

香港特別行政區政府
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



The Government of
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Administration Wing,
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

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21 April 2016

Ms Anita SIT
Clerk to Finance Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms SIT,

**Initial Report on Deployment of Disaster Relief Fund for
Providing Relief to Earthquake Victims in Nepal**

On 30 April 2015, the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council approved a supplementary provision of HK\$50 million to the Disaster Relief Fund for providing emergency relief to earthquake victims in Nepal. Subsequently upon the advice of the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (the HKSAR Government) donated HK\$50 million to the Government of Nepal as contribution to assist their disaster relief work.

The Government of Nepal has set up a permanent fund – Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund (PMDRF) – to co-ordinate the designated use of all donations for carrying out rescue, emergency relief, as well as rehabilitation and restoration work. The PMDRF is under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister of Nepal who leads the relief operation and oversees the use of the dedicated relief funds. Recently, the Consulate General of Nepal provided an initial report on relief activities carried out for the earthquake victims and the financial status of the PMDRF. The salient points of the report are as follows:

- The Government of Nepal has deposited all relief donations into the PMDRF, including the HK\$50 million donation (or Nepalese Rupee (NRs) 662 million) from the HKSAR Government.
- The Government of Nepal has set up a committee under the PMDRF, which comprises the Vice Chairperson of the National Planning Commission and Secretaries of eight different ministries, and is responsible for the disbursement of funds and coordinating the activities of the PMDRF.
- As at 1 October 2015, the PMDRF received donations amounting to NRs6.88 billion. As at January 2016, together with funding injections from the Government of Nepal, about NRs18.3 billion was used for providing emergency relief to victims in 63 districts. Major relief activities include:

Emergency relief item	Estimated expenses NRs (billion)
(1) Immediate relief grants for families of the deceased	1.07
(2) Temporary shelters	11.36
(3) Food	0.16
(4) Tents/tarpaulins	0.03
(5) Warm clothes	5.68
Total	18.3

- The funds of the PMDRF cannot be spent on any other overheads including those for providing facilities and allowances to civil servants or making donations. To enhance the transparency of the deployment of funds, the PMDRF will report to the Government of Nepal on all relevant relief activities for the earthquake victims and its financial performance, and will publicly account for its work. All expenditure under the PMDRF is subject to audit regularly and on an annual basis by the Auditor General of Nepal.

The annual report of the PMDRF is expected to be published by the Government of Nepal in mid to late 2016. We will follow up on this and report again as appropriate after receiving the annual report.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the above report to FC Members for their reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Amy Wong', written in a cursive style.

(Ms Amy WONG)
for Director of Administration

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury