 810
Sha Tin	10 904	11 182
Total	116 146	120 961

3. The REO estimates the total number of newly registered electors in the 2015 voter registration cycle after making reference to the number of applications for voter registration handled in past election years and recent years.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB107**

**(Question Serial No. 3287)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in last year's Budget that government departments and the public sector should conduct expenditure reviews and consider how best to consolidate their services and funding schemes in order to further enhance the efficiency of public services (see paragraph 139 of the 2014-15 Budget). Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (i) in respect of the following listed government department/public organisation with a greater or smaller change/percentage change in their respective estimated established posts in the coming year as compared to last year, the ranks of the posts to be created/deleted and their respective numbers;
- (ii) for the above creation/deletion of posts, the total amounts of annual salaries and fringe benefits involved;
- (iii) the major reasons for the above creation/deletion of posts.

Head of Expenditure	Total number of established posts according to the revised estimate as at 31.3.2015	Total number of established posts according to the estimate as at 31.3.2016	Number of posts created/deleted (% change)
Registration and Electoral Office	214	259	+45 (+21.0%)

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kenneth (Member Question No. 2.01)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3

Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. The major responsibilities of such posts are amending the relevant electoral legislation; reviewing, updating and issuing guidelines on election-related activities; conducting the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring electoral materials and support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities. The REO will suitably adjust its manpower according to the requirements for various electoral tasks in the election cycle. All the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017. The estimated salary expenditure for these 45 posts in 2015-16 is around \$16 million.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB108**

**(Question Serial No. 2203)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the estimated number of staff, annual emoluments, housing allowance and allowances for the expenses on duty visits and entertainment pertaining to the following posts in the Registration and Electoral Office in 2015-16.

- Chief Electoral Officer
- Senior Project Officer
- Deputy Chief Electoral Officer
- Senior Electoral Officer
- Electoral Officer
- Assistant Electoral Officer
- Senior Clerical Officer
- Clerical Officer
- Senior Supplies Officer
- Supplies Officer
- Assistant Supplies Officer
- Supplies Supervisor I
- Principal Information Officer
- Senior Information Officer
- Head (Information Technology Management Unit)
- Systems Manager
- Analyst/Programmer I
- Analyst/Programmer II

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 616)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has a total of 213 permanent posts and one supernumerary post as at 31 March 2015. This, coupled with the 45 posts to be created by the REO in 2015-16, will entail an estimated salary and allowance expenditure of around \$126 million. Details of the above-mentioned 259 posts are as follows:

Post	Number of posts (projected up to 31 March 2016)
Senior Principal Executive Officer	1
Principal Executive Officer	1
Chief Executive Officer	7
Senior Executive Officer	27
Executive Officer I	59
Executive Officer II	20
Senior Clerical Officer	1
Clerical Officer	24
Assistant Clerical Officer	78
Clerical Assistant	16
Office Assistant	2
Personal Secretary I	2
Personal Secretary II	2
Senior Systems Manager	1
Systems Manager	1
Analyst/Programmer I	2
Analyst/Programmer II	2
Senior Information Officer	1
Information Officer	1
Senior Supplies Officer	1
Supplies Officer	2
Assistant Supplies Officer	2
Supplies Supervisor I	1
Supplies Supervisor II	1
Chauffeur	1
Workman II	3
Total	259

2. The REO has no plan at this stage for duty visits or official entertainment in 2015-16.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB109**

**(Question Serial No. 1151)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Government has conducted random checks to verify electors' addresses in the register of electors since 2012. Electors who fail to respond to enquiry letters to confirm their registered addresses by the deadline will be de-registered. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (1) The numbers of electors whose registration status was removed in the past 3 years, broken down by main reasons (such as decease, voluntary de-registration, loss of Hong Kong permanent resident status and failure to respond to enquiry letters, etc.).
- (2) The expenditure and the staff establishment involved in the publicity of the random checks on the residential addresses of electors in the register of electors in the past 3 years. Has the Government assessed the effectiveness of such work to ensure that the public is aware of the random checks on the residential addresses of electors in the register of electors? If so, what are the results? If not, what are the reasons?
- (3) Elections for the District Councils, Legislative Council and the Chief Executive will be held in 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively, and universal suffrage may be implemented for the Chief Executive election in 2017. What is the amount of resources allocated for the publicity of the random check system in the coming 3 years to ensure that registered electors will be entitled to vote in the above 3 elections and will not be disqualified from voting without reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. 6)

Reply:

In the last three voter registration (VR) cycles from 2012 to 2014, the number of geographical constituency electors who have been removed from the register of electors because of loss of eligibility for registration is as follows:

Reason for removal and number of electors	Cycle	2012	2013	2014
Failure to respond to statutory inquiry procedures		218 199	26 281	13 740
Death		22 324	24 591	26 863
Other reasons (such as voluntary de-registration, loss of Hong Kong permanent resident status)		1 896	527	295
<b>Total</b>		<b>242 419</b>	<b>51 399</b>	<b>40 898</b>

2. In the light of public concern on the accuracy of residential addresses recorded in the voter register in recent years, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has stepped up publicity since the 2012 VR cycle to remind the public about the importance of providing true and accurate information for registration and updating their registered residential addresses. Besides, the REO has implemented various checking measures and inquiry process to improve the accuracy and completeness of VR records. The checking measures include follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections; cross-matching of the residential addresses of electors with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on residential addresses with multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors; random sample checks on registered and newly registered electors; checks on addresses with incomplete information or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses situated at buildings already demolished or to be demolished.

3. The REO checks and verifies the particulars of electors to ensure the accuracy of the electors' particulars contained in the register. The relevant work has been undertaken by a team comprising civil servants and non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff responsible for VR matters. Details of the manpower resources and operational expenses in the last three VR cycles are as follows:

Year	Number of civil servants*	Number of NCSC staff @	Expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses
2012-13	78	330	\$71 million
2013-14	86	46	\$40 million
2014-15	92	about 200	\$56 million (revised estimate)

\*including time-limited civil service posts created in the relevant years.

@NCSC staff are employed according to actual needs. These figures represent the numbers of NCSC staff employed during the peak period of the respective VR cycles.

4. The REO will increase manpower and resources in 2015-16 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the 2015 District Council election and the 2016 Legislative Council election, and to

enhance the checking work. The REO will continue to strengthen the publicity measures so as to remind the electors under checking to update or confirm their registered residential addresses with the REO before the deadline. The VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 98 civil servants (including 12 time-limited civil service posts) and around 500 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$111 million. The aforementioned promotion of VR and checking work will continue to be carried out in the 2015, 2016 and 2017 VR cycles.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB110**

**(Question Serial No. 0973)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Registration and Electoral Office has substantially increased its posts by 75 in 2014-15 and it plans to create 45 more posts in 2015-16. Its establishment almost doubled within a short period of two years' time. What are the reasons? Please set out the ranks, estimated remuneration and specific scope of work of these 45 posts to be created.

Asked by: Hon NG Leung-sing (Member Question No. 9)

Reply:

After reviewing the experience of the previous election cycles, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has estimated the manpower required for the planning and preparatory work for the various elections to be conducted in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017.

2. The REO will create 45 posts in 2015-16 which, together with the 75 posts created in 2014-15, are mainly deployed for the continued preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election.

3. These 45 posts include 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. The major responsibilities of such posts are amending the relevant electoral legislation; reviewing, updating and issuing guidelines on election-related activities; conducting the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring

electoral materials and support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities. All the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017. The estimated salary expenditure for these 45 posts in 2015-16 is around \$16 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB111**

**(Question Serial No. 0974)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The revised estimate for 2014-15 of the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) reduces by \$82.6 million (30.8%) compared with the original estimate for 2014-15. What are the specific reasons and details involved? What is the influence to the original work plan of the REO?

On the other hand, the estimate for 2015-16 increases substantially by \$558.1 million (300.5%) compared with the revised estimate for 2014-15. What are the specific reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Leung-sing (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

The revised estimate for 2014-15 of the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) is \$82.6 million (30.8%) less than its original estimate. The main reasons are that the rental cost of temporary offices and warehouses is lower than the budgeted provision and that the progress of filling some civil service posts newly-created in 2014-15 and employing non-civil service contract staff is slower than expected, resulting in a reduction in the expenditure on staff remuneration. Overall speaking, the revision to the provision does not affect the preparatory works for the elections.

2. The increase in provision for the REO in 2015-16 is mainly due to increased requirements for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election, preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, as well as preparation and conduct of any possible by-election. The provisions reserved for these purposes are around \$365 million, \$97 million and \$200 million respectively.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB112**

**(Question Serial No. 2456)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The revised estimate of the Registration and Electoral Office for 2014-15 reduces by \$82.6 million (30.8%) when compared with the original estimate. What are the reasons for the substantial decrease of expenditure?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 5)

Reply:

The revised estimate for 2014-15 is \$82.6 million (30.8%) less than the original estimate. The main reasons are that the rental cost of temporary offices and warehouses is lower than the budgeted provision and that the progress of filling some civil service posts newly-created in 2014-15 and employing non-civil service contract staff is slower than expected, resulting in a reduction in the expenditure on staff remuneration. Overall speaking, the revision to the provision does not affect the preparatory works for the elections.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB113**

**(Question Serial No. 2457)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) provide the increase in expenditure in 2007-08 compared to that in 2006-07? What is the percentage increase? The estimated expenditure of the REO in 2015-16 will increase by \$558.1 million, i.e. 300.5% compared with the revised expenditure in 2014-15. What are the differences between the increase in expenditure this year and that in 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 6)

Reply:

The increase in provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) in 2015-16 is mainly due to increased requirements for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election, preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, as well as preparation and conduct of any possible by-election. The provisions reserved for these purposes are around \$365 million, \$97 million and \$200 million respectively.

2. The actual expenses incurred by the REO in 2007-08 and 2006-07 are \$229 million and \$135 million respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB114**

**(Question Serial No. 2458)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

A Legislative Council member of the District Council (second) functional constituency has stated that he would resign in 2015-16. If a by-election has to be held to fill the seat, what is the Registration and Electoral Office's estimated expenditure for the by-election? What is the increase in expenditure between this by-election and the Legislative Council by-election for five geographical constituency seats in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 7)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office has reserved approximately \$200 million in 2015-16 for the preparation and conduct of any possible by-election. As for the preparation and conduct of the 2010 Legislative Council by-election, the actual expenditure is about \$126 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB115**

**(Question Serial No. 0440)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under this Programme, provision for the current financial year is \$558.1 million higher than last year, a marked increase of 300.5%. According to the Government, this is mainly due to increased requirements for making preparations for the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the 2016 Legislative Council general election. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- a. What are the estimated provisions to be allocated to the preparations for the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the 2016 Legislative Council general election? Please provide details of the preparation work;
- b. The Government pointed out that 45 posts will be created in 2015-16 for undertaking election-related duties. Please provide details of the newly created posts; and
- c. Are the newly created posts permanent civil service posts or will appointments be made on non-civil service contract terms?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has reserved \$365 million and \$97 million for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election respectively. The work includes amendments to relevant electoral legislation; review, updating and issuance of guidelines on election-related activities; conduct of the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring electoral materials and support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities.

2. The REO will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. These 45 posts are all civil service posts. Except for the Information Officer post, all of them are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB116**

**(Question Serial No. 3118)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under the Matters Requiring Special Attention, it was mentioned that checks on electors in the current register will be conducted in respect of their registered particulars, including cross-matching exercise with other government departments. In this connection, would the Government advise of the following:

- a. In the year 2014-15, how many electors had their registered particulars checked? What is the percentage of such electors against the total number of electors in Hong Kong?
- b. What is the amount of provision allocated to the checking exercise in the current financial year?
- c. What will be the manpower involved in the checking exercise in the current financial year? Will the Government allocate the manpower increased this year to conduct the checks?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (Member Question No. 1)

Reply:

In the light of public concern on the accuracy of residential addresses recorded in the voter register in recent years, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has stepped up publicity since the 2012 Voter Registration (VR) cycle to remind the public about the importance of providing true and accurate information for registration and updating their registered residential addresses. Besides, the REO has implemented various checking measures and inquiry process to improve the accuracy and completeness of VR records. The checking measures include follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections; cross-matching of the residential addresses of electors with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on residential addresses with multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors; random sample checks on registered and newly registered electors; checks on addresses with incomplete

information or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses situated at buildings already demolished or to be demolished.

2. The REO verified the registration particulars of about 140 000 electors through the aforementioned measures in the 2014 VR cycle. In the 2015 VR cycle, the REO will continue the checking work and conduct full-scale verification with the Housing Department and the Hong Kong Housing Society in respect of electors with registered residential addresses in public housing units. The number of electors covered by the checking measures in the 2015 VR cycle will be around 1.6 million, representing about 46% of electors contained in the register.

3. The REO will increase manpower and resources in 2015-16 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the 2015 District Council election and the 2016 Legislative Council election, and to enhance the checking work. The VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 98 civil servants (including 12 time-limited civil service posts) and around 500 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$111 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB117**

**(Question Serial No. 1279)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Provision for 2015-16 is \$558.1 million (300.5%) higher than the revised estimate for last year. This is mainly due to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election, preparation of the 2016 Legislative Council general election, as well as preparation and conduct of any by-election.

What are the details of the provision to be allocated for the respective elections and by-elections?

In addition, the Registration and Electoral Office will create 45 posts in 2015-16 to carry out election-related work. What are the posts to be created and their modes of employment? What are the expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (Member Question No. 65)

Reply:

The increase in provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) in 2015-16 is mainly due to increased requirements for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election, preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, as well as preparation and conduct of any possible by-election. The provisions reserved for these purposes are around \$365 million, \$97 million and \$200 million respectively.

2. The REO will create 45 posts, all being civil service posts, in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. All the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017. The estimated salary expenditure for these 45 posts in 2015-16 is around \$16 million.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB118**

**(Question Serial No. 3885)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is stated in the Programme that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will enhance liaison, communication, trade and commercial relations as well as investment promotion in the Mainland and Taiwan, including representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests in the Mainland and Taiwan. In this connection, would the Government please:

- (1) tabulate the investment promotion work for Hong Kong businesses carried out in the Mainland through the Mainland Offices in the past year, the details of the activities and exhibitions, including the dates, the venues, the expenditure and the manpower involved;
- (2) tabulate the investment promotion work for Hong Kong businesses carried out in Taiwan through the Taiwan Office in the past year, the details of the activities and exhibitions, including the dates, the venues, the expenditure and the manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices, together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan.

2. In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices continued to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong and strengthening Hong Kong's economic and trade liaison with the Mainland and Taiwan through appropriate channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; as well as gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and latest economic developments in the Mainland and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through circulars/newsletters/press releases etc.

3. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland and Taiwan. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland and Taiwan Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland and Taiwan in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland or Taiwan.

4. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland and Taiwan enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

5. According to Invest Hong Kong, the revised estimated expenditure for investment promotion work in the Mainland and Taiwan for 2014-15 is \$6.6 million. Investment Promotion Units are set up in the Mainland and Taiwan Offices under the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to undertake investment promotion work. Other officers in the Mainland and Taiwan Offices also assist the Investment Promotion Units in implementing the investment promotion activities as necessary. Investment promotion work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices is an integral part of the roles and functions of the Offices. The manpower and expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB119**

**(Question Serial No. 4369)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is conducting the second round of public consultation on the selection of the Chief Executive by universal suffrage. Will the Government list, as at today, the details of various promotion activities attended by the Government during the consultation period, including the organising bodies, dates, venues, contents of promotion, officers attending in their official capacity and the expenditures incurred?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 59)

Reply:

The HKSAR Government conducted, from 7 January to 7 March 2015, the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage. During the consultation period, members of the Task Force on Constitutional Development and other related politically appointed officials attended a number of consultation sessions, including meetings with the Legislative Council, political parties, District Councils, various organisations and individuals, and visited various districts to publicise the public consultation on constitutional development, etc. Regular updates on the details of relevant events have been uploaded to the website on constitutional development for public information. As the Government attended most of the events on invitation, no additional expenses were involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB120**

**(Question Serial No. 4846)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What are the estimated provisions for the salary and allowances of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and Political Assistant to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 98)

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2015-16 are \$3.58 million, \$2.33 million and \$1.25 million respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB121**

**(Question Serial No. 4891)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

- (1) Since the setting up of the “Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities”, what are the work and issues it has handled? How many recommendations have been adopted by the Bureau?
- (2) Regarding the Advisory Group, what were the details of manpower and expenditures involved? Does the Government intend to continue the work of the Advisory Group?
- (3) Does the Government intend to legislate against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (4) What will the Government do to further eliminate discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 143)

Reply:

The Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities (Advisory Group) was set up in June 2013, and the work done includes studying the experience of other jurisdictions in tackling discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity; rendering advice on public education and publicity to promote non-discrimination; and meeting with various stakeholder groups to exchange views. The Advisory Group has also advised to conduct a study on discrimination experienced by sexual minorities. The study report will be completed by the second quarter of this year. The Advisory Group will then make recommendations to the Government on strategies and measures to eliminate discrimination taking into account the findings of the study. Having regard to the progress of work of the Advisory Group, the Government will consider extending the term of the Advisory Group if necessary to allow sufficient time for its work to be completed.

2. On the issue of legislation, the society is still deeply divided. This highly controversial issue needs to be handled cautiously. When the Advisory Group's recommendations are available, we will, in close liaison with different stakeholders and having regard to public sentiment, consider how the recommendations should be followed up.

3. The work of the Secretariat of the Advisory Group is undertaken by staff of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The resources required are absorbed in the recurrent expenditure of the Bureau, and a separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

4. In 2015-16, the Government will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB122**

**(Question Serial No. 4949)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

- (1) Director of Bureau's Office
- (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
- (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
- (4) Rights of the Individual
- (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Bureau set out in the table below details of and estimated provisions for studies conducted by consultancy firms or research institutions commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau over the past 3 years?

Time of study	Item of study	Objective of study	Scope	Research institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 77)

Reply:

Between 2012-13 and 2014-15, studies commissioned to consultancy firms by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau are set out as follows:

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Study</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Research Institution</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
May 2012	Implementation of CEPA in Shaanxi	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises	To study the implementation of CEPA in Shaanxi	Xi'an Jiaotong University	RMB150,000
Jan 2013	Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	To study the anti-stalking legislation of overseas jurisdictions and its operation	To compare and study anti-stalking legislation in the United Kingdom, Queensland and Victoria in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, California and Nevada in the United States, and South Africa	Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong	HK\$850,000
Feb 2013	City-specific Rental Index for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/seconed to the Mainland and Taiwan	To study the city-specific rental index	Colliers International	HK\$429,000
Nov 2013	Study on Discrimination Experienced by Sexual Minorities in Hong Kong	To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it	To study on discrimination experienced by sexual minorities in Hong Kong	Policy 21 Limited	HK\$445,000
Dec 2013	Rent Allowance for Officers Posted/ Seconded to Wuhan	To determine rent allowance for officers posted/ seconded to Wuhan	To study the Wuhan rental index	Colliers International	HK\$85,000



<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Study</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Research Institution</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
April 2014	Implementation of CEPA in Guizhou	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Guizhou and explore the business opportunities of Guizhou for Hong Kong enterprises	To study the implementation of CEPA in Guizhou	Guizhou University of Finance and Economics	RMB120,000
Sept 2014	Report on the “2014 Negative List, liberalisation measures and financial policies of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone; and their impact on and business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises”	To help Hong Kong enterprises understand the latest policy on the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone and explore business opportunities	Highlights of the 2014 Negative List and 31 new liberalisation measures of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone (SHFTZ) and their impact on and business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises; major financial policies of the SHFTZ and their implementation, as well as facilitation and recommendations to Hong Kong enterprises	Pricewaterhouse-Coopers Consultants (Shenzhen) Limited	RMB128,000

2. As the above work is part of the duties and responsibilities of CMAB staff, the manpower involved cannot be singled out or separately quantified.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB123**

**(Question Serial No. 5187)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

- a. How will the Government promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law? Please list all relevant work such as TV advertisements, MTR advertisements, discussions, etc. and the expenditure of each of such work; and
- b. What is the specific work in the future? Please list all of such work and all the estimated expenditures.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 408)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:
  - (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
  - (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and

- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB124**

**(Question Serial No. 5275)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Have visits been made by the 3 politically appointed officials (PAOs) in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to the Mainland to meet officials of the Central or provincial governments in 2014-15? If they have, what are the dates, places and nature of visits and the expenditures involved? Please give a breakdown by individual PAOs and visits.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 218)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has on operational needs been maintaining contacts with the central and provincial/municipal authorities in the Mainland to ensure effective mutual exchanges. In 2014-15, the relevant information on duty visits outside Hong Kong made by the politically appointed officials in CMAB is provided below –

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Place of visits	No. of officers in Director of Bureau's Office joining the visits	Objectives of duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure <sup>Note1</sup>	Flight/train/vessel ticket expenditure <sup>Note2</sup>	Other expenses <sup>Note3</sup>	Total expenditure
				(\$) (A)	(\$) (B)	(\$) (C)	(\$) (A)+(B)+(C)
2014-15 (13)	Mainland (Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Beijing, Fuzhou, Quanzhou, Xiamen) and Macao,	0-3 officers per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences</li> </ul>	41,880	134,930	33,410	210,220

<b>Date of duty visits (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Place of visits</b>	<b>No. of officers in Director of Bureau's Office joining the visits</b>	<b>Objectives of duty visits</b>	<b>Hotel accommodation expenditure<sup>Note1</sup></b> ( <b>\$</b> ) ( <b>A</b> )	<b>Flight/train/vessel ticket expenditure<sup>Note2</sup></b> ( <b>\$</b> ) ( <b>B</b> )	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note3</sup></b> ( <b>\$</b> ) ( <b>C</b> )	<b>Total expenditure</b> ( <b>\$</b> ) ( <b>A</b> )+(b)+(c)
	Switzerland (Geneva)		and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights				

Notes:

- (1) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (2) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.
- (3) Other expenses include subsistence allowance for duty outside Hong Kong and local transportation expenses, but exclude the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government (if any).

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB125**

**(Question Serial No. 5676)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Basic Law has been implemented in Hong Kong for approximately 18 years and the social situation in Hong Kong is very much different from that in the 1990's when the Basic Law was drafted and formulated. Is there any plan by the Government to review or conduct a study on the revision of any provision of the Basic Law in 2015-16? If yes, what will be the actual plan and the relevant estimated expenditure? If no, what is the reason?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 220)

Reply:

In accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the National People's Congress enacted the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC (the Basic Law), prescribing the systems practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), in order to ensure the implementation of the basic policy of the PRC regarding Hong Kong. The Basic Law is the constitutional law of the HKSAR. The HKSAR Government does not have any plan to review the provisions of the Basic Law.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB126**

**(Question Serial No. 5677)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

No matter whether the resolution to revise Annex I to the Basic Law is passed by the Legislative Council or not, the Government could enhance democratic elements of the 2016 Legislative Council election and the 2017 Chief Executive election by amending the relevant local legislation. In this regard, will the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau reserve resources to conduct a public consultation on the amendment of local legislation to enhance democratic elements of the 2016 Legislative Council election and the 2017 Chief Executive election in 2015-16? If yes, what are the work plan and timetable of and estimated expenditure for the public consultation? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 219)

Reply:

The two-month second round public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) by universal suffrage ended on 7 March 2015. The HKSAR Government is consolidating and summarising the views received with a view to publishing the consultation report in April 2015 and introducing to the Legislative Council (LegCo) a motion to amend Annex I to the Basic Law regarding the method for selecting the CE (i.e., the Third Step of the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development). If the motion can secure the endorsement of a two-thirds majority of all the Members of the LegCo, the HKSAR Government will introduce to the LegCo a bill for amending local legislation as soon as possible. Moreover, according to the Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on Issues Relating to the Selection of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region by Universal Suffrage and on the Method for Forming the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the Year 2016 adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on 31 August 2014, the existing formation method and voting procedures for the LegCo as

prescribed in Annex II to the Basic Law will not be amended; and the formation method and procedures for voting on bills and motions of the fifth term LegCo will continue to apply to the sixth term LegCo of the HKSAR in 2016. We consulted the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the proposed necessary technical amendments for the 2016 LegCo election on 16 March 2015 and plan to introduce to the LegCo an amendment bill in the second quarter of 2015. Expenses on the aforementioned work on local legislation will be absorbed within departmental expenses.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB127**

**(Question Serial No. 5678)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

During the Umbrella Movement, a number of young people reflected that they lacked the channel and chance to take part in community affairs. In this regard, would the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau inform this Committee:

- a) whether the Bureau will consider absorbing more young people into the committees under the Bureau's purview when appointing members to these committees; if yes, of the details; if no, of the reasons;
- b) whether the Bureau will consider conducting open recruitment and selection of members of the committees under the Bureau's purview in 2015-16; if yes, of the details and estimated expenditure; if no, of the reason; and
- c) whether the Bureau will set a target on the proportion of young people joining the committees under the Bureau's purview to safeguard the community involvement of young people in the political regime and the exercise of rights of the individual?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 221)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Bureau considers appointments of members in the community to advisory and statutory bodies under the Bureau's purview on the basis of the merit of the individuals concerned. In accordance with this principle, we will endeavour to identify and appoint young people as non-official members.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB128**

**(Question Serial No. 5679)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What are the post titles, ranks, number, duties and salary level of the non-civil service contract positions under this Programme? Please give a breakdown by individual positions.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 222)

Reply:

There is no non-civil service contract position in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau under Programme (1) "Director of Bureau's Office".

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB129**

**(Question Serial No. 5736)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

According to Article 39 of the Basic Law, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights is applicable to Hong Kong. At present, a lot of overseas countries and regions have established dedicated commissions to handle local cases on human rights and relevant petitions and monitor the execution of the international covenants relating to human rights. Will the Bureau allocate resources in 2015-16 to study the establishment of a Human Rights Commissions in Hong Kong to monitor the execution of the international covenants relating to human rights and Hong Kong Bills of Rights Ordinance in Hong Kong and handle relevant petition cases? If yes, what will be the actual work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure of the study? If no, what is the reason?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 223)

Reply:

In Hong Kong, human rights are fully protected by law. The legislative safeguards are enshrined in the Basic Law, the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance and other relevant ordinances. They are buttressed by the rule of law and an independent judiciary. Under the existing institutional framework, there are a number of organisations which help promote and safeguard different rights. These organisations include the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, the Ombudsman, and the legal aid services. The Government also submits regular reports to the United Nations and its work is under the scrutiny of the Legislative Council according to the Basic Law.

2. The Government considers that the existing mechanism has worked well and there is no need to establish a Human Rights Commission separately to duplicate the functions of or supersede the existing mechanism. No resources have been earmarked for 2015-16 for conducting a thematic study.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB130**

**(Question Serial No. 5737)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual  
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

A public consultation on the comprehensive review of all anti-discrimination ordinances was launched by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) last year. EOC is currently collating the views received during the public consultation. In this connection, has the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) reserved any resources for following up on the results of the public consultation and the relevant proposals and conducting a study on the specific work plan to amend the relevant ordinances in 2015-16? If so, what are the details of the work plan, timetable and the estimated expenses? If no resources have been reserved for this propose, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 224)

Reply:

The public consultation on the Discrimination Law Review conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) ended on 31 October 2014. As advised by the EOC, the Commission is now analysing approximately 122 000 responses received and is expected to draft and publish a submission on the findings and recommendations of the review to the Government by the end of 2015. EOC's work on this review exercise is absorbed with its internal resources.

2. Upon receiving EOC's submission, the Government will consider how to follow up with the recommendations.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB131**

**(Question Serial No. 5738)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Equal Opportunities Commission completed the public consultation on the full scale review of the anti-discrimination ordinances last year. Will the Government and the Commission inform this Committee:

- a) of the latest progress of the consolidation of opinions collected from the public consultation;
- b) of the actual work plan, work target, timetable and estimated expenditure of the review of anti-discrimination ordinances to be conducted by the Commission in 2015-16; and
- c) whether the Government will consider providing more subvention to the Commission so as to increase its manpower to support the review of the anti-discrimination ordinances and speed up the progress; if yes, of the details; if no, of the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 225)

Reply:

According to the information provided by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), the public consultation on Discrimination Law Review ended last year and a very large number of responses (approximately 122 000 responses) have been received. The EOC is now analysing and recording the responses and has initially planned to publish a factual report on the consultation responses in mid 2015. For details, please refer to the EOC's paper (Paper No. CB(2)995/14-15(05)) to the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs. The EOC is now in the process of analysing and recording the responses.

2. EOC's work on this review exercise is absorbed by its internal resources.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB132**

**(Question Serial No. 5739)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Equal Opportunities Commission is responsible for the promotion of the 4 pieces of anti-discrimination legislation and handling of complaints and public enquiries connected to these 4 pieces of legislation. It is also responsible for the promotion and public education in respect of other discriminations that might exist in our community. As the Commission has to shoulder more and more responsibilities, will the Government review the manpower and resources requirements of the Commission in 2015-16 and consider increasing the manpower and resources of the Commission? If yes, what are the actual plan and timetable of such a review? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 226)

Reply:

The level of the Government's annual subvention to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is determined having regard to a number of factors, including the operating expenditure of the EOC and the changes in the number of services it provides. The Government provides sufficient subvention to the EOC to ensure that it is able to carry out its statutory functions.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB133**

**(Question Serial No. 5742)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Both the Audit Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman have recommended the early enactment of the archives law and the freedom of information law. Have resources and manpower been reserved for conducting legislative exercises on these two issues in 2015-16? If yes, what are the work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 229)

Reply:

The Law Reform Commission (LRC) has set up two Sub-Committees to study respectively the subjects of records management and access to information. As we understand it, the two Sub-Committees are studying the existing systems and laws of other jurisdictions, and will conduct public consultation at a later stage, with a view to formulating recommendations on improvement measures where needed. The Government will study the LRC's recommendations carefully when available and consider the way forward.

2. The Administration Wing is responsible for records management while the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is responsible for access to information. On access to information, this Bureau is following up a number of administrative improvement measures recommended in The Ombudsman's direct investigation report published in 2014, which include strengthening staff training on the Code on Access to Information and releasing more information to the public about the operation of the Code.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB134**

**(Question Serial No. 3650)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government advise this Committee of the respective provision earmarked for the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office to meet the official entertainment expenses in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wai-yip, Albert (Member Question No. 56)

Reply:

The estimated entertainment expenditure of the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) are set out below:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Estimated Expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	0.3
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	0.4
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	0.1
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	0.2
<b>Wuhan ETO</b>	0.1
<b>HKETCO</b>	0.1

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB135**

**(Question Serial No. 4724)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under this Programme, the Government mentioned that the provision for 2015-16 is \$16.6 million higher than the revised estimate for 2014-15. This is mainly due to the setting up of more liaison units to improve the network of the Mainland Offices. There will also be a net increase of two posts. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (1) the staff establishment of, and the operating and estimated annual salary expenses to be incurred by the liaison units to be set up in 2015-16; the cities in which these liaison units will be set up; and the dates of commencing operation;
- (2) the titles and functions of, and the estimated annual salary expenses to be incurred by the two posts to be increased net in 2015-16;
- (3) the staff establishment of, and the operating and estimated annual salary expenses to be incurred by Programme 3 in 2015-16; and
- (4) the number of requests for assistance regarding legal or business disputes received by each of the Mainland Offices in 2014-15; of these, the number of cases satisfactorily resolved; and the expected number of requests for assistance that the liaison units will be able to handle in 2015-16 after they are set up?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wai-yip, Albert (Member Question No. 125)

Reply:

Provision under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for 2015-16 is \$16.6 million higher than the revised estimate for 2014-15. The increased provision is mainly for continuing to improve the network of the Mainland Offices by setting up more liaison units. We plan to set up a liaison unit in Shandong Province under the Hong Kong

Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai this year, and a liaison unit in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO. In 2015-16, we have set aside \$7.07 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for meeting the recurrent expenditure of the above two liaison units. 2 Senior Administrative Officers (SAOs) and 2 Trade Officers (TOs) will be posted to these two liaison units, involving a net increase of 1 AO post and 1 TO post in 2015-16. The estimated expenditure for the above two liaison units has included the expenditure on salaries, allowances and personnel related expenses for the net increase of posts.

2. Staff of the above liaison units will assist the Shanghai ETO and the Wuhan ETO in liaising with a province under the coverage of the respective Offices, and their main functions include strengthening liaison and communication with the relevant local government authorities, enhancing economic and trade relations, fostering co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities and promoting Hong Kong, and supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc.

3. A breakdown of the provision earmarked for the Beijing Office (BJO), the Guangdong ETO, the Shanghai ETO, the Chengdu ETO and the Wuhan ETO, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) under Programme (3) for 2015-16, and the estimated expenditure on salaries for Hong Kong-based staff posted to the offices is provided below:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Provision earmarked (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure on salaries for Hong Kong-based staff (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	74.33	20.2
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	54.92	15.1
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	39.49	9.52
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	40.94	11.45
<b>Wuhan ETO</b>	23.77	6.28
<b>HKETCO</b>	24.49	8.43

4. The establishment of the BJO for 2015-16 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 16 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary).

5. The establishment of the Guangdong ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer).

6. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers and 1 Senior

Information Officer). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in Shandong Province this year.

7. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers).

8. The establishment of the Wuhan ETO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, and 1 Executive Officer I). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit planned to be set up in the central region next year upon the full operation of the Wuhan ETO.

9. The establishment of the HKETCO for 2015-16 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 7 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 2 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Secretary I).

10. Currently, the HKSAR Government has set up four liaison units in the Mainland, namely the Shenzhen Liaison Unit and the Fujian Liaison Unit under the Guangdong ETO, the Chongqing Liaison Unit under the Chengdu ETO and the Liaoning Liaison Unit under the BJO. In 2014, the Shenzhen Liaison Unit, the Fujian Liaison Unit and the Chongqing Liaison Unit respectively received 11, 12 and 1 request/requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters. As for the Liaoning Liaison Unit which was set up in December 2014, it had not received any request in that year. As the nature and complexity of the cases vary greatly, further breakdown on the basis of whether the cases have been resolved is not available. Besides, we cannot estimate how many requests for assistance will be received in the coming year.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB136**

**(Question Serial No. 4426)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Government states that it will use the Children's Forum as a platform for collecting and listening to the views of the children. Please provide information on:

1. the details of the Children's Forums organised, including the dates, themes, numbers of participants, venues as well as the Government departments and officials participated, since the establishment of the Forum;
2. the number of children that can be reached by the Forum;
3. whether the timing of the Forum is children-friendly, e.g., whether the Forums are held at the time when children have to attend school; and
4. the effectiveness of the Forum.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 18)

Reply:

Since the establishment of the Children's Rights Forum (the Forum) in 2005, 24 meetings have been convened. These meetings were held after school hours or during weekends in various districts to facilitate children from different areas to participate. There were about 30 to 50 participants at each meeting. The venues and discussion topics of past meetings are set out at the Annex. Generally speaking, the secretariat will, in respect of different topics, invite representatives from relevant bureaux and departments (usually pitched at senior / directorate level) to the meetings. The views of the participants on various topics such as rehabilitation services for pre-school children, first report of the Child Fatality Review Panel and enhanced support measures in learning Chinese for non-Chinese speaking students, etc., have been reflected to relevant policy bureaux.

2. The Children's Rights Forum has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Government on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children's affairs (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum's discussions.

Starting from 2014, the Government has enhanced the co-operation between the Family Council and the Forum. For example at its meeting in last August, the Forum discussed the comprehensive child development service to facilitate the Family Council to gauge the views of the Forum before it discussed the same topic during that month. The Forum will continue relaying to the Family Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Family Council's work in assessing the impact of these policies on family. This will help to facilitate the collection of views concerning children's interests for reference by bureaux and departments.

Details of meetings of The Children's Rights Forum

<b>Date</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Discussion topic</b>
2 December 2005	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of a Children's Rights Forum</li> <li>- Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme</li> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> </ul>
25 January 2006 (continued meeting)	Wan Chai	
29 March 2006	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> <li>- Proposed race discrimination legislation</li> <li>- Establishment of the Children's Rights Unit</li> <li>- Review of corporate governance of the Equal Opportunities Commission</li> </ul>
15 December 2006	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> <li>- Progress report on 2006-07 Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme</li> </ul>
9 March 2007	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> <li>- Progress report on 2006-07 Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme</li> <li>- Social welfare services for children</li> </ul>
29 June 2007	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> </ul>

<b>Date</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Discussion topic</b>
21 September 2007	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> <li>- Suggestions on Children's Rights Forum by Kids' Dream, Children's Rights Association and Child Councilors of Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong</li> </ul>
29 February 2008	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fostering a Caring School Ethos – the Students' Participation</li> </ul>
4 July 2008	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internet safety for children</li> <li>- Response of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)</li> </ul>
19 December 2008	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corporal punishment and violence to children</li> <li>- Convention on the Rights of the Child comic booklet</li> <li>- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights comic booklet</li> </ul>
16 April 2009	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children's health and health service – drug abuse among children</li> <li>- An outline of the topic to be covered in the second report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child</li> </ul>
25 September 2009	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children's health and health service – sex education</li> <li>- Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance</li> </ul>
13 November 2009 (special meeting)	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Briefing and discussion on review of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance</li> </ul>
5 January 2010 (special meeting)	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 1 Public Engagement Exercise</li> </ul>
26 February 2010	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An outline of the topics in the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</li> </ul>
2 July 2010	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An outline of the topics to be covered in the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the light of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</li> <li>- Prevention of Suicide</li> </ul>

<b>Date</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Discussion topic</b>
19 November 2010	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 2 Public Engagement Exercise</li> <li>- Report on the Public Consultation on the Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance</li> </ul>
17 August 2011	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moral and National Education Curriculum</li> <li>- School violence</li> </ul>
21 October 2011	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 3 Public Engagement Exercise</li> <li>- Establishing the Sexual Conviction Record Check Scheme</li> </ul>
20 April 2012	Central and Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internet Learning Support Programme - “I Learn at home”</li> <li>- Consultation on the implementation of “Joint Parental Responsibility Model” by Legislative Measure</li> </ul>
14 January 2013	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Air quality in Hong Kong</li> <li>- Children’s rights initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2013 Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme</li> <li>- School outreach programme</li> <li>- Mobile application for promoting children’s rights</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
20 April 2013	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary one allocation and transport arrangement for cross-boundary students</li> <li>- Second report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child</li> <li>- Progress report on 2013 Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme</li> </ul>
30 July 2013	Central and Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics</li> <li>- Meeting arrangements of the Children’s Rights Forum</li> </ul>
17 January 2014	Sham Shui Po	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The hearing and concluding observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child</li> <li>- First report of the Child Fatality Review Panel</li> <li>- Rehabilitation services for pre-school children</li> </ul>
12 August 2014	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhanced support measures in learning Chinese for non-Chinese speaking students</li> <li>- Comprehensive child development service</li> </ul>

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB137**

**(Question Serial No. 4428)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

On 20 November 2013, I moved a motion on “Setting up a Commission on Children”. The motion, which was subsequently amended by Hon Kenneth CHAN requesting the Government to organise an annual “Summit on Children”, was unanimously passed by all members present. Does the Government have any plans to convene an annual “Summit on Children”? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 20)

Reply:

Children’s affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children’s rights and well-being.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced for all policies (for different age and gender sectors, including children). Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., “love and care”, “respect and responsibilities” and “communication and harmony”) as identified by the Family Council, as well as the impact on family’s structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families, and are required to consider consulting the Family Council on policies which carry family implications.

3. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2015 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged, such as strengthening the support for children with special needs and their families in various aspects through, inter alia, strengthening the manpower of the multi-disciplinary healthcare teams of the Child Assessment Centre to provide early assessment and professional diagnosis. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children's affairs.

4. The Government has no intention to separately convene a "Summit on Children".

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB138**

**(Question Serial No. 4429)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

I initiated a motion debate in 2007 urging the Government to set up a commission on children and to formulate a comprehensive child policy. The motion was unanimously passed by all members present. In November 2013, I moved a motion on "Setting up a Commission on Children" and again the motion was unanimously passed by all members present. Will the Government set up a commission on children in response to the demands of the Legislative Council members? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

The Government's response to the motion was submitted to the Legislative Council Secretariat in January 2014. Please refer to the Appendix for details.

**Progress Report on the Motion  
“Setting up a commission on children”**

**Background**

At the Legislative Council meeting on 20 November 2013, members passed the following motion moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, as amended by Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN –

“That, in the process of formulating public policies, children’s perspectives are very often neglected; at its meeting of 6 June 2007, the Legislative Council passed a Members’ motion urging the Government to set up a commission on children to fulfill the obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, safeguard the well-being of children, and ensure that children’s perspectives were fully taken into account in the process of formulating policies; subsequently, the Government only established the Family Council in response to the demands, but the Family Council does not focus on children’s rights and well-being as its major areas of work; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to expeditiously set up a commission on children, so as to ensure that children’s well-being and perspectives are fully taken into account in the process of formulating policies, protect the legitimate rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and convene summits annually on children development policies and strategies.”

This paper reports the Administration’s latest position on the subject.

**The Administration’s position**

2. The Administration is firmly committed to promoting children’s rights. Our society generally recognises that family is the important and fundamental group unit of society which provides the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members including children. Against this backdrop, we have been adopting a family-based approach in promoting children’s well-being, by providing necessary and appropriate services to children as well as families.

3. Children’s affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux will handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children’s rights and well-being.

4. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2014 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments (B/Ds) to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged. Highlights of these measures are set out in **Annex**. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children’s affairs.

5. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies.

With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced to the process of formulating policies and amendment of existing policies. B/Ds are required to use the three sets of family core values (i.e., “love and care”, “respect and responsibilities” and “communication and harmony”) as identified by the Family Council (the Council), as well as the impact on family’s structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families.

6. The Council, established in 2007, has been striving to advocate cherishing the family as a main driver for social harmony. The Council has been serving as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related issues and promoting a culture of loving families. The Council is chaired by a non-official academic, and consists of official members include representatives from Home Affairs Bureau, Labour and Welfare Bureau, Education Bureau and Central Policy Unit, and non-official members from a wide range of background (including social welfare, professional, academic and business sector) with experience in family (including children) related issues. B/Ds are encouraged to consult the Council on policies which may affect the family.

7. Besides, the Children’s Rights Forum (the Forum), established in 2005, has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Administration on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children’s affair (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum’s discussions. Forum participants’ views on different topics (e.g., legislation on the implementation of the Joint Parental Responsibility Model and the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics) have been reflected to relevant bureaux accordingly.

8. The Administration will endeavour to enhance the co-operation between the Council and the Forum. In particular, the Forum will relay to the Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Council’s work in assessing the impact of these policies on family. Views reflecting children’s interest will thus be more systematically collected in policy formulation by B/Ds and the Council. The Council will also invite policy bureaux to brief and consult the Council on children-related policies and initiatives being formulated.

9. We consider that the current arrangement for handling children affairs provides us the necessary flexibility in addressing the concern of various sectors on children matters, and is in line with our policy objective of strengthening the role of family. The Administration remains of the view that there is no imminent need to duplicate ongoing efforts and establish a commission on children.

**Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau**  
**Home Affairs Bureau**  
**January 2014**

**Highlights of measures to promote the well-being of children**

- a) Introduce a Low-income Work Family Allowance tied to employment and working hours to encourage self-reliance and break the vicious cycle of inter-generational poverty. If the family includes children or youth members, it is entitled to an additional full allowance. More than 200 000 low-income families, including 180 000 eligible children and young people, will benefit from the allowance.
- b) From the 2014/15 school year, the Education Bureau will provide the “Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework” with supporting learning and teaching materials, and increase funding support to schools to implement the new framework. The Education Bureau will also provide an Applied Learning (Chinese Language) subject to be pegged at the Qualifications Framework at senior secondary level and encourage parents of Non-Chinese speaking students to let their children start learning Chinese at the pre-primary stage through district-based projects/programmes.
- c) Enhance support for students receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) by increasing grants for school-related expenses for primary and secondary students of CSSA families through regularisation of a Community Care Fund programme from the 2014/15 school year.
- d) Provide additional teacher assistants and progressively reduce the class size for schools with children with disabilities, and increase the staff of the boarding section of special schools and provide additional grant for these schools.
- e) Provide additional places for rehabilitation services, including for pre-school rehabilitation.
- f) Extend the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme on a concessionary fare of \$2 to eligible children with disabilities under the age of 12.
- g) Increase the voucher value of the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme by \$2,500 for the 2014/15 and 2015/16 school years and lift the fee remission ceiling to help needy families.
- h) Regularise three CCF learning support programmes from the 2014/15 school year to ensure that disadvantaged students have equal learning opportunities to benefit about 270 000 students, namely, (i) providing free lunch at schools for primary students receiving a full grant under the student financial assistance scheme; (ii) increasing the flat-rate grant by about 100% for each primary and secondary student eligible under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme; and (iii) establishing a tuition fee reimbursement mechanism for students in need pursuing eligible programmes below sub-degree level and providing them with a flat-rate academic expenses grant.
- i) Earmark \$300 million in the next financial year to ensure the sustainability of the Child Development Fund and help more students from needy families.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB139**

**(Question Serial No. 4430)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is the international trend to set up a dedicated institution to deal with matters relating to children. In order to assist the governments in formulating a comprehensive policy on children, over 70 countries and 200 regions have set up children's commissions or have appointed children's commissioners to collect views on children-related matters, to address the needs and to safeguard the well-being of children. A dedicated institution will not only facilitate the Government to consolidate the work of the various parties so that co-ordinated and focused efforts can be made to address children-related issues, but also ensure that a more holistic approach can be adopted in policy formulation. Moreover, effective consultation can help reduce political wrangles and facilitate the smooth implementation of policies. Will the Government consider setting up a commission on children in the light of the international experience? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 22)

Reply:

Children's affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children's rights and well-being.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced for all policies (for different age and gender sectors, including children). Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., "love and care", "respect and responsibilities" and "communication and harmony") as identified by

the Family Council, as well as the impact on family's structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families, and are required to consider consulting the Family Council on policies which carry family implications.

3. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2015 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged, such as strengthening the support for children with special needs and their families in various aspects through, inter alia, strengthening the manpower of the multi-disciplinary healthcare teams of the Child Assessment Centre to provide early assessment and professional diagnosis. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children's affairs.

4. The Government has no intention to set up a separate commission on children.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB140**

**(Question Serial No. 4431)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In its Concluding Observations issued on October 2013, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child states that “(it) further recommends that Hong Kong SAR expedite the establishment of a Children’s Commission or another independent human rights institution with a clear mandate to monitor children’s rights and provide it with adequate financial, human and technical resources.” Does the Government have any plans to set up a commission on children as recommended by the Committee? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 23)

Reply:

Children’s affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children’s rights and well-being. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced for all policies (for different age and gender sectors, including children). Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., “love and care”, “respect and responsibilities” and “communication and harmony”) as identified by the Family Council (the Council), as well as the impact on family’s structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families, and are required to consider consulting the Family Council on policies which carry family implications.

3. The Council, established in 2007, has been striving to advocate cherishing the family as a main driver for social harmony. The Council has been serving as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related issues and promoting a culture of loving families. The Council is chaired by a non-official academic, and consists of official members including representatives from Home Affairs Bureau, Labour and Welfare Bureau, Education Bureau and Central Policy Unit, and non-official members from a wide range of background (including social welfare, professional, academic and business sector). The Council will also invite policy bureaux/departments to brief and consult the Council on children-related policies and initiatives being formulated.

4. Besides, the Children's Rights Forum (the Forum), established in 2005, has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Government on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children's affairs (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum's discussions. Forum participants' views on different topics (e.g., the first report released by the Child Fatality Review Panel, comprehensive child development service, etc.) have been reflected to the Council and relevant bureaux accordingly.

5. The Government has further enhanced the co-operation between the Council and the Forum. In particular, the Forum will relay to the Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Council and government departments in assessing the impact of these policies on family.

6. The Government remains of the view that there is no need to duplicate ongoing efforts and set up a separate commission on children.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB141**

**(Question Serial No. 5786)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of expenditure and estimated expenditure for programmes on promoting racial harmony and equality conducted over the past 5 years and to be conducted in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 159)

Reply:

Work on promoting racial harmony and racial equality is undertaken mainly by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Home Affairs Department (HAD), and the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC).

2. Since 2011-12, support services for ethnic minorities to facilitate integration into the community have been transferred from the CMAB to the HAD. According to information provided by the HAD, it has implemented a number of measures to assist ethnic minorities to integrate into the community. In 2011-12, the enhanced support measures included implementing district-based integration programmes and an ambassador scheme. In 2012-13, an additional support service centre for ethnic minorities and 2 sub-centres were set up in Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po and Tung Chung respectively, and 2 additional radio programmes in ethnic minority languages (i.e. Hindi and Thai) were produced. In 2014-15, the enhanced support measures included setting up a new support service centre for ethnic minorities in Kwai Tsing; setting up youth units in all support service centres and sub-centres to provide dedicated programmes for ethnic minority youths; implementing a youth ambassador scheme to reach out to ethnic minority youths to understand their needs and difficulties and make referrals as necessary; and recruiting additional staff familiar with ethnic minority cultures and languages to implement relevant initiatives. The expenditure on the above support services to help ethnic minorities integrate into the community is \$28.40 million, \$22.70 million, \$31.70 million, \$38.90 million and \$48.10 million for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively. The estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$51.10 million.

3. The CMAB oversees the operation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO), and promotes racial equality by issuing in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines). The Guidelines provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. In 2014, the scope of application of the Guidelines has been extended to cover a total of 22 government bureaux and departments and public authorities. We have reviewed the operation of the Guidelines in 2014. Various departments have given a positive response to the implementation of the Guidelines, and a number of them have put in place new initiatives to assist the ethnic minorities. The work in relation to the Guidelines is absorbed within the Government's internal resources, and a separate breakdown of the related expenditure is not available.

4. The EOC enforces the RDO and implements publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness of the RDO and racial equality. Expenditure on the enforcement aspect is not available because this function is an integral part of the EOC's enforcement of the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances. The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) is \$17.15 million, \$20.60 million, \$24.67 million, \$18.33 million and \$22.12 million (revised estimate) for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively, and the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$19.53 million; about 25% of the aforementioned expenditures are used for the publicity and public education programmes on racial discrimination. Separately, starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the EOC for enhancing publicity and public education on the RDO. To this end, the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. Besides, the Government also provided an additional funding of \$2 million to the EOC in 2014-15 for promoting the RDO. The major publicity and public education programmes relating to racial equality in 2015-16 will include a funding programme for non-profit-making organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities, radio programmes, drama performances in schools, youth mentorship programmes, outreaching programmes for ethnic minorities, roving exhibitions on the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances, and seminars and trainings for employers, employees, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations and community groups, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB142**

**(Question Serial No. 5804)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has asked Contracting States or territories to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to promote public awareness of the provisions of the Convention. In this regard, what were the Government's related expenditures in the past 5 years? Has provision been earmarked for promotional work in the next financial year? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 182)

Reply:

The Government is committed to promoting public awareness of and respect for the rights of children as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Convention). The related expenditures incurred in the past 5 years (excluding manpower resources) are listed in the table below –

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2010-11	1.489
2011-12	1.006
2012-13	1.838 <sup>#</sup>
2013-14	2.116 <sup>^</sup>
2014-15 (revised estimate)	1.388

<sup>#</sup> Including production of Announcements in the Public Interest on children's rights.

<sup>^</sup> Including co-operating with the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to conduct a school outreach programme to promote children's rights and produce a related TV programme.

2. In 2015-16, the Government will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, and continued efforts in publicity and public education, including co-operating with RTHK to produce a TV programme on promotion of children's rights. The estimated expenditure for these efforts, excluding manpower resources, is about \$3.32 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB143**

**(Question Serial No. 5841)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please tabulate information on the allocation of provision, the additional manpower and the relevant posts created for examining the feasibility of establishing an Equal Opportunities Tribunal. What are the specific work plan and the expenditure involved? If there is no such plan, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 221)

Reply:

With regard to the proposal to establish an Equal Opportunities Tribunal, the Judiciary considers that the proactive case management measures introduced after the Civil Justice Reform in April 2009 have enabled the District Courts to handle Equal Opportunities (EO) claims in a more efficient manner. Besides, the Legislative Council passed the District Court Equal Opportunities (Amendment) Rules 2014 in July 2014 so as to streamline the adjudication of EO claims in District Courts and further enhance case management measures. The relevant legislative amendments came into effect in November 2014. Despite the fact that the legislative amendments have just commenced operation not long ago, the Judiciary believes that the amendments should have provided a more accessible platform for parties concerned to pursue EO claims in court, and also helped expedite the adjudication of EO claims.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB144**

**(Question Serial No. 5842)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please tabulate information on the allocation of provision, the additional manpower and the relevant posts created for the promotion of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value in the context of gender equality. What is the specific plan, including the publicity programme and the expenditure involved? If there is no plan, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 222)

Reply:

Since its establishment, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has been working steadily to advance the Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value (EPEV) principle. These efforts include incorporating EPEV into the Code of Practice on Employment (Code of Practice) issued under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance in 1996; publishing a set of guidelines to address the issue of pay disparity between the two genders; publishing an Easy Read Guide for small businesses which constitute a large number of employers in Hong Kong; arranging talks for employers, women groups and other stakeholders; and incorporating EPEV principles and practices in the EOC's regular training for different stakeholders and the general public.

2. The EOC is reviewing internally the abovementioned Code of Practice, including its content about the EPEV principle. The EOC will consult stakeholders and the general public as and when appropriate.

3. As advised by the EOC, the work on promoting the concept of EPEV includes conducting research studies and preparing consultancy reports, organising conferences, preparing and printing EPEV guides, etc. These are integral parts of the EOC's efforts in promoting the concept of equal opportunities for all; a separate breakdown is therefore not available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB145**

**(Question Serial No. 5875)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide the number of complaints in relation to the Disability Discrimination Ordinance received by the Equal Opportunities Commission over the past 5 years. Please provide a breakdown by category of these complaints.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 269)

Reply:

A breakdown by category of complaint cases in relation to the Disability Discrimination Ordinance received by the Equal Opportunities Commission over the past 5 years is as follows:

Year	Disability discrimination	Disability harassment	Disability vilification	Victimisation	Total
2010	386	49	8	3	446
2011	385	35	4	9	433
2012	356	30	16	3	405
2013	284	58	3	3	348
2014	240	33	4	4	281

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB146**

**(Question Serial No. 6197)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide the number of complaints made by students with special education needs and received by the Equal Opportunities Commission over the past 5 years. Please provide a breakdown by category of these complaints.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 270)

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) does not maintain a breakdown by category of complaints made by students with special education needs. The EOC has provided the number of complaint cases in the field of education it received under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance over the past 5 years for reference:

Year	Disability discrimination	Disability harassment	Disability vilification	Victimisation	Total
2010	17	1	0	0	18
2011	5	0	0	0	5
2012	11	1	0	0	12
2013	8	14	0	1	23
2014	7	4	0	0	11

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB147**

**(Question Serial No. 6230)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual  
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the government inform this Council of:

- a. the amount of funding the government allocates to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in each of the year from 2006 to 2016 and the breakdown of the funding according to any specified use;
- b. whether the government has allocated any extra funding to the EOC for the implementation and promotion of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO) since its operation in 2009 and if yes, the amount of the extra funding;
- c. whether the government has allocated any extra funding to the EOC for setting up the dedicated taskforce on ethnic minority issues and if yes, the amount of the extra funding;
- d. whether the EOC suggested setting up a Chief Operations Officer post in its proposal to the government and if yes, the amount of the corresponding extra funding suggested by the EOC; and
- e. whether the government has decided on the EOC's proposal on the review of the composition of its management echelon and if yes, what the government's decisions are, the reasons for the decisions and the details of the corresponding change in the funding.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 570)

Reply:

Funding provided to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) by the Government over the past 10 years is set out in the following table:

Financial year	Government funding (\$ million)
2005-06	60.1
2006-07	71.2
2007-08	73.1
2008-09	76.5
2009-10	80.2
2010-11	83.5
2011-12	88.2
2012-13	93.3
2013-14	94.2
2014-15 (revised estimate)	106.0
2015-16 (estimate)	105.1

2. The functions of the EOC are to conduct formal investigations, handle complaints, assist in conciliation, provide assistance to the aggrieved persons as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO); and carry out research projects and public education to promote equal opportunities.

3. Starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69million to the EOC for enhancing publicity and public education on RDO. To this end, the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. Besides, the Government also provided an additional funding of \$2 million to the EOC in 2014-15 for promoting the RDO.

4. The EOC has completed the review of the composition of its management echelon, including the recruitment or otherwise of a Chief Operations Officer post. The EOC submitted its proposal to the Government in early 2015. The Government is considering the proposal.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 3568)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under its purview for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information about the studies in the following format.

- a. Please provide details of the public policy studies and strategic public policy studies commissioned with funds allocated from 2011-12 to 2014-15;

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/quotation/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed (completion month and year))	The Administration's follow-ups to the study report and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- b. Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under its purview for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, are there any such projects for which funds have been reserved in 2015-16? If yes, what are the details?

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/quotation/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed (completion month and year))	The Administration's follow-ups to the study report and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 74)

**Reply:**

Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, the relevant information is provided below –

- (a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated between 2011-12 and 2014-15 –

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Institute of Hong Kong, Macao & Special Economic Zone's Economy, Jinan University	Selection of quotation	<p>A Study on the Strategy for the Co-operation of Hong Kong/ Guangdong Service Industries under the "Early and Pilot" Measures</p> <p>To explore the development trend of Hong Kong's service industries in Guangdong and select individual service industries which can be further promoted in Guangdong</p>	RMB 120,000	May 2009	Completed	The research report was distributed to government departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference	The summary of the research report has been uploaded onto the website of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong for public perusal. The full report has been distributed to government departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Chongqing Jiaotong University	Selection of quotation	<p>Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Implementation in Chongqing</p> <p>To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Chongqing and explore the business opportunities of Chongqing for Hong Kong enterprises</p>	RMB 150,000	Dec 2010	Completed	The report was distributed to government departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference	The findings were released through a joint press conference held by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu (CDETO) and Chongqing Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Commission. The press handout is also available at CDETO's website

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Hewitt Associates L.L.C.	Selection of quotation	<p>Consultancy Services for Reviewing the Remuneration Packages for Officials under the Political Appointment System</p> <p>To advise the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the Executive Council and the Legislature, and Officials under the Political Appointment System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“the Independent Commission”) on the remuneration packages for politically-appointed officials serving in the fourth-term HKSAR Government</p>	HK\$ 1,900,000	Jul 2011	Completed	<p>After considering the re-commendations of the Independent Commission, the Government put forward proposals to the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) for approval in mid-2012. However, the proposals were not approved in the legislative session of the concerned term of LegCo</p>	<p>The findings and the report of the Independent Commission have been uploaded onto the LegCo website for public perusal</p>



Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
CBRE Hong Kong Limited	Selection of quotation	<p>Rent Allowance Review for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan</p> <p>To review the rent allowance rates and to draw up a revised rent allowance system for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan</p>	HK\$ 600,000	Aug 2011	Completed	Adopted	The consultancy study report has been uploaded onto the LegCo website for public perusal

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Xi'an Jiaotong University	Selection of quotation	<p>Implement- ation of CEPA in Shaanxi</p> <p>To understand the status of implemen- tation of CEPA in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises</p>	RMB 150,000	May 2012	Completed	The report was distributed to government departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference	Summary of the findings was released through a joint press conference held by CDETO, Shaanxi Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and Shaanxi Department of Commerce. The press handout has been uploaded onto CDETO's website

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong	Selection of quotation	Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	HK\$ 850,000	Jan 2013	Completed	The Government has consulted the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the re-commendations put forward by the study	Executive summary of the study report and the full report have been uploaded onto CMAB's website
Colliers International	Selection of quotation	City-specific Rental Index for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan  To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$ 429,000	Feb 2013	Completed	Adopted	The information obtained is for internal reference for revising the rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Policy 21 Limited	Selection of quotation	Study on Discrimination Experienced by Sexual Minorities in Hong Kong  To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it	HK \$445,000	Nov 2013	In progress	Not applicable, the study is yet to be completed	The report, when completed, will be passed to the Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities for consideration of how to follow up with the findings of the study
Colliers International	Selection of quotation	Rent Allowance for Officers Posted/ Seconded to Wuhan	HK \$85,000	Dec 2013	Completed	Adopted	The information obtained is for internal reference for determining the rent allowance for officers posted/seconed to Wuhan
Guizhou University of Finance and Economics	Selection of quotation	Implementation of CEPA in Guizhou  To understand the status of implementation of CEPA in Guizhou and explore the business opportunities of Guizhou for Hong Kong	RMB 120,000	Apr 2014	In progress	Final draft of the report has been passed to government departments in Hong Kong	The CDETO and Guizhou Department of Commerce have intended to hold a joint press conference to release summary of the findings upon completion of the report. The full report will be distributed to government

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		enterprises					departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference
Pricewaterhouse-Coopers Consultants (Shenzhen) Limited	Selection of quotation	<p>Report on the “2014 Negative List, liberalisation measures and financial policies of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone; and their impact on and business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises”</p> <p>To help Hong Kong enterprises understand the latest policy on the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone and explore business opportunities</p>	RMB 128,000	Sept 2014	Completed	The report has been passed to the industry and government departments in Hong Kong	The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (SHETO) has released the electronic version of the report to major business associations in Hong Kong, business associations, enterprises and individuals in the service areas of SHETO, and government departments in Hong Kong by e-mail

(b) For project for which funds have been reserved for conducting study in 2015-16 -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ quotation/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Not applicable, the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	Selection of quotation	Evaluative study on conditions necessary for implementing section 33 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance	Not applicable, the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	To be confirmed	Under planning	Not applicable, the study is still under planning	Not applicable, the study is still under planning

2. The Registration and Electoral Office, which is under the purview of CMAB, has not commissioned any consultancy study, and currently has no plan for new consultancy studies to be conducted in 2015-16.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB149**

**(Question Serial No. 6875)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

How is the Bureau going to promote, follow up on and review the effectiveness of the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality in 2014? How much resources will be allocated in 2015-16 to assist the relevant Government departments or public services in meeting the targets laid down in the Guidelines?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 801)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) issued in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) to provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures.

2. The Guidelines cover areas meeting the main areas of needs of ethnic minorities and relevant key public services, namely, medical, education, vocational training, employment and major community services. In 2010, the scope of application of the Guidelines covered 14 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities. In 2014, the scope of application of the Guidelines has been extended to cover a total of 22 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities.

3. According to the Guidelines, the departments should draw up checklists of measures that would assist in promoting racial equality and equal access to key public services to enhance the transparency of their work. The checklists, which contain contact information of the departments, have been uploaded onto the CMAB website. Where necessary, the departments will issue updates on the information of the checklists.

4. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. We have reviewed the operation of the Guidelines in 2014. Various departments have given a positive response to the implementation of the Guidelines, and a number of them have put in place new measures to assist ethnic minorities. For example, the Labour Department has implemented a pilot project to engage ethnic minority trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme to receive on-the-job training at Job Centres; and the hospitals under the Hospital Authority have special meal arrangements for ethnic minorities in need, such as provision of halal food. To facilitate experience sharing among these departments, we have shared with relevant departments measures for ethnic minorities that have been put in place among them.

5. The work in relation to the Guidelines is absorbed within CMAB's internal resources, and a separate breakdown on the related expenditure is not available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB150**

**(Question Serial No. 6876)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the promotion of equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities, please advise on the relevant initiatives, the government department(s) responsible for implementing the measures, resources allocated, target recipients, indicators and related details.

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Responsible Government Department</b>	<b>Resources Allocated (\$)</b>	<b>Target Recipients and Number</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>
Studies on the education and employment situations of ethnic minorities				
Promotion of ethnic minorities' understanding of government decisions, consultation and public services				
Public education to enhance cultural sensitivity				
Promotion of employment of ethnic minorities by government departments and business sector				

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number	Performance Indicators
Other measures (please specify)				

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 802)

Reply:

The Government has implemented a number of measures to strengthen education support and employment services for ethnic minorities and to help them integrate into the community. Relevant policies and measures are under the purview of different bureaux and departments, spanning across different policy areas and targeting different recipients, and hence it is difficult to quantify specific performance indicators. The major measures that various bureaux, departments and relevant organisations will continue to implement in 2015-16 are highlighted in the table below-

Measures	Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation	Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
<i>Studies on the education and employment situations of ethnic minorities</i>			
The Education Bureau (EDB) has, starting from the 2014/15 school year, allocated about \$200 million per year to step up the education support for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students in learning the Chinese language through, among others, facilitating schools' implementation of the "Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework", the provision of the Applied Learning Chinese (for NCS students) subject and the creation of an inclusive learning environment in schools. Based on the advice from research and language experts, EDB has drawn up the research framework to evaluate the effectiveness of various support measures for NCS students to ensure the quality of the support measures and refine individual measures where appropriate.	EDB	About \$200 million.	Mainly for all NCS students in public sector and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools offering the local curriculum. About 16 900 NCS students with reference to the enrolment in the 2014/15 school year

Measures	Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation	Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
<p>Offer dedicated training courses in English for ethnic minorities to meet their employment needs. Training bodies have to provide a 6-month placement follow-up services to those who have completed full-time placement-tied courses. In 2015-16, the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) will offer 29 dedicated training courses with 800 training places reserved for ethnic minorities.</p> <p>Organise a dedicated course for ethnic minorities in one support service centre for ethnic minorities.</p> <p>Organise career talks and career counselling workshops for graduating ethnic minorities.</p>	ERB	Estimated expenditure on dedicated course for 2015-16 is about \$5 million. Expenditure involved in other services will be included in the total expenditure of the ERB.	Ethnic minorities at the age of 15 or above with an education attainment at sub-degree or below
Continue to implement promotional activities and collaborate with the construction industry to stage job fairs to attract new ethnic minorities to join the industry, and attract in-service ethnic minority construction workers to attend training courses to enhance skills.	Construction Industry Council	Estimate for 2015-16 is about \$0.36 million.	Ethnic minorities
<i>Promotion of ethnic minorities' understanding of government decisions, consultation and public services</i>			
Continue to maintain communication with ethnic minority communities and non-government organisations dedicated to serving them through the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony and Ethnic Minorities Forum which will advise the Government on formulation of strategies to promote racial harmony and strengthening of support services.	Home Affairs Department (HAD)	The expenditure involved will be included in the total expenditure of the HAD, hence a breakdown of expenditure is not available.	Ethnic minorities

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation</b>	<b>Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)</b>	<b>Target Recipients and Number</b>
<p>Continue to enhance ethnic minorities' awareness of the Labour Department (LD)'s employment services; continuous efforts will be made to promote the Department's employment services to ethnic minorities through various channels (such as radio programmes, newspapers, and non-governmental organisations, etc. serving the ethnic minorities).</p> <p>Gauge the views of job seekers, including ethnic minority job seekers, on the employment services of the Department to ensure effectiveness in helping them find work.</p>	LD	The expenditure involved will be absorbed in the operating expenditure of the LD's job centres, and the related work is undertaken by existing staff in addition to their own duties, hence no separate breakdowns are identifiable.	Ethnic minority job seekers (no pre-set number)

Measures	Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation	Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
<i>Public education to enhance cultural sensitivity</i>			
<p>Starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) for enhancing publicity and public education on the RDO. It is understand that to this end the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through advocacy, training and promotional efforts. Besides, the Government also provided an additional funding of \$2 million to the EOC in 2014-15 for promoting the RDO. The EOC's major publicity and public education programmes relating to racial equality in 2015-16 will include a funding programme for non-profit-making organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities, radio programmes, drama performances in schools, youth mentorship programmes, outreaching programmes for ethnic minorities, roving exhibitions on the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances, and seminars and trainings for employers, employees, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations and community groups, etc.</p>	EOC	<p>The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) for 2015-16 is estimated to be \$19.53 million, about 25% of which is used for the publicity and public education programmes on racial discrimination.</p>	<p>Include relevant government bureaux, schools, stakeholders and service organisations</p>
<i>Promotion of employment of ethnic minorities by government departments and business sector</i>			
<p>Implement measures to ensure that ethnic minorities, like other applicants, have equal access to job opportunities in the Government. These measures include reviewing and adjusting the Chinese language proficiency requirements and recruitment formats of relevant Government jobs on the basis that the adjusted requirements/formats will continue to allow the satisfactory performance of duties.</p>	Civil Service Bureau	<p>To be absorbed within existing resources.</p>	<p>Ethnic minorities who are interested in applying for Government jobs</p>

Measures	Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation	Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
<p>Proactively help ethnic minority job seekers find work, and promote the working abilities of the ethnic minorities to private sector organisations so as to enhance their employment opportunities.</p> <p>Continue to set up special counters in the 13 job centres of the LD to provide job referral services for ethnic minorities; tailor-made briefings will be organised regularly to help ethnic minorities understand the local employment market situation and improve job search skills. Ethnic minorities can also meet the employment advisors to obtain advice and customised employment services.</p> <p>Continue to canvass suitable vacancies for ethnic minority job seekers and organise large-scale and district-based job fairs to help them secure employment. In 2015-16, 2 large-scale job fairs and 12 district-based inclusive job fairs targeting ethnic minorities will be organised to help them find work.</p> <p>Continue to arrange with non-government organisations the provision of telephone interpretation service to job-seekers who do not speak Chinese and English.</p> <p>To strengthen the employment services for ethnic minorities, the LD launched a pilot project named the Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities in September 2014 to employ ethnic minority trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme as Employment Services Ambassadors in the job centres of the LD to provide services to job seekers, in particular ethnic minorities.</p>	LD	<p>Expenditures for providing employment services and organising district-based job fairs for ethnic minorities will be absorbed in the operating costs of the LD, hence no separate breakdown is identifiable. As for the large-scale job fairs, the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$0.48 million. The estimated expenditure on the pilot project on Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities for 2015-16 is \$1.65 million.</p>	Ethnic minority job seekers and employers in the private sector (no pre-set number)

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Responsible Government Department / Relevant Public Sector Organisation</b>	<b>Resources Allocated (2015-16) (\$)</b>	<b>Target Recipients and Number</b>
<i>Other measures</i>			
<p>The number of ethnic minority members of the Junior Police Call (JPC) exceeded 2 500 in 2014; through JPC activities and training, help equip ethnic minority youth with leadership skills and instill in them positive values, help them integrate into the community, and become youth leaders to join hands with the Police to fight crime.</p>	<p>Hong Kong Police Force</p>	<p>This initiative is under the Programme “Maintenance of Law and Order in the Community” and a breakdown of estimated expenditure in this respect is not available.</p>	<p>Ethnic minority members of JPC (no pre-set number)</p>
<p>Provide on-site and telephone interpretation services in 17 ethnic minority languages to patients seeking healthcare services.</p> <p>Provide front-line staff of the Hospital Authority (HA) with cue cards, disease information sheets and consent forms in 18 ethnic minority languages to facilitate the registration and provision of services for ethnic minorities.</p>	<p>Food and Health Bureau</p>	<p>Estimated amount of about \$5.20 million for 2015-16.</p>	<p>Patients in public hospitals and clinics under the HA</p>

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB151**

**(Question Serial No. 7037)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) should work to ensure that integrated education and employment opportunities are provided to students with special education needs (SEN). In the past 5 years, what measures had the EOC taken to promote the provision of integrated education and employment opportunities for SEN students? What were the manpower and expenses involved and how effective were these measures?

In the past 5 years, what was the number of complaints made by SEN students with respect to integrated education and the follow-ups taken?

In the past 5 years, what was the number of complaints made by SEN students with respect to employment opportunities and the follow-ups taken?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 796)

Reply:

Upon consulting the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), its reply is as follows: ensuring students with special education needs (SEN students) are entitled to equal opportunities to receive integrated education has been included as one of the strategic priority work areas of the EOC. The EOC has been relaying its concerns and questions about integrated education to the Government through regular meetings and communications with relevant policy bureaux.

2. Over the past 5 years, the EOC has committed to enhance public awareness of policy on integrated education by commissioning the Centre for Special Needs and Inclusive Education of the Hong Kong Institute of Education to conduct the Study on Equal Learning Opportunities for Students with Disabilities under the Integrated Education System, attending meetings of the Subcommittee on Integrated Education under the Legislative



Council Panel on Education, co-organising the Seminar on Integrated Education with the Education Bureau, etc. On the promotional education and training front, over the past 5 years, the EOC has been promoting awareness and understanding of SEN students by the public and stakeholders through a series of programmes and activities, including, inter alia, television docudramas; radio programmes; the Community Participation Funding Programme on Equal Opportunities; radio programmes; roving exhibition; annual EOC Forum; seminars and training courses for education institutions, non-government organisations and community organisations, promoting equal opportunities in receiving integrated education and employment for SEN students. As these are integral parts of EOC's efforts in promoting equal opportunities, separate breakdown on the above work is not available.

3. The EOC does not maintain a breakdown by category of complaints with respect to integrated education or employment opportunities in relations to SEN students. Upon receiving these complaints, the EOC will conduct investigation according to its established procedures and endeavor to, through conciliation, effect a settlement.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB152**

**(Question Serial No. 3378)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government advise this Committee of:

- (1) the respective staff establishment, total expenditure and entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices in the past three financial years and for the coming year;
- (2) the respective provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick (Member Question No. 55)

Reply:

The respective numbers of posts in the establishment of the Mainland Offices (namely the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan) in 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

Office	Establishment in 2012-13 (Number of posts)	Establishment in 2013-14 (Number of posts)	Establishment in 2014-15 (Number of posts)	Establishment in 2015-16 (Number of posts)
<b>BJO</b>	17	17	19	19
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	15	15	15	15
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	7	7	9	9
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	12	12	12	12
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	0	0	7	9

<sup>#</sup> The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

2. The actual expenditure of the Mainland Offices in 2012-13 and 2013-14, the revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 and estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Actual expenditure in 2012-13 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Actual expenditure in 2013-14 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	61.5	64.5	69.8	74.3
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	43.7	51.1	54.8	54.9
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	24.1	29.8	34.8	39.5
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	22.9	33.6	36.7	40.9
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	0	1.0 (expenditure for early preparatory work)	20.7	23.8

# The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

3. As for the entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices, the actual expenditure in 2012-13 and 2013-14, the revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 and estimated expenditure for 2015-16 are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Actual expenditure in 2012-13 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Actual expenditure in 2013-14 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Revised estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)</b>
<b>BJO</b>	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
<b>Guangdong ETO</b>	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4
<b>Shanghai ETO</b>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Chengdu ETO</b>	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
<b>Wuhan ETO<sup>#</sup></b>	0	0	0.1	0.1

# The Wuhan ETO was set up on 1 April 2014.

4. The provisions for salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB153**

**(Question Serial No. 3379)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is mentioned under Brief Description that “..... promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law”. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of: the expenditure/estimated expenditure for and staff establishment involved in taking forward the above initiative in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 and for 2015-16; the specific work plan for the coming year? Please also advise on the content, expected results of, estimated expenditure for and manpower involved in each promotional programme.

Asked by: Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick (Member Question No. 56)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has spent/set aside about \$16 million in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. In addition, the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the “one country, two systems” principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;

- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB154**

**(Question Serial No. 3492)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the following matters in relation to the consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and forming the Legislative Council in 2016 (constitutional reform):

- (a) the amount of provision earmarked for the consultation on constitutional reform by the Government, and the expenditure incurred as at March 2015;
- (b) the respective items incurring such expenditure; and
- (c) the details of consultation events on constitutional reform that the Government participated in using the table below:

<b>Duration</b>	<b>Organiser</b>	<b>Participating Officials and Accompanying Staff</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 66)

Reply:

In 2013-14 and 2014-15, the expenditures on and the revised estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2013-14	2014-15
Printing	0.9	2.0
Publicity	6.1	9.4
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.7
Total	7.2	12.1

2. Details of the relevant consultation sessions held during the first round consultation exercise are set out in Annex I and Annex II to the Report on the Public Consultation on the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2016. As the Government attended most of these events on invitation, no additional expenses were involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB155**

**(Question Serial No. 4225)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the studies (if any) conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information about studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in the past 2 financial years (2013-14 and 2014-15):

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting internal studies this year (2015-16)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Title, content and objectives of project	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2015-16)? If yes, please provide the following information:



Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

(d) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 73)

Reply:

As advised by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), the relevant information of the studies on public policy and strategic public policy it funded in 2013-14 and 2014-15 is set out as follows:

Name of Consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of the project	Consultancy fee	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd.	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Study on Discrimination in the Hong Kong Workplace To access types and degrees of discrimination in the workplace, identify common stereotyping, and solicit views from the employers and employees on efficient ways of redressing discrimination in the workplace as well as promoting the concept of equal opportunity.	\$279,000	August 2013	Completed	The EOC has organised the “Sharing Session on SMEs – An Equal Workplace for All” on 7 February 2015 and will continue working on the publicity and public education of the issue.	The consultancy study report has been uploaded onto the website of the EOC for public perusal; the EOC also held a press conference on 4 September 2014.

Name of Consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of the project	Consultancy fee	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Gender Research Centre, Hong Kong Institute of Asia Pacific Studies of The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Feasibility Study of Legislating against Discrimination on the Grounds of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status To solicit views from stakeholders on the feasibility of legislation to outlaw discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status.	\$649,000	March 2014	In progress	The consultant has been making regular reports to the Working Group and members of the EOC on the progress	Not applicable
Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Exploratory Study on Age Discrimination in Employment To provide an overview on age discrimination in the Hong Kong workplace and probe for the feasibility of legislation on age discrimination.	\$280,000	June 2014	In progress	The consultant has been making regular reports to the Working Group and members of the EOC on the progress	Not applicable

Name of Consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of the project	Consultancy fee	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd.	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Study on Discrimination against Ethnic Minorities in the Provision of Goods, Services and Facilities, and Disposal and Management of Premises To provide an overview on discrimination against ethnic minority groups in seeking services and securing an accommodation in Hong Kong.	\$422,000	December 2014	In progress	The consultant has been making regular reports to members of the EOC on the progress	Not applicable

2. Projects for which funds have been reserved by the EOC for conducting internal studies in 2015-16:

Title, content and objectives	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Survey on sexual harassment encountered by athletes in the sports sector Follow-up survey on sexual harassment in the education sector Follow-up survey on sexual harassment encountered by flight attendants and other service providers	Expected to start in Q4 2015 to Q1 2016 (the exact start date is to be decided upon the review of the work plan for the coming year by the Working Group on Anti-Sexual Harassment Campaign of the EOC).	To be confirmed	Not applicable	All study reports will be made public through press conference; the reports and press releases will be uploaded onto EOC's website.

3. Projects for which funds have been reserved by the EOC for conducting consultancy studies in 2015-16:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Not applicable (engagement of consultant is under preparation)	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Study on Pregnancy Discrimination in Small and Medium Enterprises	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Not applicable	Not applicable	All study reports completed will be made public through press conference; reports and press releases will be uploaded onto EOC's website.
Not applicable (engagement of consultant is under preparation)	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Equal Opportunities Awareness Survey 2015	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Not applicable	Not applicable	
Not applicable (engagement of consultant is under preparation)	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at paragraph 4 below	Exploratory Study on Discrimination against New Arrivals from Mainland China	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Not applicable	Not applicable	

4. The EOC awarded the consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned after considering the following criteria:

- (i) the research institution's background and relevant past experience on the research topic;
- (ii) the research team's understanding and knowledge of the research topic; and
- (iii) whether the quoted consultancy fee is reasonable.

Proposals of research institutions received through open invitation (issued by newspaper advertisement and on EOC's website) will be assessed by a selection board formed by members of the EOC which will then recommend a suitable research institution for the consultancy project.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB156**

**(Question Serial No. 4650)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the records management work of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under the Bureau's purview over the past year –

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for records yet to be transferred

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS -

Category of records	Name of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 146)

Reply:

Regarding records management work in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) under the CMAB's purview over the past year, the relevant information is provided below –

1. A Senior Executive Officer is appointed in each of CMAB and REO as the Departmental Records Manager (DRM) to establish and implement a comprehensive departmental records management programme. The DRM is assisted by officers not lower than the rank of Executive Officer II or equivalent (11 officers for CMAB and 13 officers for REO). Staff of individual teams/offices are responsible for the day-to-day records management activities of their own teams/offices.

Since the work is performed as part of the daily duties of the above officers, we do not keep daily logs on the number of hours of work involved in records management.

2. CMAB does not have programme and administrative records which were closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the past year. The relevant information for REO is provided below –

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for records yet to be transferred
CMAB	Programme records	Nil				
	Administrative records	Nil				
REO	Programme records	1955-2011	1 050 records in 63.92 linear metres	Some are 3 to 5 years after action completed, some are pending GRS's appraisal	Some are confidential	Pending GRS's appraisal to decide on the next course of action

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for records yet to be transferred
	Administrative records	2004-2010	2 records in 0.12 linear metre	3 years after action completed	No	Pending GRS's appraisal to decide on the next course of action

3. Information on programme and administrative records which were transferred to GRS for retention in the past year is provided below -

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
CMAB	Programme records	1996-2005	61 records in 3.50 linear metres	2014	6 years after action completed	Some are confidential
	Administrative records	Nil				
REO	Programme records	Nil				
	Administrative records	Nil				

4. Information on records which were approved for destruction by GRS in the past year is provided below –

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Name of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they Confidential documents
CMAB	Programme records	Records on matters relating to equal opportunities	1996-2005	3 records in 0.17 linear metre	Not applicable	6 years after action completed	Some are confidential

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Name of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they Confidential documents
	Administrative records	Recruitment Records	2010-2011	2 130 records in 3.26 linear metres	Not applicable	2 years after action completed	No
REO	Programme records	Ballot Papers and Marked Copies of Final Registers Relating to Elections and By-elections; Files Relating to Elections and By-elections; Electoral Forms and Documents of Ordinary Elections, General Elections and By-elections; Transaction Reports for Voter Registration and Change of Particulars; Application Forms for Requests for Change of Address / Personal Particulars from Registered Voters; Vetting Exercise for Geographical Constituency	1998-2013	323 084 records in 903.4 linear metres	Not applicable	6 months to 4 years after action completed	Some are confidential



Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Name of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they Confidential documents
	Administrative records	Leave and Authorised Absence, Salaries, Appointments & Posting; Performance & Appraisal	1963-2011	536 records in 2.018 linear metres	Not applicable	1 to 7 years after action completed	No

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB157**

**(Question Serial No. 4651)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the department under its purview in 2013-14 and 2014-15, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department and year	Estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Actual expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Expenditure limit on entertainment expenses (including beverages) per head for the year	Expenditure limit on gift expenses per guest for the year	Number of receptions held and total number of guests entertained in the year

2. Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the department under its purview in 2014-15, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department	Date of reception (day/ month/ year)	Departments/ organisations and titles of the guests entertained (grouped by department/ organisation and indicating the number of guests)	Food expenses incurred in the reception	Beverage expenses incurred in the reception	Gift expenses incurred in the reception	Venue of the reception (department office/ restaurant in government facilities/ private restaurant/ others (please specify))

3. Please provide the estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts for 2015-16 using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/department	Estimated provision for expenses on entertainment and gifts	Expenditure limit on entertainment expenses per guest	Expenditure limit on gift expenses per guest

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 147)

Reply:

As a general rule, all politically appointed officials and civil servants should observe the same principles in the provision of official meals. They are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines. According to the existing guidelines, the expenditure limits on entertainment in the form of official meals should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch or \$600 per person for dinner, inclusive of all expenses incurred on food and beverages consumed on the occasion, service charges and tips. Official entertainment provided by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and the Registration and Electoral Office (REO), which is under the purview of CMAB, is also subject to the same principles and guidelines. In 2013-14 and 2014-15 (as at 28 February 2015), the expenses under the Departmental Entertainment Vote for local entertainment incurred by CMAB are \$122,000 and \$90,000 respectively, while the estimated expenditure for 2015-16 is \$130,000. As for REO, no expenses on official entertainment have been incurred in 2013-14 and 2014-15, and the Office has not earmarked any provision for such purpose in 2015-16.

2. In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. As CMAB and REO do not specifically maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, relevant breakdowns are not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB158**

**(Question Serial No. 4652)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the studies (if any) conducted by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under its purview for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information about studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in the past 2 financial years (2013-14 and 2014-15):

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting internal studies this financial year (2015-2016)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Title, content and objectives of project	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this financial year (2015-2016)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (d) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 148)

Reply:

Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, the relevant information is provided below –

- (a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in 2013-14 and 2014-15 –

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Policy 21 Limited	Selection of quotation	Study on Discrimination Experienced by Sexual Minorities in Hong Kong  To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they	HK \$445,000	Nov 2013	In progress	Not applicable, the study is yet to be completed	The report, when completed, will be passed to the Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities for consideration of how to follow up with the findings of the study

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it					
Colliers International	Selection of quotation	Rent Allowance for Officers Posted/ Seconded to Wuhan	HK \$85,000	Dec 2013	Completed	Adopted	The information obtained is for internal reference for determining the rent allowance for officers posted/seconed to Wuhan
Guizhou University of Finance and Economics	Selection of quotation	Implementation of CEPA in Guizhou  To understand the status of implementation of CEPA in Guizhou and explore the business opportunities of Guizhou for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB 120,000	Apr 2014	In progress	Final draft of the report has been passed to government departments in Hong Kong	The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu and Guizhou Department of Commerce have intended to hold a joint press conference to release summary of the findings upon completion of the report. The full report will be distributed to government departments in Hong Kong and relevant organisations for reference
Pricewaterhouse-Coopers Consultants (Shenzhen) Limited	Selection of quotation	Report on the “2014 Negative List, liberalisation measures and financial policies of the	RMB 128,000	Sept 2014	Completed	The report has been passed to the industry and government departments in Hong Kong	The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (SHETO) has released the electronic version

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		<p>China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone; and their impact on and business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises”</p> <p>To help Hong Kong enterprises understand the latest policy on the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone and explore business opportunities</p>					<p>of the report to major business associations in Hong Kong, business associations, enterprises and individuals in the service areas of SHETO, and government departments in Hong Kong by e-mail</p>

(b) and (c) In 2015-16, CMAB has not reserved any funds for the Bureau to conduct internal studies for the time being and project for which funds have been reserved for conducting study in the year is set out below:

<b>Name of consultant</b>	<b>Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))</b>	<b>Title, content and objectives of project</b>	<b>Con-sultancy fee (\$)</b>	<b>Start date</b>	<b>Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)</b>	<b>Follow-up actions taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)</b>	<b>For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?</b>
Not applicable, the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	Selection of quotation	Evaluative study on conditions necessary for implementing section 33 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance	Not applicable, the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	To be con-firmed	Under planning	Not applicable, the study is still under planning	Not applicable, the study is still under planning

(d) The consultancy projects were awarded to the research institutions concerned after considering the following criteria –

- (i) the research institution’s background and relevant past experience on the research topic;
- (ii) the research team’s understanding and knowledge of the research topic; and
- (iii) whether the quoted consultancy fee is reasonable.

In applying the above criteria, we also took into account the views given to us by relevant local authorities.

2. The Registration and Electoral Office, which is under the purview of CMAB, has not commissioned any consultancy study, and currently has no plan for new internal or consultancy studies to be conducted in 2015-16.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB159**

**(Question Serial No. 4653)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In regard to the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which your bureau and the department under your purview have been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes, please provide information for 2013-14 and 2014-15 as per following table:

Project / Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement) or the National 13 <sup>th</sup> Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Have the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If so, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?	Has public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

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(b) Has provision been earmarked for Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in this year (2015-16)? If so, please provide information in respect of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes for 2015-16 as per following table:

Project / Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement) or the National 13 <sup>th</sup> Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Have the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If so, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?	Will public consultation on the cross-boundary project be conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

(c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary cooperation? If so, in what modes are they taken forward? What were the manpower and expenditure involved over the past 3 years? How much financial and manpower resources have been earmarked in the 2015-16 Estimates?

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 149)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) attaches great importance to enhancing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. There is general consensus in our community that co-operation with Guangdong is mutually beneficial and complementary. The Legislative Council (LegCo), for example, reaffirmed its strong support by passing 2 motions entitled “Proactively implementing the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation” and “Promoting regional economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong” on 26 May 2010 and 5 May 2011 respectively. The

motions urged the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to formulate and implement the specific policies and measures outlined in the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (Framework Agreement) as early as possible, and to promote economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong on various fronts.

2. The Government has briefed the House Committee and different Panels of LegCo on individual aspects of the Framework Agreement on various occasions. The full text of the Framework Agreement was issued on the day it was signed (7 April 2010) and details were announced in a press release. While CMAB is responsible for co-ordinating the efforts of the HKSAR Government in promoting co-operation with Guangdong, specific projects are initiated and taken forward by the relevant policy bureaux and departments. Where necessary, relevant parties such as advisory boards and LegCo would be briefed or consulted in accordance with established practice.

3. Since the Framework Agreement was signed in 2010, good progress has been made in its implementation. The 2015 Work Plan setting out the work programme of Hong Kong/Guangdong co-operation for the year was agreed and signed in March this year.

4. Under the “one country, two systems” principle, the HKSAR Government will continue to maintain close communication with the National Development and Reform Commission and other relevant Mainland authorities through the established liaison mechanism to actively participate in the work of the National 13th Five-Year Plan in 2015-16. Relevant bureaux of the HKSAR Government have also consulted relevant sectors and advisory committees on the work relating to the National 13th Five-Year Plan.

5. Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation, including complementing the National 13th Five-Year Plan, under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” are mainly handled by 2 divisions of staff in CMAB. In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the above work is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or quantified by regions. Broadly speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$149 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the relevant work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB160**

**(Question Serial No. 4654)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide the details of the visits outside Hong Kong made by the Director of Bureau and Deputy Director of Bureau in the past 5 years, and list, by date, the following for each trip: (a) objective, place of visit; (b) titles of the local officials met; (c) number and titles of the Hong Kong officers joining the visit; (d) duration of trip (days); and (e) total expenditure incurred as well as respective expenses on (i) transport (please list flight ticket expenditure and local transportation expenses separately); (ii) accommodation; (iii) meals; (iv) banquets or entertainment; and (v) gifts.

Date	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 150)

Reply:

From 2010-11 to 2014-15, the relevant information on duty visits outside Hong Kong made by the Director of Bureau and Deputy Director of Bureau is provided below –

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Place of visits	No. of officers in Director of Bureau's Office joining the visits	Objectives of duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure <sup>Note1</sup> (\$) (A)	Flight/train/vessel ticket expenditure <sup>Note2</sup> (\$) (B)	Other expenses <sup>Note3</sup> (\$) (C)	Total expenditure (\$) (A)+(B)+(C)
2010-11 (15)	Mainland (Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen,	0-1 officer per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further</li> </ul>	18,180	70,280	45,340	133,800

<b>Date of duty visits (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Place of visits</b>	<b>No. of officers in Director of Bureau's Office joining the visits</b>	<b>Objectives of duty visits</b>	<b>Hotel accommodation expenditure<sup>Note1</sup></b> (\$) (A)	<b>Flight/train/vessel ticket expenditure<sup>Note2</sup></b> (\$) (B)	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note3</sup></b> (\$) (C)	<b>Total expenditure</b> (\$) (A)+(B)+(C)
	Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Shaoguan), Taipei		co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan				
2011-12 (8)	Mainland (Guangzhou, Beijing, Jilin, Nanchang, Shenzhen, Chongqing, Shanghai), Taipei, Taichung	0-2 officers per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> </ul>	21,050	79,940	18,410	119,400
2012-13 (11)	Mainland (Beijing, Hainan, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Sichuan, Tianjin), Taipei, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-1 officer per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	14,900	142,000	16,700	173,600
2013-14 (11)	Mainland (Beijing, Zhuhai, Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Shenzhen) and Macao, Taipei, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-1 officer per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	33,050	179,340	24,490	236,880
2014-15 (13)	Mainland (Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Beijing, Fuzhou, Quanzhou, Xiamen) and Macao, Switzerland (Geneva)	0-3 officers per duty visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights</li> </ul>	41,880	134,930	33,410	210,220

Notes:

- (1) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (2) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.
- (3) Other expenses include subsistence allowance for duty outside Hong Kong and local transportation expenses, but exclude the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government (if any).

2. As a general rule, all politically appointed officials and civil servants are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy in the provision of official meals in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance, and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines. Official entertainment provided by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) is also subject to the same principles and guidelines. We do not maintain separate accounts for official entertainment expenses incurred by the Director of Bureau and Deputy Director of Bureau during their duty visits outside Hong Kong.

3. In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is unavoidable due to operational or protocol reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. CMAB do not maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 4655)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide the details of the meetings, visits or exchanges held between departments under the Bureau and the relevant Mainland authorities in the past 5 years, and list, by date, the following for each trip:

- (a) objective, place of visit;
- (b) titles of the Mainland officials met;
- (c) number and titles of the participating officers from Hong Kong;
- (d) number of days of the trip;
- (e) total expenditure incurred;
- (f) whether the trip was announced before departure; if not, what are the reasons for the confidentiality;
- (g) whether minutes of the meeting were filed; if not, what are the reasons; and
- (h) whether agreement was reached; if so, what are the contents and implementation progress;
- (i) transport (please list flight tickets and local transport at destinations separately);
- (ii) accommodation;
- (iii) meals;
- (iv) banquets or entertainment; and
- (v) expenses on gifts.

Date	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No. 151)

Reply:

For official duty visits to the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan undertaken by officers of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual over the past 5 years (2010-11 to 2014-15), the relevant information is provided below –

<b>Year (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Content/objective</b>	<b>Number of officers</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
2010-11 (81)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participation of the HKSAR in the Expo 2010 Shanghai China</li> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Guizhou, Liaoning, Guangdong, Jiangxi, Fujian, etc.</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-13 officers per visit	1,444,930
2011-12 (57)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangdong, Jiangxi, Chongqing, Heilongjiang, Fujian, etc.</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-11 officers per visit	801,420
2012-13 (33)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Guizhou, Guangdong, Hainan, Hunan, Hubei, Tianjin, Fujian, etc.</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-12 officers per visit	379,000



Year (Number of visits)	Content/objective	Number of officers	Expenditure (\$) <sup>Note</sup>
2013-14 (54)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Guizhou, Liaoning, Guangdong, Fujian, etc.</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings in Zhejiang</li> </ul>	1-8 officers per visit	345,230
2014-15 (55)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Gansu, Sichuan, Hubei, Liaoning, Hainan, Guangdong, Fujian, etc.</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings in Beijing.</li> </ul>	1-14 officers per visit	493,210

The above duty visits lasted for 1 to 7 days per trip, joined by officers of different ranks and led by a senior officer or directorate officer.

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure includes expenditure on hotel accommodation and flight tickets, but excludes–
  - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
  - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.

- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other relevant details.
2. CMAB conducts exchanges and discussions with the relevant Mainland authorities on issues of mutual concern from time to time as and when necessary. Generally speaking, the meetings are recorded as appropriate, having regard to the different circumstances and factors such as nature of the meeting and subject matter, consensus reached by both sides, development of the subject matter, etc. We will decide whether and how the trips and the agreements concluded should be made public in the light of the circumstances and needs.
3. As a general rule, all politically appointed officials and civil servants should observe the same principles in the provision of official meals. They are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines. According to the existing guidelines, the expenditure limits on entertainment in the form of official meals should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch or \$600 per person for dinner, inclusive of all expenses incurred on food and beverages consumed on the occasion, service charges and tips.
4. In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. As CMAB does not specifically maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, relevant breakdowns are not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB162**

**(Question Serial No. 4465)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please provide relevant information on cross-boundary projects or programmes that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has collaborated with Mainland departments or in which it has been involved over the past 5 years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2014-15), and in the coming year (i.e. 2015-16), as well as the manpower and expenditure involved as per following table:

Project/ Programme	Details and objective	Mainland department or organisation involved	Progress	Has the project/ programme been released to the public?	Details of the legislation or policy involved in the project/ programme	Manpower and expenditure involved

(b) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of and respective expenditure involved for all meetings, lunches and dinners between CMAB and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Liaison Office) and Mainland departments over the past 5 years (i.e 2010-11 to 2014-15).

(c) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of, number of participants in and expenditure involved for all duty visits and studies to the Mainland made by CMAB staff over the past 5 years (i.e 2010-11 to 2014-15).

(d) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of, number of participants in and expenditure involved for all overseas duty visits and studies (excluding the Mainland) made by CMAB staff over the past 5 years (i.e 2010-11 to 2014-15).

Asked by: Hon IP Kin-yuen (Member Question No. 91)

Reply:

While the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) is responsible for the overall co-ordination of the efforts of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government in promoting regional co-operation with provinces/municipalities in the Mainland, specific co-operation projects are initiated and taken forward by the relevant policy bureaux and departments.

2. CMAB maintains necessary working relationships with the central and provincial/municipal authorities in the Mainland, as well as offices of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR to ensure effective exchanges. We do not keep a separate account to capture related expenditure.

3. For official duty visits to the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan undertaken by officers of CMAB on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual over the past 5 years (2010-11 to 2014-15), the relevant information is provided below –

<b>Year (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Content/objective</b>	<b>Number of officers</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
2010-11 (81)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participation of the HKSAR in the Expo 2010 Shanghai China</li> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-13 officers per visit	1,444,930
2011-12 (57)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-11 officers per visit	801,420
2012-13 (33)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> </ul>	1-12 officers per visit	379,000

<b>Year (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Content/objective</b>	<b>Number of officers</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
2013-14 (54)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> </ul>	1-8 officers per visit	345,230
2014-15 (55)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland</li> <li>• enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> </ul>	1-14 officers per visit	493,210

4. For official duty visits outside Hong Kong (excluding the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan) undertaken by officers of CMAB on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual over the past 5 years (2010-11 to 2014-15), the relevant information is provided below –

<b>Year (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Content/objective</b>	<b>Number of officers</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
2010-11 (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> </ul>	1 officer	13,300
2011-12 (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> </ul>	1 officer	53,570
2012-13 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• experience sharing on issues related to electoral arrangements</li> <li>• participating in United Nations hearings concerning human rights</li> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> </ul>	1-5 officers per visit	494,990

<b>Year (Number of visits)</b>	<b>Content/objective</b>	<b>Number of officers</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)<sup>Note</sup></b>
2013-14 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participation in United Nations hearings concerning human rights</li> </ul>	1-3 officers per visit	367,170
2014-15 (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings</li> <li>• attending hearing of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</li> </ul>	1-3 officers per visit	160,910

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure includes expenditure on hotel accommodation and flight tickets, but excludes –
  - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
  - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other relevant details.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB163**

**(Question Serial No. 3439)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

The Government has commented that the reason for the decrease in the number of enquiries received in 2014 and the estimated number of enquiries received in 2015 is that the Interactive Voice Response System (the System) ceased operation with effect from 23 April 2014. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee what measures it has taken to maintain services after the System ceased to operate? Does it involve the deployment of additional manpower and resources? If so, what are the number of additional staff and expenditure incurred? If not, will it consider doing so?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. 78)

Reply:

The Interactive Voice Response System (the System) of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) mainly provided services such as fax, interactive voice response and voice messages to allow the public to obtain information related to EOC and raise enquiries through voice messages through the System. After the System ceased to operate, members of the public may, from EOC's website or by calling the EOC hotline, obtain information related to the EOC (including using fax services) and raise enquiries. The above arrangements do not involve deployment of additional manpower or resources.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB164**

**(Question Serial No. 3629)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please inform this Committee of all the expenditures incurred by the Bureau in the years passed and the estimated expenditure for this financial year in managing the Facebook page (public consultation on the Method for Selecting the Chief Executive by Universal Suffrage).

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 555)

Reply:

The financial resources involved in the daily operation of the Facebook page set up for the public consultations on constitutional development in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 have been subsumed under the general departmental expenses.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB165**

**(Question Serial No. 5660)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the existing establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office? What is the respective estimated provision for salaries for each member of the Office (including Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant, if any) for this financial year (i.e. 2015-16)?

Post / Rank	No. of members	Estimated salary expenditure (each member)	Note

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 522)

Reply:

For 2015-16, in addition to the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau, the establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau under Programme (1) comprises five civil servants (an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, a Personal Assistant, a Senior Personal Secretary, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Chauffeur) providing support to the office.

2. For 2015-16, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau are \$3.58 million, \$2.33 million and \$1.25 million respectively. The provisions for the salaries, allowances and related expenses for the supporting civil servants amount to around \$3.03 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB166**

**(Question Serial No. 5661)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) Education or promotion activities in respect of children, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, ethnic minorities and fundamental human rights that have been organised. Please set out the activities in table form.
- (2) The estimated expenditure on the above 5 types of education or promotion activities for this financial year. Please give a breakdown as per following table:

Education/promotion activities	Estimated expenditure for 2015-16
Children	
People with disabilities	
Sexual minorities	
Ethnic minorities	
Fundamental human rights	

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 523)

Reply:

The Government's public education and promotion activities on human rights are taken forward by a number of policy bureaux, notably the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Education Bureau (EDB), the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB).

2. Education and promotion activities in respect of children, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, ethnic minorities and fundamental human rights organised by the Government in 2014-15 are detailed at the Annex.

3. As education and promotion activities of various bureaux and departments are an integral part of their daily work, separate breakdowns of expenditures for each of such activities are not available. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools, through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education (including human rights) outside schools, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials.

4. Activities where breakdowns of expenditure are available include:

- (a) Under Programme (4), the CMAB is committed to increasing the community's awareness of, respect for and protection of rights of the individual; in 2015-16, the estimated expenditure is \$24.7 million. Relevant initiatives include continuing to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, publicity and public education, and continuing to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, and promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to the public and private sector organisations.
- (b) Under Programme (5), the CMAB has set aside provision for the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data to carry out promotion and education programmes and enforcement work within their statutory framework to promote rights of the individual with respect to personal data privacy, promote equal opportunities and eliminate discrimination; in 2015-16, the estimated expenditure is \$175.6 million.
- (c) The LWB organises territory-wide public education activities and provides sponsorship to the 18 District Councils and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society. In 2015-16, the estimated expenditure of the LWB for the above public education activities is about \$13.5 million.

**Education or Promotion Activities in respect of Children, People with Disabilities, Sexual Minorities, Ethnic Minorities and Fundamental Human Rights (in 2014-15)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsible organisation(s)</b>	<b>Target</b>
<b><i>Children</i></b>		
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
Co-operate with Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to produce a TV programme on promotion of children's rights	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public, in particular children
<b><i>People with disabilities</i></b>		
Co-operate with RTHK to produce a documentary series "Talent-Wise Recruitment" and hold the award presentation ceremony of the Talent-Wise Employment Charter and Inclusive Organisations Recognition Scheme cum variety show to promote employment of people with disabilities	LWB	Members of the public
Co-operate with RTHK to produce programmes that promote sign language	LWB	Members of the public
Organise "Inclusive Life - Show your Different Abilities" Youth Programme (including experimental exhibition Dialogue in the Dark, school activity day and Youth Ambassador Training for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the UNCRPD)	LWB	Members of the public, in particular students and youth
Organise school roving exhibitions for promoting the comic booklet on UNCRPD	LWB	Members of the public, in particular students
Provide sponsorship to the 18 District Councils, non-government organisations and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the UNCRPD as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
<b><i>Sexual minorities</i></b>		
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsible organisation(s)</b>	<b>Target</b>
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
<b><i>Ethnic minorities</i></b>		
Co-operate with RTHK to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme on integration with ethnic minorities	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public and secondary school students
<b><i>Fundamental human rights</i></b>		
Publication of United Nations human rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g. Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public
Promote human rights education in schools through measures such as embedding related elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources	EDB	Teachers, students
HAB collaborates with the CPCE to promote civic education, including human rights, outside schools through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB167**

**(Question Serial No. 3810)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices  
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

1. In recent years, some Hong Kong people's acts of discrimination against Mainland visitors have aggravated and become more intense, which has a considerable negative impact on Hong Kong's image. How would the Government assess the impact of these acts on the relationship between the Mainland and Hong Kong? What are the Government's plans to tackle the issue to reduce the misunderstanding and conflicts between Hong Kong people and Mainland visitors in 2015-16? What is the estimated expenditure involved?
2. Does the Government believe that discrimination against new arrivals from the Mainland existed in the past year? If so, what are the Government's plans to reduce public misunderstanding of new arrivals from the Mainland? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 47)

Reply:

Hong Kong is a multi-cultural international city and a harmonious community with heterogeneous diversity. The Government attaches great importance to promoting social and racial harmony among different groups of people in the city, and is committed to promoting the core values, such as mutual respect for people from different backgrounds in the community and equality for all, through its public education efforts.

2. The recent incidents of harassment of tourists have damaged the reputation of Hong Kong as a leading tourist destination. They have affected the operations of some shops in the tourist areas, and disrupted Hong Kong's public order. The Government believes that

Hong Kong people are rational and will continue to extend our warm welcome to tourists from different places, and to ensure a pleasant experience for them during their stay. We understand that the Hong Kong Tourist Board will have a series of publicity initiatives to promote Hong Kong's hospitality image and enhance tourists' basic understanding of the Hong Kong society.

3. To help new arrivals from the Mainland to integrate into the community, various policy bureaux and departments have been providing a range of activities in line with their respective policies to meet the needs of the new arrivals, such as education support, employment counselling, social welfare, housing etc., to help them adapt to life in Hong Kong and facilitate their early integration into the community.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB168**

**(Question Serial No. 3820)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau inform this Committee of:

- a. the additional manpower for and expenditure incurred on the public consultation on constitutional development in the 2014-15 financial year; and
- b. the estimated total expenditure and a breakdown of expenses for the public consultation on constitutional development in the 2015-16 financial year?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 7)

Reply:

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
Total	12.1	5.0



2. In 2014-15, we created 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 time-limited posts (including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for the public consultation exercise on constitutional development. In 2015-16, the above 6 time-limited posts will be extended.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB169**

**(Question Serial No. 3821)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Will the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau provides the following information:

- a. the number of exchange tours to the Mainland organised or to be organised in the 2014-15 and 2015-16 financial years, the destinations, purposes, expenditures, target participants and the number of participants; and
- b. in connection with item (a) above, the Bureau's assessment of the effectiveness of such exchange tours to the Mainland and the assessment criteria adopted?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 8)

Reply:

In 2014-15, an official delegation organised by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) visited Beijing and Yunnan at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The visit was conducted under the established arrangement for reciprocal visits between the HKSAR Government and the MFA. In February 2015, the delegation called on the MFA and was briefed on the current foreign policies of our nation as well as the Ministry's latest work. The delegation also called on the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council. In Yunnan, the delegation called on the provincial and municipal officials, and conducted site visits to learn about the latest developments in the region. The 10-member delegation was composed of officials from CMAB and other related policy bureaux. The total cost of the visit was about \$95,000. Such reciprocal visits help enhance communication and mutual understanding between the HKSAR Government and the MFA. CMAB does not yet have any specific plan for exchange visit to the Mainland in 2015-16.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB170**

**(Question Serial No. 3857)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In paragraph 46 of the Budget Speech, it is mentioned that from this year onwards, free online Government information will be released in digital formats.

- (1) Please provide in the table below details about the free online Government information released in digital formats by your bureau/department for download by the public:

						Format of information available for download (please choose)			
Bureau/ Department	Free information/ data released to the public	Description of the information	Period of the information	Is it currently listed in Data.One	Date of release and the updating frequency	JSON, XML, or CSV	XLS, DOC	TIF, JPG, PDF, PNG	RSS

- (2) In 2015-16, what are the manpower and expenditure involved in releasing online Government information by your bureau/department?
- (3) Did your bureau/department review all non-classified information that your bureau/department own or possess, draw up priorities for their release, and compile them into digital data formats to facilitate retrieval/inspection, research or application development, and the creation of more industries through innovative reuse of data? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 72)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has been providing information for public inspection through the Bureau's website. The information provided includes, inter alia, consultation papers and reports, publications and press releases, documents submitted to the Legislative Council and various topical issues. The information is prepared in the format of PDF, HTML, DOC, JPG, etc. Given the wide range and large quantity of information released for public inspection, we cannot list out the information in detail exhaustively.

2. Releasing online information for public consumption is part of the daily work of CMAB officers. In 2015-16, this task will continue to be undertaken by our existing manpower; no additional expenditure will be involved.

3. CMAB will continue to release information through the Bureau's website as appropriate, taking into account the nature and content of the information.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB171**

**(Question Serial No. 3858)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In connection with the provision of public information and gathering of public opinions by means of the Internet, please advise on the following:

the information regarding the social media platforms set up and operated by your bureau/departments/public bodies or their agents (such as out-sourced contractors or consultants) for the past year in tabulated form (see Annex 1).

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep on updating/ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2015)	Government organisation (including policy bureau/department/public organisation/government advisory body)	Name	Social media (Facebook/Flickr/Google+/LinkedIn/Sina Weibo/Twitter/YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2015)	No. of "Likes"/No. of subscribers/Average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2015)	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2015)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2015)
			(1)...	(1)...					
			(2)...	(2)...					
			(3)...	(3)...					

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 73)

Reply:

Information on social media platforms set up and operated by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and its subvented bodies in 2014-15 is provided at the Annex. The Registration and Electoral Office (REO), which is under the purview of CMAB, did not set up or operate any social media platform in 2014-15.

**Information on the Social Media Platforms set up and operated by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau**  
**and its subvented bodies for 2014-15**  
**(as at 28 February 2015, if applicable)**

<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
February 2008	Regular updating	Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)	EOC YouTube Channel	YouTube	To make use of social media to upload videos to promote equal opportunities.  A total of 230 videos under 5 categories have been uploaded.  Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in March 2015.	Number of subscribers : 236  Average number of visits per month: 4 054	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed

<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
January 2011	Regular updating	EOC	EOC Facebook page for Uniquely Me	Facebook	To make use of social media to promote youth mentorship programme for ethnic minorities, Uniquely Me.  Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in March 2015.	Number of subscribers : 425	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed
May 2011	Regular updating	EOC	EOC Facebook page for Career Challenge	Facebook	To make use of social media to promote youth mentorship programme for youth, Career Challenge.  Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in March 2015.	Number of subscribers : 629	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed

<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of “Likes”/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
March 2012	Regular updating	The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD)	Student Ambassador Programme	Facebook	To publish the latest update on the Student Ambassador Programme.  Weekly updating on average. A total of 172 posts have been issued.	Number of “Likes” : 181	Yes	1 Corporate Communications Executive	Internally absorbed
April 2013	Update as necessary	PCPD	PCPD YouTube Channel	YouTube	To make use of videos to provide information on online privacy protection and school educational resources. A total of 193 videos have been uploaded.	Average number of visits per month: 1 146	Yes	1 Corporate Communications Executive	Internally absorbed



<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of “Likes”/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
September 2013	Update as necessary	The Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO)	Hong Kong Week in Taiwan	Facebook	To promote activities of the Hong Kong Week organised in Taiwan. An average of 1 to 2 articles are published per week, with more frequent issues during the period of Hong Kong Week publicity drive.	Number of “Likes” : 18 187	No	1 Senior Information Officer	Internally absorbed
December 2013	Update as necessary	Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB)	Method for Selecting the Chief Executive by Universal Suffrage	YouTube	To make use of videos to promote the public consultation on constitutional reform and provide the public with information on constitutional development.  As at 11 March, a total of 74 videos were uploaded.	Average number of visits per month: 8 971	Yes	1 Project Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
December 2013	Update as necessary	CMAB	Public Consultation on Method for Selecting the Chief Executive by Universal Suffrage	Facebook	To provide the public with the latest updates on the public consultation on constitutional reform and information on constitutional development, as well as to gather views of netizens on the public consultation on constitutional reform.  As at 11 March, a total of 253 updates were made.	Number of "Likes" : 4 344  Average number of visits per month: 140 933 (post impressions)	Yes	1 Project Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
April 2014	Update as necessary	CMAB	Facebook page for “精靈《基本法》”	Facebook	By releasing latest information on Basic Law promotional activities, the Facebook is a support service for the mobile application “精靈《基本法》” to encourage members of the public to visit the Basic Law homepage.	Number of “Likes”: 3 580	No	1 Executive Officer	The Facebook page is part of the “精靈《基本法》” mobile application development. The financial resources involved in the establishment cannot be singled out, and the resources for daily operation are absorbed internally.

<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of “Likes”/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
May 2014	Ceased updating upon completion of activity	HKETCO	“Art & Culture @ Hong Kong” – Cultural Talk Series	Facebook	To promote the “Art & Culture @ Hong Kong” – Cultural Talk Series held in Taiwan from May to October 2014.  An average of 1 to 2 articles were published per week during the above period. More articles were issued nearer the dates of the talks.	Number of “Likes”: 702	No	1 Senior Information Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
November 2014	Ceased updating upon completion of activity	Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai	"Same Root Same Heart for Mutual Success" 2014 roving exhibition	Sina Weibo	To promote the "Same Root Same Heart for Mutual Success" roving exhibition on Hong Kong as well as the strengths of Hong Kong. To disseminate information on the exhibition and its content in a timely manner.  On average, an update was provided every two days during the exhibition period.	Number of subscribers: 500  Average number of visits per month: 1 750	No	1 Public Relations Manager	Internally absorbed

<b>Commencement of operation (Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)</b>	<b>Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)</b>	<b>Purpose of establishment and no. of updates</b>	<b>No. of “Likes”/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits</b>	<b>Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)</b>	<b>Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation</b>	<b>Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation</b>
November 2014	Ceased updated upon completion of activity	Shanghai ETO	“Same Root Same Heart for Mutual Success” 2014 roving exhibition	WeChat	To promote the “Same Root Same Heart for Mutual Success” roving exhibition on Hong Kong as well as the strengths of Hong Kong. To disseminate information on the exhibition and its content in a timely manner.  Daily updating on average during the exhibition period.	Number of subscribers: 3 800  Average number of visits per month: 4 000	No	1 Public Relations Manager	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
December 2014	Update as necessary	Guangdong ETO	Official WeChat platform of Guangdong ETO	WeChat	To distribute the Guangdong ETO Newsletter to business communities, non-government organisations, Mainland authorities and the general public. The Newsletter contains the latest information on commerce and trade-related policies / regulations and the economic developments in the 5 provinces / region under the coverage of Guangdong ETO, as well as on major economic and trade activities held in the 5 provinces / regions. It also gives an account of the activities organised	Number of subscribers: 475 Average number of visits per month: 658	No	1 Principal Information Officer and 1 Assistant Commercial Relations Manager	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
					by the office and accepts enrollment for the activities. As at 28 February 2015, a total of 31 messages were issued.				

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB172**

**(Question Serial No. 4827)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the Bureau's expenditure on the procurement of computer software and hardware, could the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Does the Government have any standard internal procurement guidelines which set out the criteria for the purchase or renew of computer software and hardware for the Bureau? If yes, what are the details? Do the guidelines require that the Bureau must renew its computer software and hardware in a timely manner?
- (2) Given that Microsoft, a computer software and hardware provider, will terminate support services for its Windows XP operation system, please provide the respective number of computers in the Bureau which are installed with (i) Microsoft Windows XP operating system; (ii) other operating systems launched before 2001 by Microsoft; and (iii) other operating systems (please specify the version), as well as the respective percentage of the number of computers of the above 3 types against the total number of computers in the Bureau. Does the Bureau have any plan to renew the outdated versions of the above operating systems?
- (3) What are the expenditure on and criteria for the procurement of tablet computers by the Bureau? What are the models and the work purposes of these tablet computers? Is there any confidential information stored in these tablet computers? If yes, what are the details? Is there any information security software installed in the tablet computers used by the Bureau? What is the expenditure involved?
- (4) How many computers the Bureau are operating offline and what are the versions of their operating systems? Are there any uniform standards for the use of information security or anti-virus software by the Bureau? If so, what is the type of software used? If not, what are the respective types of software used?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (Member Question No. 117)

Reply:

- (1) The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will formulate information technology (IT) project portfolio and plan for related IT projects so as to ensure that these IT projects can practically and effectively meet the business needs and operational arrangements of the Bureau. With regard to the planning for IT replacement projects, CMAB is required to examine and assess various potential risks and devise associated mitigation measures. From the technology perspective, the potential risks that should be taken into consideration include product compatibility, maintenance and support, replacement products for ensuring continuity and availability of market supply. In procuring or replacing computer hardware and software, CMAB will follow the government procurement guidelines to make the most cost-effective purchase through open and fair competition, and take into account the importance and priority of the IT projects.
- (2) With respect to the version of computer operating systems, the relevant information is provided below-
  - (i) CMAB is not using any Microsoft Windows XP operating system.
  - (ii) CMAB is not using any operating system launched by Microsoft before 2001.
  - (iii) CMAB is not using any other outdated version of operating systems.
- (3) In procuring tablet computers, CMAB follows the government procurement guidelines to make the most cost-effective purchase through open and fair competition. The tablet computers procured are mainly used to support and improve the Bureau's internal operations including sending and receiving emails, short message service, calendaring and Internet browsing.

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), CMAB will not store confidential information in the tablet computers. We have, in accordance with the OGCIO guidelines, deployed mobile device management solutions and taken appropriate security measures, such as enabling the password lock on mobile devices and wiping device data after a specific number of failed login attempts, etc. Since the expenditure for installing information security software in tablet computers is normally included in the procurement cost, we do not have the breakdown on such expenditure.
- (4) CMAB does not have any computers that are operating offline. All computers currently in use have the Symantec Endpoint Protection anti-virus software installed.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB173**

**(Question Serial No. 4974)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding “providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland”, will the Bureau inform this Committee:

1. what kinds of assistance are usually regarded as “practical”;
2. of the number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland Offices from Hong Kong residents in the past 3 years; of these, the numbers of cases rejected and in which assistance was provided respectively; and
3. whether the Bureau will enhance its performance pledge if resources allow; if so, of the details; if not, of the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (Member Question No. 98)

Reply:

Currently, Immigration Divisions are set up under the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong and Chengdu to provide assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in all provinces/regions in the Mainland. Practical assistance provided by the HKSAR Government to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland includes:

- (a) issuing Entry Permits to Hong Kong residents who have lost their identity documents for returning to Hong Kong;
- (b) notifying relatives of the parties concerned in Hong Kong and giving advice on procedural matters if the parties concerned are involved in a serious accident or become a casualty;

- (c) liaising, on request from the parties concerned, with their relatives and friends in Hong Kong for rendering financial assistance to the parties concerned;
- (d) upon receipt of notification from the Mainland law enforcement agencies regarding the arrest or detention of Hong Kong residents, passing information to relatives of the parties concerned in Hong Kong;
- (e) inquiring, on request from the relatives and friends of the parties concerned, about the situation of the case involving Hong Kong residents being arrested or detained by the Mainland law enforcement agencies;
- (f) providing information on lawyers in the Mainland to the parties concerned or their relatives and friends on request; and
- (g) providing any other relevant advisory services.

2. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, Immigration Divisions of the aforementioned Mainland Offices received in total 362, 353 and 340 requests for assistance respectively from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland and had rendered practical assistance to them in the light of the actual circumstances.

3. In 2014, Immigration Divisions of the Mainland Offices rendered assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland within the same day upon request in 96% of the cases. The Government will keep the performance standard under constant review.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB174**

**(Question Serial No. 3774)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

One of the responsibilities of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices is to encourage and attract investments to Hong Kong, and promote Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia. In this connection, would the Government please advise the Committee on the following:

1. What were the details of the work done in the past year regarding the above responsibility? What was the operational expenditure involved? How is the work effectiveness evaluated?
2. To restore investors' confidence and rebuild Hong Kong's edge, will targeted measures be taken to mitigate the adverse effects of the illegal occupation incident in September last year on Hong Kong's business environment? If so, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 77)

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices, together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to proactively serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, including enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above areas of work complement each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. In 2015-16, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged

approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

2. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, working together with Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland and Taiwan enterprises in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the enterprises identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland and Taiwan enterprises to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

3. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.

4. In 2014, the Invest Hong Kong completed 75 investment projects from the Mainland and 8 projects from Taiwan. Invest Hong Kong has earmarked around \$6.4 million for promoting investment in the Mainland and Taiwan through the Investment Promotion Units in 2015-16. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has earmarked a sum of \$227 million under Programme (3) for the Mainland and Taiwan Offices to enhance trade opportunities, promote the strengths of Hong Kong and undertake investment promotion work, etc. The revised estimated expenditure of Invest Hong Kong and CMAB on the relevant work for 2014-15 is \$6.6 million and \$212 million respectively.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB175**

**(Question Serial No. 3775)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

In 2015-16, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) will build relationships with equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas through proactive networking and co-operation. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee which equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas the EOC intends to network and co-operate with? What are the specific work plans and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 78)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) will continue to network and co-operate with equivalent bodies in the Mainland and overseas. At this stage, the EOC has no plan to take part in overseas conferences or meetings, or engage in large-scale co-operation initiative and hence no specific estimate is available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB176**

**(Question Serial No. 4782)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please advise on the studies on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs to be conducted in 2015-16.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 135)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will commission a consultant to conduct an evaluative study on the conditions necessary for implementing section 33 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB177**

**(Question Serial No. 4783)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Bureau's expenditure to be incurred on the publicity and educational programmes against discrimination on the ground of sex, age, disability, etc. in this financial year?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 136)

Reply:

The functions of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) are to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance.

2. As advised by the EOC, its expenditure on publicity and public education for 2015-16 (including manpower expenditure) is estimated to be \$19.53 million. About half of the expenditure is related to publicity and educational efforts on eliminating discrimination on the grounds of sex and disability. As age discrimination is currently not one of the statutory duties of the EOC, the EOC does not have any estimated expenditure on publicity and educational efforts on eliminating age discrimination.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB178**

**(Question Serial No. 4784)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Bureau's estimate of expenditure for promotion of the Basic Law this financial year? Please give a breakdown of various promotional strategies and estimated administrative expenses.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 138)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has set aside about \$16 million in 2015-16 for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. The 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will organise different types of large-scale activities during this period to promote a more in-depth understanding of the "one country, two systems" principle and the Basic Law in the community.

2. We have been adopting the following promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions and mobile resource centre; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging various promotional activities, such as seminars, talks and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

3. Besides, the HKSAR Government will also continue to promote the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The HKSAR Government has set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Under the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB179**

**(Question Serial No. 4785)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please advise on the Bureau's estimate of expenditure this financial year for the public consultation on the method for selecting the Chief Executive and forming the Legislative Council, and list out the manpower allocated and the estimated expenditure on personal emolument involved. Please list out in table form the expenditure items including publicity, holding forums, entertaining guests, etc. and their estimated expenses.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 139)

Reply:

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the revised estimates and estimates of the public consultations on constitutional development (excluding staff cost) are respectively as follows:

	Million (\$)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Printing	2.0	1.2
Publicity	9.4	3.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.7	0.3
Total	12.1	5.0

2. In 2014-15, we created 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 time-limited posts (including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for the public consultation exercise on constitutional development. In 2015-16, the above 6 time-limited posts will be extended.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB180**

**(Question Serial No. 4786)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Bureau's estimate of expenditure for the promotion of equal opportunities for sexual minorities this financial year? What is the specific work plan?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 140)

Reply:

In 2015-16, we will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated expenditure for the above work is \$3.88 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB181**

**(Question Serial No. 4787)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Bureau's estimated provision in this financial year for studying the feasibility of legislating against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 141)

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has not set aside resources for studying the feasibility of legislating against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status in its 2015-16 estimates.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB182**

**(Question Serial No. 4789)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please advise on the estimated operating expenditure of the Beijing Office, the Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for this financial year.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 143)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO)) for 2015-16 are as follows:

Office	Estimated expenditure for 2015-16 (\$ million)
BJO	74.33
Guangdong ETO	54.92
Shanghai ETO	39.49
Chengdu ETO	40.94
Wuhan ETO	23.77
HKETCO	24.49

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB183**

**(Question Serial No. 4790)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

It is expected that there will be a net increase of 3 posts in the Bureau in this financial year. What are the duties and responsibilities of and the estimated provision set aside for the relevant posts?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 144)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will create 3 new posts, the details of which are as follows:

- (a) 1 Senior Executive Officer post for supporting work on promotion of regional co-operation; the annual cost involved is around \$0.9 million; and
- (b) 2 posts at the liaison unit to be set up in the Central Region of the Mainland, namely 1 Senior Administrative Officer post and 1 Trade Officer post; the annual cost involved is around \$2.1 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB184**

**(Question Serial No. 4791)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What plan does the Bureau have to enhance exchange and co-operation with Taiwan this financial year and what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 145)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) will continue to enhance exchange and co-operation with Taiwan through public relations functions and cultural events, including:

- (a) investment promotion and trade seminars in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote Hong Kong's various advantages, and encourage Taiwan enterprises to invest in Hong Kong;
- (b) a series of talks on Hong Kong culture in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote cultural exchanges between the two places, and cultural activities co-organised with the city and county authorities to promote Hong Kong's unique culture and image;
- (c) the annual "Hong Kong Week" activities co-organised with the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee to showcase Hong Kong's unique arts and culture to the Taiwan community;
- (d) an inter-city forum jointly organised with a city or county authority to publicise the experience and success stories of Hong Kong in city management; and

- (e) joint activities with the Taiwan offices of the Hong Kong Tourism Board and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to strengthen liaison with different sectors in Taiwan.
2. The estimated expenditure of the HKETCO in 2015-16 is \$24.49 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB185**

**(Question Serial No. 4792)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Bureau's estimate of expenditure for helping the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, promoting children's rights and promoting equal opportunities for sexual minorities this financial year?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 146)

Reply:

As advised by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), it promotes public awareness of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO) and racial equality through outreach, publicity and public education initiatives, including roving exhibitions, radio programmes, seminars and trainings, etc. The EOC's estimated expenditure on publicity and public education (including manpower expenditure) in 2015-16 is \$19.53 million, about 25% of which will be used for publicity and public education programmes on racial discrimination. Separately, starting from 2014-15, the Government has been providing a funding of \$4.69 million to the EOC for enhancing publicity and public education on the RDO; to this end, the EOC has set up a multi-ethnic taskforce.

2. In 2015-16, the Government will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, and continued efforts in publicity and public education, including co-operating with the Radio Television Hong Kong to produce television programmes on promotion of children's rights. The estimated expenditure for the above work is about \$3.32 million.

3. In 2015-16, the Government will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated expenditure for the above work is about \$3.88 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB186**

**(Question Serial No. 4793)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's estimate of expenditure for undertaking initiatives to promote the messages of inclusion and diversity, foster social integration and build a caring society this financial year?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 147)

Reply:

The functions of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) are to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance.

2. As advised by the EOC, promoting the message of inclusion and diversity, fostering social integration and building a caring society are core values of the EOC's publicity and public educational initiatives; all programmes are launched on the basis of these core values. The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education for 2015-16 (including manpower expenditure) is estimated to be \$19.53 million. The major publicity and education programmes include a funding programme for non-profit making organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities, radio programmes, Announcements in the Public Interest on television, outdoor advertisements, online publicity, drama performance in schools, youth mentorship programme, outreaching programme, and seminars and training for employers, employees, education institutions, non-government organisations and community groups, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB187**

**(Question Serial No. 7056)**

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs  
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

What are the Bureau's estimated expenses under the Departmental Entertainment Vote for local entertainment this year?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 137)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the estimated expenses under the Departmental Entertainment Vote for local entertainment to be incurred by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau are \$130,000.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB188**

**(Question Serial No. 4965)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

- (1) Please list, by the 18 District Councils in the territory, the numbers of newly registered electors of different age groups and sexes in the past year;
- (2) Please list, by the 18 Districts Councils in the territory, the numbers of electors of different age groups and sexes who were omitted from the register of electors in the past year and the reasons for this; and
- (3) Please also list, by the 18 District Councils in the territory, the numbers of electors of different age groups and sexes who are included in the register of electors.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 93)

Reply:

Regarding the breakdown of the number of newly registered electors in the 2014 voter registration (VR) cycle by District Council, age group and gender, please refer to the written reply of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in response to Legislative Council question number 11 "Statistics on Registered Electors" on 7 January 2015.

(Internet link: <http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201501/07/P201501060893.htm>)

2. The Registration and Electoral Office does not have a breakdown of the number of electors who have been removed from the register by reasons of removal, District Council, age group and gender. The number of geographical constituency electors who have been removed from the register in the 2014 VR cycle because of loss of eligibility for registration is as follows:



Reason for removal	Number of electors
Failure to respond to statutory inquiry procedures	13 740
Death	26 863
Other reasons (such as voluntary de-registration, loss of Hong Kong permanent resident status)	295
Total	40 898

3. Regarding the breakdown of the number of electors in the 2014 Final Register of electors by District Council, age group and gender, please refer to the paper on “Voter Registration” submitted by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to the Panel on Constitutional Affairs of the Legislative Council in October 2014. The relevant statistics are set out in Annex 1 to that document.

(Internet link:

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/english/panels/ca/papers/ca20141020cb2-68-3-e.pdf>)

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB189**

**(Question Serial No. 4966)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

According to the Programme, the Registration and Electoral Office will create a total of 45 posts in 2015-16 for undertaking election-related duties. Will the Government please inform this Committee of the types, salaries, allowances and nature of work of the 45 posts to be created?

What are the respective estimated expenditures and manpower requirements for organising the Rural Representative election, the District Council election and the Legislative Council election in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No.94)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has reserved \$365 million and \$97 million for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election respectively. As for manpower resources, the REO will create 45 posts in 2015-16, including 1 Chief Executive Officer, 9 Senior Executive Officer, 22 Executive Officer I, 3 Executive Officer II, 1 Information Officer, 4 Clerical Officer, 4 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Supplies Officer. The major responsibilities of such posts are amending the relevant electoral legislation; reviewing, updating and issuing guidelines on election-related activities; conducting the 2016 Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise; as well as other implementation work in relation to the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election, including reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises and training programmes for polling and counting staff, acquiring electoral materials and

support services, as well as planning and conducting large-scale voter registration publicity activities. Among the 45 posts mentioned above, except for the Information Officer post, all of the remaining ones are time-limited posts and will be deleted after the REO has completed its various tasks in the election cycle from 2015 to 2017. The estimated salary expenditure for these 45 posts in 2015-16 is around \$16 million.

2. Under the existing mechanism, the organisation of the Rural Representative elections (including by-elections) is arranged by the Home Affairs Department which provides resources and manpower so required.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB190**

**(Question Serial No. 5749)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the situation of omitting electors from the register of electors, will the Government inform this Committee:

- a) of the number of written notifications sent by the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) to electors to request verification of their residential addresses in 2014-15; please provide a breakdown of figures by individual district; whether the REO will, in view of the fact that District Council and Legislative Council elections will soon be held, step up efforts in checking the residential addresses of electors and speed up omission of electors with problematic residential addresses from the register of electors in 2015-16; if so, what are the details of additional manpower and resources involved; if not, what are the reasons; and
- b) of the number of electors omitted from the register of electors in 2014-15; please provide a breakdown of figures by individual constituency of the District Council and the reason for being omitted from the register of electors.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 236)

Reply:

In the light of public concern on the accuracy of residential addresses recorded in the voter register in recent years, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has stepped up publicity since the 2012 Voter Registration (VR) cycle to remind the public about the importance of providing true and accurate information for registration and updating their registered residential addresses. Besides, the REO has implemented various checking measures and inquiry process to improve the accuracy and completeness of VR records. The checking measures include follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections; cross-matching of the residential addresses of electors with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on residential addresses with multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors; random sample

checks on registered and newly registered electors; checks on addresses with incomplete information or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses situated at buildings already demolished or to be demolished. The REO issued inquiry letters to about 24 200 electors during the 2014 VR cycle requesting them to confirm or update their registered residential addresses (the REO has no breakdown of the number of letters issued by district) and about 13 700 electors were eventually removed from the Final Register after completion of the statutory inquiry procedures. The REO will continue to implement the aforementioned checking measures and undertake inquiry process in the 2015 VR cycle.

2. The REO will increase manpower and resources in 2015-16 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the 2015 District Council election and the 2016 Legislative Council election, and to enhance the checking work. The VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 98 civil servants (including 12 time-limited civil service posts) and around 500 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$111 million.

3. The REO does not have a breakdown of the number of electors who have been removed from the register by District Council. The number of geographical constituency electors who have been removed from the register in the 2014 VR cycle because of loss of eligibility for registration is as follows:

Reason for removal	Number of electors
Failure to respond to statutory inquiry procedures	13 740
Death	26 863
Other reasons (such as voluntary de-registration, loss of Hong Kong permanent resident status)	295
Total	40 898

The 2015 VR cycle is still in progress. Currently, the REO does not have the number of electors to be removed from the register in this cycle.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB191**

**(Question Serial No. 5750)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Regarding the voting arrangements for persons with disabilities, will the Government inform this Committee:

a) whether the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will earmark resources in 2015-16 for reviewing the barrier-free facilities for the ease of voting by persons with various kinds of disabilities, and consider enhancing the barrier-free facilities inside and outside the polling stations? If so, what are the details of the relevant work plans and estimated expenditure? Will the Government introduce the participation of groups for persons with disabilities when carrying out the relevant work? If the Government will not conduct any reviews, what are the reasons;

b) whether the REO will consider updating its website in 2015-16 to introduce barrier-free designs for the ease of browsing by persons with visual impairment? If so, what are the relevant work plans and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons; and

c) whether the Government will earmark provision in 2015-16 for organising special training programmes for all the staff who will work at the polling stations to acquire knowledge and skills to support persons with various kinds of disabilities? If so, what are the relevant work plans? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 237)

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) adopted various measures in past elections to facilitate voting by persons with disabilities and different needs. These measures include:

(a) persons with visual impairment may call the REO hotline on 2891 1001 to request hotline staff to provide election information and enquire their voter registration

records. Besides, during the election, persons with visual impairment may also learn of the name and address of the polling station allocated to them through the aforementioned hotline and request the hotline staff to read out the contents of the relevant “Introduction to Candidates” to them;

- (b) the REO always encourages candidates to provide the text version of their Introduction to Candidates for uploading onto the election website [www.elections.gov.hk](http://www.elections.gov.hk) to facilitate persons with visual impairment to read the relevant information online using software aids;
- (c) the REO provides Braille templates for persons with visual impairment to facilitate their marking of ballot papers;
- (d) staff at the polling stations also provide a Braille list of candidates for persons with visual impairment to facilitate their reading of the relevant information;
- (e) if persons with visual impairment request staff at the polling stations to mark ballot papers for them, the Presiding Officer, Deputy Presiding Officer or Assistant Presiding Officer will do so for them according to their choice in a voting compartment. The whole process must be witnessed by another staff at the polling station to ensure the voting is conducted in a fair manner;
- (f) in the 2011 District Council and 2012 Legislative Council elections, over 90% of the polling stations were “accessible polling stations”, i.e. polling stations suitable for use by mobility-handicapped persons or wheelchair users. Regarding the District Council election to be held at the end of this year, the REO will, as always, strive to look for accessible venues to serve as polling stations with a target of setting up at least 90% of the polling stations in such accessible venues;
- (g) under safe circumstances, the REO sets up temporary ramps at the polling stations that are not readily accessible to mobility-handicapped persons or wheelchair users;
- (h) all polling stations that provide wheelchair access have more spacious voting compartments and lower polling tables to facilitate voting by wheelchair users;
- (i) through using poll cards and various promotion channels such as radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs), election website and press releases, as well as reaching out to organisations of persons with disabilities via the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the REO provides information to and reminds electors who have mobility difficulty or use wheelchairs that if they find it difficult to access the allocated polling station, they may apply to the REO for changing to a special polling station, which is accessible to them, at least 5 days before the polling day;
- (j) where circumstances permit, the REO may, via the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation, arrange Rehabuses to transport electors with disabilities to and from the polling stations;
- (k) all polling stations provide pictorial illustrations explaining voting procedures to assist persons with hearing impairment to vote; and
- (l) the REO provides, as far as possible, sign language translation in the APIs relating to the voting procedures.

The REO will review the relevant measures when preparing for the elections of this election cycle, and is willing to meet with representatives of various groups representing persons

with disabilities to listen to their comments and improve, where appropriate, the above measures to facilitate eligible electors with different needs to exercise their right to vote. Expenditure on the above measures was subsumed in the overall election expenses. Therefore, no breakdown of the individual expenditure item is available.

2. Based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines Version 2.0 Level AA accessibility requirements promulgated by the World Wide Web Consortium, the REO updated its website in 2013 to incorporate accessible designs convenient for browsing by persons with visual impairment. The REO will continue to ensure that the design of its website meets the aforementioned requirements. As the work involved is part of its routine duties, the REO has included the required provision as part of the budget for operational expenses.

3. In the past, the REO provided training for all staff working at polling stations before the elections to familiarise them with the work at the polling stations. The contents of training included reminders for staff to pay attention to electors with special needs and provide these electors with assistance when necessary, and the knowledge and skills of assisting electors with different needs to vote, such as:

- (a) guiding electors using wheelchairs to special voting compartments to vote;
- (b) skills of guiding electors with visual impairment to move around, and taking the initiative to ask them whether they needed the Braille template of ballot paper and the Braille list of candidates; and
- (c) providing pictorial illustrations explaining voting procedures for electors with hearing impairment, etc.

The REO will continue to provide training for all staff working at polling stations before the elections of this election cycle and appropriately enrich the contents of training in assisting persons with disabilities to vote. The relevant expenditure was subsumed in the overall election expenses. Therefore, no breakdown of the individual expenditure item is available.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB192**

**(Question Serial No. 3602)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Please list the breakdown of the number of electors who registered online and those who registered by submitting their voter registration forms by mail, fax and email in the past three years.

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 58)

Reply:

The breakdown of the number of electors who registered by submitting their voter registration (VR) forms by means of mail, fax and email or in-person; or by applying through the GovHK website (the applicant must hold a valid Hongkong Post e-Cert (Personal) certificate and sign an application using the certificate) in the last three registration cycles from 2012 to 2014 is as follows:

Ways of submitting VR forms	Cycle	2012	2013	2014
By mail, fax and email or in-person (The Registration and Electoral Office does not have a breakdown of the number by the afore-mentioned means of submission)		148 057	56 587	77 237
GovHK website		28	34	24
Total		148 085	56 621	77 261

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB193**

**(Question Serial No. 4258)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

With the provision and establishment in 2015-16, will the Registration and Electoral Office be able to handle the Legislative Council by-election and the District Council election at the same time? If not, what are the reasons? What are the differences compared to the District Council election and the Legislative Council by-election (Hong Kong Island geographical constituency) in 2007?

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 82)

Reply:

In its 2015-16 estimates, the Registration and Electoral Office has provided for manpower and resources for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election, preparation of the 2016 Legislative Council general election, as well as preparation and conduct of any possible by-election in 2015-16.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CMAB194**

**(Question Serial No. 3752)**

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer (LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question:

Under this Programme, provision for 2015-16 is \$558.1 million (300.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014-15. This is mainly due to increased requirements for the conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and preparation of the 2016 Legislative Council general election. In this connection, will the Government advise on the details of the items concerned and the breakdown of the expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 54)

Reply:

In 2015-16, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has reserved \$365 million and \$97 million for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election respectively. The work includes amendments to relevant electoral legislation; review, updating and issuance of guidelines on election-related activities; as well as other implementation work, including arranging venues, polling and counting staff, electoral materials and support services, as well as large-scale voter registration publicity activities. Besides, it includes the conduct of the Legislative Council geographical constituency delineation exercise.

2. The breakdown of the provisions for the preparation and conduct of the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the preparation for the 2016 Legislative Council general election is as follows:

<b>For preparation and/or conduct of the election</b>	<b>2015 District Council ordinary election (\$ million)</b>	<b>2016 Legislative Council general election (\$ million)</b>
(1) Staff cost	112	66
(2) Publicity	25	4
(3) Other expenses (including the costs for conducting public consultation, hiring venues, honorarium for polling and counting staff, Financial Assistance Scheme, transportation, postage, free mailing, printing, and renting temporary offices and warehouses, etc.)	228	27
Total	365	97

- End -