

Index Page

Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Session No. : 9

File Name : CEDB(CCI)-1-e1.doc

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CEDB(CCI)001	1853	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)002	1864	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)003	1874	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)004	2347	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	
CEDB(CCI)005	5416	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)006	5417	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)007	5418	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)008	5423	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)009	5512	CHAN Chi-chuen	55	
CEDB(CCI)010	6244	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)011	6245	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)012	3037	CHAN Yuen-han	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)013	6609	CHAN Yuen-han	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)014	6610	CHAN Yuen-han	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)015	6611	CHAN Yuen-han	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)016	2837	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)017	2523	CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)018	4194	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)019	4203	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	
CEDB(CCI)020	4204	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	
CEDB(CCI)021	4205	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	
CEDB(CCI)022	4207	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CEDB(CCI)023	4212	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries (2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)024	1991	KWOK Dennis	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)025	3250	KWOK Wai-keung	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries (2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)026	0954	LAM Tai-fai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)027	0974	LAM Tai-fai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)028	0975	LAM Tai-fai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)029	2877	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	55	
CEDB(CCI)030	1201	LEE Cheuk-yan	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)031	2776	LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)032	2184	LEUNG Kwok-hung	55	
CEDB(CCI)033	0637	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)034	2739	MA Fung-kwok	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)035	2740	MA Fung-kwok	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)036	2741	MA Fung-kwok	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)037	4750	MA Fung-kwok	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)038	4766	MA Fung-kwok	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)039	3128	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)040	3129	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)041	3231	MOK Charles Peter	55	
CEDB(CCI)042	5302	MOK Charles Peter	55	
CEDB(CCI)043	5322	MOK Charles Peter	55	
CEDB(CCI)044	5341	MOK Charles Peter	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)045	5355	MOK Charles Peter	55	
CEDB(CCI)046	5357	MOK Charles Peter	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)047	5358	MOK Charles Peter	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
				Industries
CEDB(CCI)048	5360	MOK Charles Peter	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)049	5361	MOK Charles Peter	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)050	5363	MOK Charles Peter	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)051	5364	MOK Charles Peter	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)052	5365	MOK Charles Peter	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)053	5741	MOK Charles Peter	55	
CEDB(CCI)054	5745	MOK Charles Peter	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)055	2268	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)056	2269	SIN Chung-kai	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)057	5031	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)058	5032	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)059	5033	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)060	5034	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)061	5035	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)062	5036	SIN Chung-kai	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)063	5043	SIN Chung-kai	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)064	5044	SIN Chung-kai	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)065	7253	SIN Chung-kai	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)066	0815	TAM Yiu-chung	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries (2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)067	0816	TAM Yiu-chung	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)068	0195	TANG Ka-piu	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)069	3219	TIEN Pei-chun, James	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)070	4620	TIEN Pei-chun, James	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)071	1641	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)072	2379	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)073	3286	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	55	
CEDB(CCI)074	0329	WONG Kwok-hing	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)075	0880	WONG	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
		Ting-kwong		Industries
CEDB(CCI)076	4547	WONG Yuk-man	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)077	4548	WONG Yuk-man	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)078	4549	WONG Yuk-man	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)079	4550	WONG Yuk-man	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)080	4552	WONG Yuk-man	55	(2) Telecommunications
CEDB(CCI)081	3124	YIU Si-wing	55	(1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries
CEDB(CCI)082	5428	CHAN Chi-chuen	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)083	5518	CHAN Chi-chuen	160	
CEDB(CCI)084	3540	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)085	3862	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)086	3863	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)087	3864	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	160	
CEDB(CCI)088	3865	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)089	2564	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)090	5618	CHEUNG Kwok-che	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)091	2514	CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)092	1981	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)093	3619	KWOK Ka-ki	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)094	3620	KWOK Ka-ki	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)095	6616	KWOK Ka-ki	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)096	6617	KWOK Ka-ki	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)097	6619	KWOK Ka-ki	160	
CEDB(CCI)098	6620	KWOK Ka-ki	160	(4) New Media
CEDB(CCI)099	0394	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	160	
CEDB(CCI)100	0964	LAM Tai-fai	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)101	0791	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	160	
CEDB(CCI)102	0792	LAU Wai-hing,	160	

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
		Emily		
CEDB(CCI)103	0793	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)104	0797	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	160	(4) New Media
CEDB(CCI)105	0804	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	160	
CEDB(CCI)106	1213	LEE Cheuk-yan	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)107	2179	LEUNG Kwok-hung	160	
CEDB(CCI)108	2736	MA Fung-kwok	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)109	2744	MA Fung-kwok	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)110	2114	MO Claudia	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)111	5344	MOK Charles Peter	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)112	5345	MOK Charles Peter	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)113	5346	MOK Charles Peter	160	
CEDB(CCI)114	5349	MOK Charles Peter	160	(1) Radio (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)115	2593	QUAT Elizabeth	160	
CEDB(CCI)116	2594	QUAT Elizabeth	160	
CEDB(CCI)117	2595	QUAT Elizabeth	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)118	3258	SIN Chung-kai	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)119	3259	SIN Chung-kai	160	(1) Radio
CEDB(CCI)120	5029	SIN Chung-kai	160	
CEDB(CCI)121	5042	SIN Chung-kai	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)122	2275	TANG Ka-piu	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)123	3086	WONG Kwok-hing	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme
CEDB(CCI)124	4122	WONG Kwok-hing	160	
CEDB(CCI)125	4123	WONG Kwok-hing	160	
CEDB(CCI)126	4124	WONG Kwok-hing	160	
CEDB(CCI)127	4544	WONG Yuk-man	160	
CEDB(CCI)128	4545	WONG Yuk-man	160	(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CEDB(CCI)129	3866	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	180	
CEDB(CCI)130	3867	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)131	3870	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)132	3871	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)133	4336	CHEUNG Kwok-che	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)134	2878	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)135	0794	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)136	0796	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)137	2183	LEUNG Kwok-hung	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration
CEDB(CCI)138	5062	SIN Chung-kai	180	Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)001

(Question Serial No. 1853)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The analogue sound broadcasting licences of Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) will expire in August this year. However, so far the Government has not announced its decisions on the renewal or otherwise of the two licensees' licences. It has been the Government's practice to inform the licensee of its decision on the renewal or otherwise of the licence one year before the expiry date of the licence. Some people feel worried that the Government's delay in making a decision on licence renewal would affect the investments of investors. In this connection, what is the progress of the processing of CRHK's and Metro's licence renewal applications? How many meetings have been held by the Chief Executive in Council for this purpose?

It has been reported that some senior officials within the Government are of the view that launching digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services should be imposed as a condition for renewal of its licence at the time when CRHK is about to invoke the licence renewal procedures, so as to tie in with the Government's policy of developing DAB services. However, a number of DAB operators have indicated to cut back their future investment plans. For example, Phoenix U Radio Limited chose to leave the DAB market while Digital Broadcasting Corporation Hong Kong Limited reduced their investment. Did the Administration request CRHK to invest separately in DAB services?

"D100" has stated earlier that it will apply for operating one of the DAB channels but Mr Gregory So pointed out that the development of the entire DAB should be reviewed first and the Administration would not consider granting a new DAB licence for the time being. In this connection, has the Administration received any new applications for providing DAB services so far? On what grounds did the Administration reject such applications from other interested parties? What is the progress of the review on the development of DAB?

What relevant arrangements in other countries or regions have been referred to? When will the findings of the review be made public?

According to the programme, the Administration is responsible for monitoring the services provided by various sound broadcasting service licensees and television programme service licensees. In this connection, please list in tabular form the number of cases in which broadcasting service licensees have been ruled to have breached the Broadcasting Ordinance and the reasons, including the channels, the contents, the sanctions as well as the amount of financial penalties involved over the past year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 6)

Reply:

Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) submitted their analogue sound broadcasting licence renewal applications (the Licence Renewal Applications) to the Communications Authority (CA) on 31 July 2014 and 25 August 2014 respectively. The CA submitted its recommendations on the Licence Renewal Applications to the Chief Executive (CE) in Council in accordance with the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) (Cap. 106) on 15 May 2015. On 22 March 2016, the CE in Council, having regard to the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors, and in accordance with the TO and established procedures, decided to renew the analogue sound broadcasting licences of CRHK and Metro for 12 years (from 26 August 2016 to 25 August 2028 (both dates inclusive)).

On digital audio broadcasting (DAB), as one of the DAB licensees has left the market owing to commercial considerations and in view of the fact that the other DAB licensees have also indicated to us that they have encountered difficulties in their businesses, we are now reviewing the development of DAB in Hong Kong. The review will cover audience feedback and overseas experience in the development of DAB services with a view to assessing whether it is necessary to change the existing policy and if so, proposing recommendations. We have earlier indicated that during the review, it is not appropriate from the policy perspective for the Government to consider granting a new licence. Since the Government may change the policy concerned following the review of the development of DAB, the applicants should be reminded of the risks of changes in policy as early as possible. The Government has so far not received any application for sound broadcasting licence.

In 2015, the number and details of sanctions imposed by the CA on broadcasting service licensees for cases of breaches (including contraventions of the relevant legislation, the codes of practice, licence conditions, etc.) are set out at Tables 1 and 2 respectively.

Table 1: Number of sanctions imposed by the CA in 2015 on broadcasting service licensees for cases of breaches

	Minor Breaches #	Advice	Strong Advice	Warning	Serious Warning	Financial Penalty	Revocation of licence	Total
Domestic Free Television Programme Service Licensees (Domestic Free TV)								
Asia Television Limited (ATV)	54	1	2	0	0	7	0	64
Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB)	55	5	2	0	0	1	0	63
Domestic Pay Television Programme Service Licensees (Domestic Pay TV)								
Hong Kong Cable Television Limited (Cable TV)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
PCCW Media Limited (PCCW Media)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TVB Network Vision Limited (TVBNV)	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	15
Analogue Sound Broadcasting Service Licensees (Sound Broadcasting)								
CRHK	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	5
Metro	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Non-domestic Television Programme Service Licensee								
China Satellite TV Group Company Limited (CHTV)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
APT Satellite TV Development Limited (APT)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Licensable Television Programme Service Licensee								
NXTV Asia, Limited (NXTV)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

Cases of minor breaches mainly relate to minor inaccurate contents of television or radio programmes, such as slightly inaccurate information or incorrect subtitles in news programmes and minor discrepancies in weather reports

Table 2: Details of cases of breaches (excluding cases of minor breaches):

Broadcasting service licensee	Channel	Substance of breach	Sanction
Domestic Free TV			
ATV	Home and Asia	Broadcast of incorrect footage in news programmes	Advice
ATV	Home and Asia	Inaccurate information in financial programmes	Strong Advice

ATV	CCTV 1	Broadcast of the sponsor's logo not according to relevant rules	Strong Advice
ATV	-	Failure to submit the audited accounts for the accounting year of 2014 (2014 Audited Accounts) by 30 April 2015 in accordance with the stipulated deadline	Financial penalty of HK\$50,000
ATV	-	Failure to pay the following financial penalties in accordance with the stipulated deadline: 1. The financial penalty of HK\$300,000 imposed on ATV for its broadcast of inaccurate and misleading news report; and 2. The financial penalty of HK\$50,000 imposed on ATV for its failure to submit the 2014 Audited Accounts in accordance with the stipulated deadline	Financial penalty of HK\$70,000
ATV	-	Failure to pay the fixed licence fee for the licence year 2014/15 in accordance with the stipulated deadline	Financial penalty of HK\$100,000
ATV	-	Failure to pay the provisional	Financial penalty

		variable licence fee for the licence year 2014/15 in accordance with the stipulated deadline	of HK\$100,000
ATV	-	Failure to submit the 2014 Audited Accounts by 31 July 2015	Financial penalty of HK\$100,000
ATV	-	Failure to submit the 2014 Audited Accounts to the CA by 31 October 2015	Financial penalty of HK\$100,000 and a weekly financial penalty of HK\$10,000, to the date when ATV finally furnished the said accounts to the CA
ATV	Home, Asia and World	Broadcast of inaccurate and misleading news reports about the sale of ATV's controlling shares by its shareholders	Financial penalty of HK\$300,000
TVB	Pearl	Failure to provide English subtitles for part of a news programme	Advice
TVB	Jade	Failure to provide Chinese subtitles for programmes shown between 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.	Advice
TVB	Jade, High Definition Jade and I News	Inaccurate presentation of footage and voice-overs in news programmes	Advice
TVB	Jade	Misleading and unfair presentation of footage and voice-overs in an infotainment programme	Advice
TVB	I News	Showing inaccurate Mark Six results in the teloped news headlines	Advice
TVB	Jade	Inaccurate information in a news programme	Strong Advice

TVB	Jade	Inaccurate information in a documentary programme	Strong Advice
TVB	-	Allowing former or current directors of TVB, as disqualified persons, to exercise control of TVB without the approval of the CE in Council	Financial penalty of HK\$80,000
Domestic Pay TV			
TVBNV	TVB News	Inaccurate presentation of segments and voice-overs in a news programme	Advice
Sound Broadcasting			
CRHK	CR2	A programme host's remark containing a Cantonese foul word	Advice
CRHK	CR1	Indirect advertising in a programme	Strong Advice
CRHK	CR1	Indirect advertising in a programme	Warning
Non-domestic television programme service licensees			
CHTV	-	Ceasing broadcast during the period from 15 July 2014 to 27 June 2015	Serious warning
APT	-	Making changes to its shareholding and ownership structure without the approval of the CA	Strong Advice
Other Licensable Television Programme Service Licensees			
NXTV	-	Failure to pay the financial penalty of HK\$100,000 imposed by the CA for NXTV's non-compliance with the direction issued by the CA, and the variable licence fee for the licence year 2014/15. According to the direction, NXTV is required to submit before the stipulated deadline	Revocation of the other licensable television programme service licence

		an auditor's certificate or a statutory declaration for the licence years 2013/14 and 2014/15, as well as an annual statutory declaration on its compliance with the fit and proper person requirement and an annual return showing the particulars of the directors of NXTV for the years 2013 and 2014.	
--	--	---	--

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)002

(Question Serial No. 1864)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On 15 October 2013, the Chief Executive in Council decided that the applications for a domestic free television programme service (free TV) licence from Fantastic Television Limited (Fantastic TV) and Hong Kong Television Entertainment Company Limited be granted approval-in-principle, but the application of Hong Kong Television Network Limited (HKTVN) be rejected. Subsequently, HKTVN re-submitted its application and Forever Top (Asia) Limited (Forever Top) submitted an application for a free TV licence for the first time. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) It has been more than two and a half years since the Administration made the decision relating to Fantastic TV's licence, but there is still no definite date for Fantastic TV to start broadcasting. At present, what is the progress in processing the licence concerned?
- (b) What is the expected time for Fantastic TV to start broadcasting? Will the television spectrum be allocated to the new television broadcasters for their use?
- (c) At present, what is the progress in processing the applications of HKTVN and Forever Top for a licence? When will the outcome be announced?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 17)

Reply:

- (a) & (b) The Government announced on 15 October 2013 that the Chief Executive (CE) in Council had decided to grant approvals-in-principle to the applications for

domestic free television programme service (free TV) licences from Fantastic Television Limited (Fantastic TV) and HK Television Entertainment Company Limited (HKTVE), but the formal licence grant is subject to the CE in Council's further review and final determination under the Broadcasting Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 562) at the second stage. In January 2015, the Communications Authority (CA) submitted to the CE in Council its recommendations on whether a free TV licence should be formally granted to Fantastic TV. Having taken into account the subsequent request of Fantastic TV, the CE in Council decided to further extend the deadline to 18 March 2016, granting Fantastic TV more time to provide supplementary information related to its free TV licence application to the CA and invited the CA to consider any supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV, and to submit further recommendations to the CE in Council in respect of Fantastic TV's free TV licence application. The CA is examining the supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV on 11 March 2016, with a view to submitting further recommendations to the CE in Council.

Regarding the assignment of the 1.5 digital multiplexes which will be withdrawn from Asia Television Limited by 2 April 2016, the CA has assigned 0.5 digital multiplex to HKTVE and the remaining 1 digital multiplex will be available for assignment to other free TV licensees.

- (c) The CA has completed its assessment of the application for a free TV licence submitted by Hong Kong Television Network Limited (HKTVN) in April 2014 in accordance with the BO and established procedures, and submitted its recommendations in respect of the application to the CE in Council on 22 January 2016. The CE in Council will consider the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors in accordance with relevant legislation and established procedures before making a decision on HKTVN's application for a free TV licence submitted in April 2014.

The CA is now examining the application for a free TV licence submitted by Forever Top (Asia) Limited (Forever Top) in April 2015 in accordance with relevant provisions under the BO, established procedures and criteria, which include conducting a six-week public consultation (from 21 August 2015 to 2 October 2015) on the application and requesting Forever Top to provide further information as required for examination by the CA. The time required for processing each application varies and depends on individual merits of the application and whether sufficient information is provided by the applicant. The CA will examine the application prudently and submit its recommendations to the CE in Council as soon as practicable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)003

(Question Serial No. 1874)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

At present, what is the progress of implementation of digital terrestrial television (DTT) broadcasting services since its launch? How many DTT and analogue broadcasting transmission stations are operating now? They are managed and operated by which broadcasters? Currently, what is the DTT coverage of Hong Kong's population?

The two broadcasters (Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) and Asia Television Limited (ATV)) have so far constructed a number of digital and analogue transmission stations covering the whole territory of Hong Kong, which include Temple Hill transmission station covering half of Hong Kong's population. How many of these transmission stations are constructed and managed by TVB? Which transmission service provider is currently responsible for the broadcast of Radio Television Hong Kong's television programmes?

After resuming the right in land where the transmission stations operated and managed by ATV are constructed, the property right of the transmission equipment inside the structure concerned will be owned by which agency? Will the transmission equipment concerned be transferred to new television operator(s) for their use? What are the arrangements on the rights in land and property concerning those transmission stations shared by TVB and ATV?

In recent years, there is a lack of competition in the television broadcasting industry in Hong Kong and programme quality has been declining, thus leading to a gradual decrease in the number of viewers who take television entertainment as their preferences. In this regard, what measures will the Administration take to support the development of local television industry?

Whether the Government has any strategy targeted at developing the television industry and enhancing Hong Kong's position as a broadcasting and creative capital?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 27)

Reply:

The objective of the Government's broadcasting policy is to provide more programme choices for viewers and encourage investments in the broadcasting industry with a view to enhancing fair and effective competition so as to strengthen Hong Kong's position as the broadcasting hub in the region.

Digital terrestrial television (DTT) broadcasting services were launched in end 2007. According to a public survey conducted in December 2015, the DTT take-up rate (based on the percentage of households capable of receiving DTT services) is around 85%.

The transmission network coverage of the analogue television and DTT services in Hong Kong has reached at least 99% of the population. The network consists of six main analogue and DTT stations as well as over 30 analogue and DTT fill-in stations, about half of which are operated and managed by Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB). Some of them are located on Government land / in Government-owned premises. Relevant Government departments had hitherto leased these Government land/Government-owned premises to the two domestic free television programme (free TV) service licensees (i.e. Asia Television Limited (ATV) and TVB). In view of the non-renewal of the domestic free television programme service licence of ATV, the Government had activated the procedures of terminating ATV's leases by phases in the second half of 2015 to resume the Government land / Government-owned premises concerned. The land / premises concerned are being allocated to Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), which will, in the capacity of allocatee, allow commercial TV service licensees to use the land / premises as appropriate and in accordance with established procedures. The issue of the ownership of the transmitting equipment within the transmission stations is unrelated to the termination of the lease and the transmission equipment will be handled by the owners concerned.

Regarding RTHK's DTT service, RTHK has arranged its own transmission stations for the provision of DTT transmission services. RTHK is now preparing for the stop-gap analogue TV service and has procured television transmission services from a third party service provider through open tender.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)004****(Question Serial No. 2347)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Will the Bureau set out in the table below details of the studies conducted by consultancy firm or research institution commissioned by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) over the past three years? Please also advise of the estimated provision for the studies.

Time frame	Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 120)

Reply:

The following is the related information regarding the studies conducted by consultancy firm or research institution commissioned by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) over the past three years (i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015).

Timeframe	Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure (\$)
June 2012 - March 2013	Consultancy Study on the Provision of Cinemas in Hong Kong	To understand public demand for cinemas	Household Interviews on Movie-going Behaviour of Audience and Focus Group Discussions	Policy 21	Research staff from the research institution	390,000

Timeframe	Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure (\$)
September 2012 - January 2013	Survey on the Needs of the Pyrotechnic Industry in Using Pyrotechnic Special Effects Materials (PSEM) for Entertainment Purposes in Hong Kong	To understand the needs of the pyrotechnic industry in using PSEM in Hong Kong and the development trend of the industry	Interviews with local practitioners in the pyrotechnic industry, including the Special Effects Operators and the Special Effects Assistants in A and B Sections, licence holders for the storage of PSEM and licensed suppliers of PSEM	Centre for the Advancement of Social Sciences Research, Hong Kong Baptist University	Research staff from the research institution	99,800
November 2012 - September 2013	Consultancy Study on Overseas Strategies in Promoting Cinema Development and their Applicability to Hong Kong	To understand the strategies adopted in promoting cinema development outside Hong Kong	Desktop research on the strategies adopted in promoting cinema development outside Hong Kong	F Media & Olsberg • SPI	Research staff from the research institution	784,195
December 2013 - December 2014	Mapping Study of Creative Clusters in Hong Kong 2014	To understand the geographical distribution of creative clusters in Hong Kong and conduct relevant analysis	Desktop research on the geographical distribution of creative clusters and factors leading to the formation of creative clusters, spatial mapping, statistical survey, focus group discussions and in-depth interviews	Culture and Development Consultancy Limited	Research staff from the research institution	600,000
June 2015 - March 2016	Survey on Person-to-Person Telemarketing Calls (P2P calls) in Hong Kong	To further grasp the latest situation of P2P calls	The scope of study includes soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, the	Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited	Research staff from the research institution	829,000

Timeframe	Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure (\$)
			employment and business situations of the industry, as well as obtaining an update on the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)005

(Question Serial No. 5416)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What are the details of support services provided by the Administration to facilitate film productions, in particular location filming in Hong Kong? In the past year, what is the number of successful cases in which the Administration has assisted film production companies to secure venues for location filming? Please provide in table form the project names, the locations, the production company names, the manpower and the expenditure involved.

The Administration will inject an additional \$20 million into the Film Development Fund to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity in the Mainland. The funding is proposed to be increased from the current \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film. This will assist the film industry in leveraging the enhanced measures under the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement to promote Cantonese films to the Mainland. Please list in table form the film projects provided with subsidies which amount to \$250,000 per film and the major provinces and municipalities in the Mainland where publicity conducted over the past year. What are the project items, manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 175)

Reply:

The Film Services Office (FSO) under the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is responsible for assisting film production companies to conduct location filming in Hong Kong. The FSO, as a bridge between the film industry and the relevant government departments, co-ordinates the related application procedures to facilitate film shooting and minimises inconvenience to the public. Services provided by the FSO include recommending filming locations to

production crews and providing relevant information, arranging filming location scouting by production crews, assisting production crews to obtain necessary approvals or permits and liaising with the relevant government departments on matters relating to lane/road closure and parking of filming vehicles.

Other than film productions, the FSO also provides services for location shooting of television, advertisements, commercial/government promotional materials, films produced by students, multi-media productions (including films on the internet), etc. in Hong Kong. The FSO have been handling applications for location filming by local or overseas film crews in an impartial manner. The level of co-ordination and the effectiveness depends on whether the locations concerned support film shooting. It also depends on the preparation made by the film crews, the scale of the location filming, whether there is sufficient time for submitting applications, etc. The FSO will take immediate action after receiving requests for assistance for location filming, and the completion time varies from case to case, generally from half a day to several months. If the location requested by the film crew is not suitable for filming, the FSO will suggest other locations as appropriate. Whether the film crews can conduct filming at the locations concerned is up to the owners or management companies concerned to decide. In general, considerations taken by the owners or management companies concerned include the effect on other users of the locations; safety and security considerations; nature, scale and time of the film shooting; track record of the production companies and effectiveness of the shooting in publicising the locations, etc.

Besides, the FSO has set up a resource centre and a website to provide information on government and private premises available for location filming. The FSO has also published reference materials on location filming in Hong Kong for local and overseas film crews, including “Guide to Filming in Hong Kong”, “Locations - Venues under the Management of Government Departments and Public Bodies” and “Filming in Hong Kong - Film and Video Production Directory” to provide information facilitating film production. Relevant information can be accessed online and at CreateHK’s office. The FSO will also promote Hong Kong films abroad and publicise Hong Kong as an ideal city for location shooting.

It is part of the regular work of the FSO to facilitate location filming in Hong Kong. The establishment in the FSO for handling applications for location shooting includes 4 Entertainment Standards Control Officers (ESCOs), with 1 Chief Entertainment Standards Control Officer (CESCO) overseeing this area of work. In the first half of 2015, 3 of the ESCO posts were vacant, during which the work of processing applications for location shooting was shared by the remaining ESCO, 1 Co-ordinator (FSO) (a temporary NCSC post to fill part of the vacancies) and the above-mentioned CESCO (responsible for overseeing the work). The vacancies have been filled in the latter half of the year. The expenditure involved is mainly emoluments of the staff concerned, which have been included in the overall expenditure of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau. In 2015, the FSO has successfully processed 513 applications for location filming, including 37 requests for assistance raised by production crews on location scouting. Out of the 513 cases, the numbers of cases raised by local and overseas production crews are 406 and 107 respectively. Among those raised by local production crews, 238 cases are film (commercial or independent)

productions, 80 are television productions, 57 are productions of advertisement and promotional materials and 31 are films produced by students. For cases related to overseas productions, 45 cases are film (commercial or independent) productions, 30 are television productions and 32 are productions of advertisement and promotional materials. In general, the locations involved in the above-mentioned applications include venues under the Government and public organisations, public roads, vacant school premises and private property (e.g. holiday centres and housing estates), etc.

Since the Film Development Fund (FDF) launched the subsidy scheme for Hong Kong films (Cantonese version) distributed in the Mainland in 2012, the following three films has received funding support from the scheme ^{Note} –

Film title	Location of publicity	Project item	Manpower	Expenditure^ (HK\$)	Approved funding amount (HK\$)	Mainland box office receipt
2014-15						
Doomsday Party (also known as 「命運派對」 in Chinese)	Guangdong Province	Press conferences, star meeting activities and display of publicity materials.	Attending core creative team members include the film director, screenwriter, producer, leading actor, leading actress, and other actors.	394,204.61	219,641.27	688,344*
2015-16						
The Way We Dance	Guangdong Province	Media preview, roadshows and display of publicity materials.	Attending core creative team members include the film director, screenwriter, producer, leading actor and leading actress.	625,818.57	250,000	569,056*
Grey Met Shrek	Guangdong Province	Television interviews, press conferences, promotion activities jointly held by the business operators and display of publicity materials.	Attending core creative team members include the film director, leading actor and leading actress.	433,250	250,000	436,842#

Note: Apart from the amount of subsidy provided by the Government, the manpower and expenses incurred by the films for publicity and distribution conducted in the Mainland were all borne by the film production/distribution companies.

^ Based on the audit reports submitted by the applicants.

* “Doomsday Party” and “The Way We Dance” are films partly financed by the Film Production Financing Scheme under the FDF. The film production companies concerned are required under the agreement to submit to the Government the sales reports of the films. The Mainland box office receipts provided in the table is the actual box office receipts of the films provided by the film production companies concerned in their sales reports submitted to the Government in May 2015 and June 2015 respectively.

“Grey Met Shrek” is not a film partly financed by the FDF and the film production company concerned is not required to report to the Government the Mainland box office receipt of the film. The Mainland box office receipt provided in the table is the box office receipt when the film was released in Guangdong Province in January 2015. The figure was provided by the film production company when it applied for the sales and distribution subsidy.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)006

(Question Serial No. 5417)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government stated earlier that it will consider reserving space for cinemas and will explore ways to facilitate cinema development through land sale and planning. What are the details and progress of the plans? Please set out in table form the number, location and operator of the existing cinemas in Hong Kong.

Over the past three years, what are the number of cinemas increased and what are their locations and operators? What will be the changes in cinema development in different districts in the coming year? Which districts have the needs to build cinemas? What measures will the Administration adopt?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 176)

Reply:

It was proposed in last year's Policy Address that the Government would explore ways to facilitate cinema development through land sale and planning. Since then, the Government has been conducting internal study. In this year's Policy Address, the Government has put forward a more specific direction for exploration, i.e. to require developers to include cinemas in their development projects as appropriate in the terms and conditions of the land lease. The Government has been actively considering the matter in this direction and hopes to complete the study and set out the details of the measure as soon as possible.

The number, location and operator of cinemas in Hong Kong as at end February 2016 are set out in the table below.

District	Circuit	Cinema	No. of cinema
Central and Western	Broadway	PALACE ifc	2
	AMC	AMC Pacific Place	
Eastern	UA	UA Cityplaza	4
	MCL	MCL Kornhill Cinema	
	N.A.	Sunbeam Theatre	
	N.A.	L Cinema	
Island	UA	UA Citygate	2
	UA	UA IMAX Theatre @ Airport	
Kowloon City	Golden Harvest	GH Whampoa	2
	N.A.	Lux Theatre	
Kwai Tsing	Broadway	Broadway Kwai Fong	2
	Golden Harvest	GH Tsing Yi	
Kwun Tong	UA	UA MegaBox	5
	Broadway	PALACE apm	
	MCL	MCL Telford Cinema	
	N.A.	The Metroplex @ Kowloon Bay	
	N.A.	Cine-Art House	
Sai Kung	MCL	MCL Metro City Cinema	2
	MCL	STAR Cinema	
Sha Tin	UA	UA Shatin	2
	N.A.	Ma On Shan Classics Cinema	
Southern	Broadway	Broadway Cyberport	1
Tsuen Wan	Broadway	Broadway Tsuen Wan	2
	Golden Harvest	GH Citywalk	
Tuen Mun	UA	UA tmtplaza	3
	Newport	Hyland Theatre	
	Chinachem Cinema	Paris London New York Milano Cinema	
Wan Chai	UA	UA Cine Times	5
	MCL	MCL JP Cinema	
	MCL	Grand Windsor Cinema	
	Newport	President Theatre	
	N.A.	agnes b. Cinema	
Wong Tai Sin	Broadway	Broadway Hollywood	1
Yau Tsim Mong	UA	UA Cine Moko	11
	UA	UA iSQUARE	
	Broadway	Broadway Cinematheque	
	Broadway	Broadway MongKok	
	Broadway	Broadway The ONE	
	Golden Harvest	Grand Ocean	
	Golden Harvest	the sky	

District	Circuit	Cinema	No. of cinema
	MCL	The Grand Cinema	
	Newport	Newport Theatre	
	Newport	Dynasty Theatre	
	N.A.	Cinema City Langham Place	
Yuen Long	Broadway	Broadway Kingswood Ginza	2
	N.A.	Yuen Long Cinema	
		Total	46

Source of information: Hong Kong Theatres Association

According to the information provided by the industry, 2 cinemas (4D Extreme Screen Theater and UA Times Square) were wound up in 2012; 4 cinemas (Broadway Olympian City, Broadway Yuen Long, Chinachem Golden Plaza Cinema and GH Mongkok) were wound up and 2 cinemas (Cine Times and the sky) opened in 2013; 1 cinema (UA Langham Place) was wound up but has then been operated under another name (Cinema City Langham Place) and 2 cinemas (Metroplex and Cine Moko) opened in 2014; 1 cinema (UA Windsor) was wound up but has then been operated under another name (Grand Windsor Cinema) in 2015. For the changes in situation of cinemas in 2016, 2 cinemas (AMC Festival Walk and Golden Gateway) have already been wound up as at end February this year, UA Citygate will be wound up in the middle of this year, and L Cinema has started operation earlier this year. To our understanding, 3 cinemas will open this year; they are MCL's cinemas locating in Kowloon Tong, Ap Lei Chau and Fanling respectively.

Selections of cinema locations involve commercial considerations. Apart from the above-mentioned, we are unable to foresee other changes in cinemas in different districts in the coming year. However, in consideration of the demand of the residents in some districts for film appreciation and that the accessibility of a cinema may affect the eagerness of audiences to patronize, we will not only actively consider the measures mentioned in the 2016 Policy Address, but also implement feasible measures as appropriate. For example, the Government will provide screening facilities and conduct related upgrading work at the auditorium of North District Town Hall to promote movie-going among residents in the district, in particular students and young people. Having regard to the experience of the pilot project, we will explore whether and how to provide or upgrade screening facilities at government premises in other districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)007

(Question Serial No. 5418)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Administration has indicated that it injected \$200 million into the Film Development Fund (FDF) last year and implemented a series of measures to promote local filmmaking and encourage young people aspiring to a film career to join the industry. Please provide a breakdown of the film productions funded by the FDF in tabular form, showing the film title, name of the production company, the amount of funding, the percentage of the funding against the production budget and the release date. How many applications are being processed under the FDF at present? What is the percentage of applications approved over the past three years?

The First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI) was launched last year to provide funding to budding film directors. The award winners of the first FFFI have completed their works. Please give a brief account of the winning works under the FFFI in tabular form. What are the types of participants expected in the coming year ?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No.177)

Reply:

Since the launch of the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) in 2007 and the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS) in 2015 under the Film Development Fund (FDF) and up to 10 March 2016, a total of 34 films have been partly financed/granted funding under the FDF as follows –

	Film Title	Production Company	Amount of funding financed/ granted (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding financed/ granted against the production budget	Date of release in Hong Kong
FPFS					
1.	McDull Kungfu Ding Ding Dong	Famous Now Investments Ltd	3,598,800	30%	13.8.2009
2.	Claustrophobia	MEGA Profit Creation Limited	1,618,255	30%	12.2.2009
3.	Coweb	Kind Legend Investment Limited	2,993,179	30%	14.6.2012
4.	Strawberry Cliff	Mega Ascent Limited	3,017,435	30%	1.12.2011
5.	Give Love	Total Big Limited	2,419,674	30%	19.2.2009
6.	Lover's Discourse	ET Movie Production Limited	1,855,297	30%	6.1.2011
7.	Echoes of the Rainbow	Sky Cosmos Development Limited	3,598,274	30%	11.3.2010
8.	Break Up Club	Joyful Founder Limited	1,759,500	30%	16.6.2010
9.	La Comédie humaine	All Creation Limited	2,520,000	30%	8.7.2010
10.	37	37 Production Limited	2,842,500	25%	19.9.2013
11.	Beach Spike	BS Films Production Limited	2,799,836	35%	7.7.2011
12.	Lost in Wrestling	Golden Express Corporation Limited	3,748,788	25%	10.9.2015
13.	MicroSex Office	MicroSex Office Production Limited	1,723,750	35%	9.6.2011
14.	The Killer Who Never Kills	Delia Limited	3,012,250	25%	10.11.2011
15.	Love Lifting	Grant Talent Limited	2,708,816	25%	22.3.2012
16.	The Bounty	Iner Limited	2,605,711	20%	21.6.2012
17.	Love Expert	Love Smart Production Limited	2,995,500	30%	2.9.2015
18.	Mama Eva	Mama Eva Production Company Limited	4,147,500	35%	Has decided to stop filming and will terminate the financing agreement with the Government.

	Film Title	Production Company	Amount of funding financed/ granted (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding financed/ granted against the production budget	Date of release in Hong Kong
19.	The Way We Dance	The Way We Dance Film Production Limited	2,119,519	40%	8.8.2013
20.	A Complicated Story	Big Star Production Company Limited	3,014,859	40%	16.1.2014
21.	CJ7 The Cartoon Movie 2	Boscon Limited	4,214,400	30%	Not yet released
22.	Bends	Bends Limited	4,000,000	40%	21.11.2013
23.	Doomsday Party	Film Plus Plus Productions Limited	3,384,000	40%	28.11.2013
24.	The True Love	Man Hong Films Limited	1,597,100	20%	Not yet released*
25.	The Seventh Lie	Nineteen Eighty Six Films Limited	1,840,000	40%	30.10.2014
26.	Kick Ass Girls	Kick Ass Girls Production Limited	2,251,147	25%	14.11.2013
27.	The Midnight After	The Midnight After Film Production Limited	5,250,000	35%	10.4.2014
28.	Twilight Online	Grant Success Inc Limited	1,500,000	30%	4.9.2014
29.	Wonder Mama	Ko Chi Sum Film Group Ltd.	1,590,180	20%	4.6.2015
30.	The Merger	Jade Dragon Saga Media Entertainment Limited	1,951,632	20%	17.9.2015
31.	Water Dragonfly	238 Corporation Limited ^	2,586,867	20%	Not yet released
32.	The Moment	The Moment Film Production Company Limited	2,760,000	30%	Not yet released
33.	Love Revolution	Tin Lok Movies Limited	2,997,300	20%	Not yet released
FPGS					
34.	Dream Has Become a Reality	Star Pictures Entertainment (Hong Kong) Limited	1,958,000	20%	Not yet released

* Films that have been released in the Mainland but not yet released in Hong Kong.

^ 238 Corporation Limited is the applicant company. The film production company of the movie concerned has not yet been set up.

There are three sub-schemes under the FDF, i.e. the FPFS, the FPGS and the Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects. As at 10 March 2016, there are 2 and 1 applications being processed under the FPFS and the Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects respectively and no application is being processed under the FPGS. The status of processing of the applications under the three schemes since 2013 is listed in the table below.

Scheme	Year	No. of applications received	Applications approved/ Applications completed assessment (Percentage of approval)[#]	Remarks
FPFG	2013	10	4/10 (40%)	Including 1 approved application which was subsequently withdrawn
	2014	4	1/4 (25%)	
	2015	4	3/3 (100%)	1 other application is being processed
	2016 (up to 10 March)	1	N.A.	The application is being processed
FPGS	2015	8	1/8 (12.5%)	
	2016 (up to 10 March)	0	N.A.	
Scheme for Financing Other Film-Related Projects	2013	16	14/15 (93.33%)	1 other application was withdrawn before completion of assessment
	2014	25	22/23 (95.65%)	2 other applications were withdrawn before completion of assessment
	2015	24	21/23 (91.30%)	1 other application was withdrawn before completion of assessment
	2016 (up to 10 March)	2	1/1 (100%)	1 other application is being processed

[#] Only applications that have gone through the complete assessment procedures are included in the calculation of the percentage of approval. Applications withdrawn by the applicant before completion of assessment and applications that are being processed are excluded.

Details of the winning works under the 1st First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI) are as follows:

Group	Film Title	Director	Producer	Scriptwriter	Brief Description
Professional Group	Opus 1	Cheung King-Wai	Derek Yee	Cheung King-Wai	To reflect on human nature through the investigation of a patricide and matricide case committed by a youngster.
Higher Education Institution Group	Mad World	Wong Chun	Derek Chiu, Heiward Mak (Line producer)	Chan Chor-hang	After the death of a family member, a father and a son estranged from each other are forced to live together again and face their own inner burdens.
Higher Education Institution Group	Weeds on Fire	Chan Chi-fat	Chan Hing-kai, O Sing-pui	Chan Chi-fat, Wong Chi-yeung	The story of a local baseball team striving for the best.

The 3rd FFFI held in 2016 continues to consist of the Professional Group (PG) and Higher Education Institution Group (HEIG). Each participating team shall comprise at least a director, a producer and a scriptwriter. The director and the producer shall not be the same person. The participating director(s) in the PG shall be a member of the local film industry who possesses filmmaking or related experience; or who has previously won in local major short film competitions or a film industry member who has returned from overseas; and shall be nominated by designated film associations/bodies. The participating director(s) in the HEIG shall be a student or graduate of not more than ten years from film/television production or similar disciplines of a local or overseas higher education institution or a professional school and shall be nominated by designated higher education institutions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)008

(Question Serial No. 5423)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Over the past year, how many reports on disruption of services of telecommunications service providers (service providers) have been received by the Administration? Which service providers have been involved? What are the time and locations in respect of the service disruption? What are the reasons? What kinds of sanctions have been imposed by the Bureau on the service providers for service disruption?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 182)

Reply:

In 2015, a total of ten reports on disruption of telecommunications services were received by the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA). Among these reports, eight incidents were of a minor nature and involved malfunctioning of equipment (three incidents), damage to underground cables (two incidents) and damage to submarine cables (three incidents). The remaining two incidents, which brought about wider impact, occurred at 2 a.m. on 3 April 2015 and 4 p.m. on 5 April 2015 respectively. Both incidents were caused by the malfunctioning of the signaling links of China Unicom (Hong Kong) Operations Limited (China Unicom), resulting in disruptions to its telecommunications services including mobile voice services, short message services and mobile data services.

The Communications Authority (CA) imposed a financial penalty of HK\$100,000 on China Unicom for the above two incidents. In order to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents, China Unicom has taken relevant improvement measures at the request of the CA.

For details, please refer to the document on the final decision made by the CA on the above two cases. The document can be downloaded via the following link at the CA's website:

http://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/statement/en/upload/343/Unicom_FinalDecision_e.pdf

(Disruption of the services of China Unicom on 3 and 5 April 2015 respectively) (only English version is provided)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)009

(Question Serial No. 5512)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (001) Salaries

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

There will be an estimated 103 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2016, to be increased by eight posts to 111 posts as at 31 March 2017 in the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)(CEDB(CCIB)). What are the types and job nature of the posts to be created?

Meanwhile, there are at present seven directorate posts in the CEDB(CCIB), to be increased to nine posts as at 31 March 2017. What are the types and job nature of the posts to be created?

What are the types, full-year salaries, allowances and job nature of those nine directorate posts?

What are the types, strength of each rank, full-year salaries, allowances and job nature of those 111 non-directorate permanent posts?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 279)

Reply:

The eight additional non-directorate posts include two Senior Executive Officers (SEOs), one Senior Information Officer (SIO), one Systems Manager (SM), two Personal Secretary Is (PSIs), one Assistant Clerical Officer (ACO) and one Workman II. The two additional directorate posts are one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B (AOSGB) and one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (AOSGC). All the additional posts mentioned above (except for one SIO and one Workman II) are time-limited posts for a period of one to three years.

The two additional directorate posts will review the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) and the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) to update and rationalise the Ordinances so as to modernise the regulatory regime for the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors. The additional posts of one SEO, two PSIs and one ACO will provide administrative support. These six posts will be created for a period of three years.

The SEO post, which is a two-year time-limited post, is for providing administrative support for the broadcasting regulatory matters and the development of digital broadcasting services (including the switching off of analogue television services).

The SM post, which is a three-year time-limited post, is for rendering technical support to the development and upgrade of the Funding Administration System of the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK).

The two non-time-limited posts of one SIO and one Workman II are for providing support for work related to news, publicity and public relations as well as general administration.

The nine directorate posts are one Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1 (i.e. Directorate Pay Scale Point 8), one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 (D4), one Head of CreateHK (D3), two AOSGC (D2), one Secretary-General of the Film Development Council (D2), one Senior Principal Executive Officer (D2) and the above-mentioned time-limited posts of one AOSGB (D3) and one AOSGC (D2). Salaries of these posts are subject to the prevailing Directorate Pay Scale. The fringe benefits including the allowances of these posts depend on the individual post holders' rank, length of service, terms of appointment and other rules. The scope of duties of the nine directorate posts is the same as that mentioned in Programme (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries and Programme (2) Telecommunications under Head 55.

The 111 non-directorate posts cover staff members from different grades including 6 from the Administrative Officer grade, 9 from the Entertainment Standards Control Officer grade, 20 from the Executive Officer grade, 2 from the Official Languages Officer grade, 5 from the Explosives Officer grade, 11 from the Trade Officer grade, 3 from the Analyst/Programmer grade, 11 from the Personal Secretary grade, 3 from the Typist grade, 2 from the Confidential Assistant grade, 21 from the Clerical Officer grade, 8 from the Clerical Assistant grade, 1 from the Chauffeur grade, 1 from the Motor Driver grade, 1 from the Geotechnical Engineer grade, 1 from the Government Counsel grade, 1 from the IO grade, 1 from the Statistical Officer grade, 1 from the Accounting Officer grade, 1 from the Supplies Supervisor grade and 2 from the Workman II grade. Out of which, 31 posts are upper salary band civil servants (i.e. above Master Pay Scale (MPS) Point 33), 77 are middle salary band civil servants (i.e. from MPS Point 10 to 33) and 3 are lower salary band civil servants (i.e. below MPS Point 10). Salaries of these posts are subject to the prevailing MPS and their fringe benefits including the allowances depend on the individual post holders' rank, length of service, terms of appointment and other rules. Their scopes of duties cover assisting the implementation of government policies and providing the related administrative support.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)010****(Question Serial No. 6244)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

How many films have been funded under the Film Development Fund over the past three years? What are the box office receipts of these films? Currently, has the Administration provided funding for small budget films (commonly known as “microfilms”)? If not, has the Administration earmarked any resources to study the feasibility of funding “microfilms”?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 346)

Reply:

Over the past three financial years, a total of eight films have been financed or subsidised under the Film Development Fund through the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) and the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS). Of these films, four have been released in Hong Kong with box office receipts as follows:

	Film Title	Box Office Receipt in Hong Kong (HK\$)
1.	The Midnight After	21,204,584
2.	Twilight Online	4,460,210
3.	Wonder Mama	443,366
4.	The Merger	483,470

It is a requirement under both the FPFS and the FPGS that the length of a film project under application must be 80 minutes or above. Since the length of a microfilm is shorter than 80 minutes, it falls outside the scope of the FPFS and the FPGS. However, from the

perspective of nurturing talents in the advertising sector, the Create Hong Kong has provided funding support through the CreateSmart Initiative over the past three years for Hong Kong Association of Interactive Marketing Limited to organise the Microfilm Production Support Scheme (Music). A total of 48 local advertising production start-up companies and their new directors have been provided with subsidies for producing microfilms, training on microfilm production, professional mentorship and promotion support, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)011

(Question Serial No. 6245)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

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

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

As Hong Kong Television Entertainment Company Limited (viuTV) will put into service in 2016, has the Administration set aside additional resources to promote mobile television services this year? What will be the expenditure involved and manpower allocation?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 347)

Reply:

To promote the development of the broadcasting industry and to formulate policies on broadcasting are one of the Bureau's regular duties. The relevant expenditure is covered by Head 55 without a separate breakdown of expenditure.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)012

(Question Serial No. 3037)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is estimated that 27 applications on film production projects will be received under the Film Development Fund in 2016. Although the applications have not yet assessed, it has already confirmed that only 15 applications will be approved and 13 applications refused. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Member Question No. 57)

Reply:

We anticipate that 27 applications on film production projects will be received under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2016, of which 24 will be received under the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS) and 3 under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS).

The FPGS accepts applications on a quarterly basis and a maximum of 3 grant quotas will be provided for each quarter. We anticipate that a maximum of 12 applications will be approved and a total of 12 applications will be refused in 2016. The FPFS accepts applications throughout the year and will not be subject to any quota. Making reference to the ratio between the number of applications received and that of applications approved in recent years, we estimate that out of the 4 applications to be assessed in 2016 (1 application received at the end of 2015, of which the assessment has not yet been completed, and 3 applications expected to be received in 2016), 3 will be approved and 1 refused. In conclusion, we estimate that a total of 15 applications on film production projects under the FDF will be approved and 13 applications will be refused in 2016.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)013

(Question Serial No. 6609)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will inject an additional \$20 million into the Film Development Fund to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity in the Mainland. The funding is proposed to be increased from the current \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film. This will assist the film industry in leveraging the enhanced measures under the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement to promote Cantonese films to the Mainland. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Hong Kong films are very well-received in Southeast Asia regions and in Europe and the US. However, the above \$20 million injection is intended to subsidise the expenses for distribution and publicity in the Mainland only. On what grounds or based on what data does the Administration provide such funding?
- (b) Will the Government consider extending the scope of funding to subsidise the expenses for distribution and publicity not only in the Mainland but also worldwide?
- (c) What is the number of years that such additional funding can be used?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Member Question No. 60)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The Mainland is a vast market for Hong Kong films, the Guangdong Province in particular offers an extensive market for locally-produced Cantonese films. The Government wishes to encourage the release of more Hong Kong-produced Cantonese films in the Mainland so as to help the industry to

make use of the enhanced measure under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) to further explore the Mainland market. As reflected by the industry, the commercial risks of distributing Hong Kong-produced films in the Mainland is higher than that of co-productions or Mainland domestic productions. Distributors in Guangdong will normally require Hong Kong filmmakers to pledge at least RMB¥400,000 (about HK\$475,000) as sales and distributions expenses. Hong Kong films are mostly small-to-medium budget projects, therefore some filmmakers have opted not to go for the Mainland market amid cost concerns. We believe that our proposal of increasing the subsidy for distribution and publicity expenses from the current level of \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film will be conducive to the industry to a certain extent. The proposal seeks to suitably incentivise Hong Kong filmmakers to explore the Mainland market by increasing their risk appetite and lowering the entry threshold of the Mainland market.

As compared with the distribution of films in the Mainland, Hong Kong film distributors has years of experience in distributing locally-produced Cantonese films in Southeast Asia regions and in Europe and the US, and have established effective distribution mode and channel, thus the development in this regard is more mature. Considering the purpose of increasing the amount of subsidy is to help the industry to better utilise the enhanced measure under CEPA, to promote Cantonese films to the Mainland and to explore the vast film market in the Mainland, the Government has no plan for the time being to extend the scope of the funding.

- (c) We expect that the funding injection can sustain the proposed measure up to around 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)014

(Question Serial No. 6610)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Bureau will continue to support the organisation of signature events to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The Bureau has supported the organisation of what signature events over the past three years? What are the details of each event and amount of funding involved?
- (b) Do the vetting criteria cover the characteristic of local culture so as to promote tourism and attract overseas tourists?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Member Question No. 58)

Reply:

- (a) The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) under the Communications and Creative Industries Branch allocated about \$108 million in total from 2013-14 to 2015-16 to provide funding support to 17 signature events to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital. The titles and funding amount of the signature events are as follows:

(i) Annual events

Event Title	Funding Amount (total amount from 2013-14 to 2015-16 and some of which are pending auditor's verification and Government's approval)
Business of Design Week	27,653,880
Entertainment Expo Hong Kong	4,632,194
Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF)	41,471,685
Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)	12,433,558
Hong Kong Asian-Pop Music Festival	17,920,180

(ii) Events held in specific year

Event title	Funding Amount (total amount from 2013-14 to 2015-16 and some of which are pending auditor's verification and Government's approval)
International Comics Artist Conference 2013	2,347,780
Cross-Strait Architectural Design Symposium & Awards 2015	1,837,460

- (b) When vetting funding applications of the projects concerned, major factors considered by CreateHK include whether the project is conducive to the development of the creative industries in Hong Kong, nurturing talents and start-ups, broadening commercial networks, exploring local and overseas markets and fostering creative atmosphere. Among the funded signature events, most of the projects are targeted at local participants and some will attract practitioners from overseas creative industries to come to Hong Kong for exchange. For examples, the Business of Design Week and the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong have become international renowned events that attract overseas and the Mainland celebrities in the industry and buyers to attend.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)015

(Question Serial No. 6611)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

A total of 12 applications on film production projects were received under the Film Development Fund in 2015 with only 3 applications approved. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of the 3 applications approved?
- (b) Whether the remaining 9 applications are refused or pending approval?
- (c) What are the reasons for refusing the applications of the projects?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuen-han (Member Question No. 56)

Reply:

- (a) The details of the 3 applications on film production projects approved under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2015 are as follows -

Film title	FDF's co-financing support (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the estimated production budget
Water Dragonfly	2,586,867	20%
The Moment	2,760,000	30%
Love Revolution	2,997,300	20%

- (b) Out of the 12 applications on film production projects received in 2015, 9 applications were received in end 2015 and thus assessments of these applications could not be

completed within the year. As at 10 March 2016, assessment of 8 out of these 9 applications have been completed, with 1 approved and 7 refused. 1 application is still being assessed.

- (c) A panel of examiners consisting of film industry specialists and the Fund Vetting Committee set up under the FDC mainly assess film projects in the aspects of “creativity and quality of the film screenplay”, “production budget”, “estimated income”, “local film production elements and talent nurturing” and other relevant factors. Applications are refused due to inadequacies in the above-mentioned aspects.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)016

(Question Serial No. 2837)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The estimates under Programme (2) for the coming year have increased by 46.4% to \$22.1 million. What are the reasons? Moreover, what is the effectiveness of the "Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme" since its launch? How many such cases were handled in 2015-16? What is the expenditure involved in the scheme?

Asked by: Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure under Programme (2) Telecommunications for 2016-17 is 46.4% (\$7 million) higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. This is mainly due to the increased provision for the consultation on person-to-person telemarketing calls as well as the planned consultancy study on telecommunications infrastructure capacity in Hong Kong, and the creation of four posts.

The "Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme" (CCSS) aims to help resolve billing disputes in deadlock between consumers and their telecommunications service providers. The scheme ran for a trial period of two years from November 2012, and was implemented on a long-term basis from 1 May 2015 upon completion of the review.

During the ten-month period from 1 May 2015 when the long-term implementation of the CCSS commenced to 29 February 2016, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) received a total of 137 applications which met the CCSS's eligibility criteria. Among these applications, 67 cases were successfully settled before referral to the mediation service centre (service centre), 63 were satisfactorily settled after referral by OFCA to the service centre for processing, three did not lead to agreement to mediate

between both parties, and the remaining four were pending arrangement of mediation. During the said period, the settlement rate of eligible cases handled under the CCSS was 97.7%.

OFCA supports the CCSS by providing administrative support and sponsoring the necessary operating expenses of the scheme. The expenditure involved is met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)017

(Question Serial No. 2523)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) What measures will be taken in 2016-17 to assist the development of the animation and comics (ani-com) sector in Hong Kong and nurture local ani-com talents?
- (b) Over the past two years, what is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the ani-com sector in Hong Kong and its percentage share of the GDP? What are the respective figures in respect of our neighbouring countries or regions such as the Mainland China, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan?

Asked by: Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun (Member Question No. 35)

Reply:

- (a) In 2016-17, the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) will continue to provide funding support through the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) to the trade for organising projects which help promote the development of the animation and comics (ani-com) sector in Hong Kong and nurture local ani-com talents. For example, CreateHK will fund the 5th Hong Kong Comic Camp to enhance comics lovers' comics skills and market knowledge. The 2nd Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme funded by CreateHK commenced in early 2016. Fresh graduates in digital entertainment and related disciplines will be provided with one-year full time employment and on-the-job training by digital entertainment companies. Moreover, CreateHK has provided funding support to the Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation for setting up the Ani-Com Park@Harbour“FUN” adjacent to the Golden Bauhinia Square in which local ani-com characters will be featured. This

exhibition area aims at enhancing the awareness of the public and tourists of the ani-com sector in Hong Kong.

- (b) According to the latest data published by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the value added of the software, computer games and interactive media domain (including the ani-com sector) of the cultural and creative industries has increased by 10.2% from \$40.27 billion in 2013 to \$44.39 billion in 2014. However, the C&SD does not provide separate data analysis for the ani-com sector.

In addition, there is currently no standardised industry classification and coverage relating to the ani-com sector within the international community. The industry data compiled by individual countries or regions cannot be compared directly or used for conducting a systematic analysis. As such, CreateHK is unable to provide the figures requested in this part of the question.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)018

(Question Serial No. 4194)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

A total of 12 applications on film production projects were received under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2015, which is less than the number of applications anticipated last year (2015-16). However, the Administration estimates that the number of applications this year (2016-17) will have an over 100% increase over that of last year. Please advise this Committee the following:

- (a) Although the Administration mentioned in last year that the enhancement and new measures “can attract more film projects to apply for support under the FDF”, the target was not attained. In this regard, has the Administration tried to find out the reason and put forward enhancement methods?
- (b) In view that the number of applications last year was unable to meet the target, what are the grounds for the Administration to anticipate that there will be 27 applications in 2016?
- (c) Has the Administration helped the films funded by the FDF to promote and explore markets, including taking advantage of the “One Belt One Road” initiative frequently quoted by the Government, to promote the films in the Mainland and in Southeast Asia region? If yes, what is the specific work and the expenditure and manpower involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 43)

Reply:

- (a) We estimated last year (2015-16) that 15 applications on film production projects would

be received under the Film Development Fund (FDF). One of the assumptions is that the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS) will be launched in mid-2015 and will accept applications for two quarters. However, the FPGS could only be launched by end 2015 and could accept applications for only one quarter, thus the overall number of applications on film production projects received is lower than expected.

- (b) In 2016, the FPGS will accept applications for four quarters and it is estimated that 4 to 6 applications will be received for each quarter. Moreover, we have implemented measures to enhance the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS), i.e. raising the upper limit of the production budget of a film project applying for financing from \$15 million to \$25 million. It is anticipated that this enhanced measure will attract more applications for financing film projects.
- (c) With a view to promoting Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films in Guangdong Province and exploring the Guangdong market for Hong Kong films, the Government of the HKSAR organised the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou from 2013 to 2015. A total of 14 Hong Kong films in their original Cantonese version, including films funded by the FDF, were screened. Moreover, the Hong Kong Contemporary Film Showcase was staged in Taipei in 2012 and 2014, in which 8 and 13 Hong Kong produced commercial feature films, including films funded by the FDF, were screened respectively. Representatives of these films including directors and actors were also invited to meet the Taipei audiences so as to promote and publicise the new profile and successors of the Hong Kong film industry to Taiwan young audiences .

The expenses for organising the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou from 2013 to 2015 are \$179,257, \$175,867 and \$208,842 respectively. The expenses for organising the film exhibitions in Taipei in 2012 and 2014 are \$558,410 and \$552,674 respectively. The workload of organising the above events was absorbed by existing manpower of Create Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)019****(Question Serial No. 4203)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the records management work of the Bureau and its departments over the past year:

- (a) 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;
- (b) 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 meters of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for not yet transferring the records

- (c) 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 meters of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

- (d) Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Record title	Years covered by the records	Number and linear meters of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

- (a) In accordance with the Government's records management policy, the Branch and its departments* have designated staff of different ranks to perform records management duties:
- (i) 2 Chief Executive Officers are designated to serve as Departmental Records Managers (DRMs) to devise, carry out and document departmental records management practices and procedures according to the guidelines and advice of the Government Records Service (GRS);
 - (ii) 1 Senior Executive Officer and 1 Executive Officer (EO) II are appointed to serve as Assistant Departmental Records Managers to assist the DRMs in the execution of the duties concerned; and
 - (iii) 14 EOs I/II or officers of equivalent rank are responsible for supervising records management in different divisions/sections.

Moreover, 3 Senior Clerical Officers, 10 Clerical Officers, 22 Assistant Clerical Officers, 18 Clerical Assistants, 3 Confidential Assistants and 3 Personal Secretaries I/II will assist the above-mentioned officers in the execution of certain records management duties.

In the course of performing daily duties, officers of different ranks in the Branch and its departments* are involved in related records management work according to operational needs.

- (b) Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer by the Branch and its departments* to GRS for appraisal is as follows:

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 not yet transferring the records
Administrative records	1980-2015	619 records 25.4 linear metres	1 to 7 years	Yes: 30 No: 589	The retention period approved by GRS has not yet expired
Programme records	1999-2015	528 records 22.28 linear metres	2 to 20 years	Yes: 291 No: 237	The retention period approved by GRS has not yet expired

- (c) Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred by the Branch and its departments* to GRS for retention is as follows:

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
Administrative records	1965-2007	28 records 0.73 linear metres	2014-2015	Permanent retention	Yes: 15 No: 13
Programme records	1960-2007	163 records 6.94 linear metres	2015	7 to 15 years	No

(d) Information on records of the Branch and its departments* which have been approved for destruction by GRS is as follows:

Category of records	Record title	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	Acts and Legislation, Appreciation and Condolences, Ceremonies and Celebrations, Committees, Councils, Commissions Conferences and Seminars, Intellectual Property Organisations, Plans and Programmes, Reports and Statistics, Visits and Tours, Accommodation – Security, Equipment, Supplies and Services, Audits, Awards and Honours, Conduct and Discipline, Recruitment, Establishment, Recreation and Welfare, Training and Development	1950-2012	673 records 29.38 linear metres	2014-2015	According to the period specified in the General Administrative Records Disposal Schedules, the shortest period is 2 years, while the longest period is 7 years	Yes: 170 No: 503
	Leave and Authorised Absence				3 to 5 years, 1 year after the departure of	

Category of records	Record title	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
					staff, 1 year after the departure of staff and completion of GF115, 1 year after the issue of Pension Benefits Statements and completion of GF115 and GF539	
	Staff Record Cards				1 year after the departure of staff and completion of GF115, 1 year after the issue of Pension Benefits Statements and completion of GF115 and GF539	
Programme Records	Records Series on Housekeeping Matters Relating to Broadcasting Records Series on Non-broadcasting Legislation	1973-1998	151 records 6.04 linear metres	2015	15 years	No

Category of records	Record title	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
	Film Censorship Matters, Seminars, Talks, Tours and Visits, Complaints and Miscellaneous Matters related to Film Division Case files relating to the enforcement of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance	1976-2013	25 120 records 12.54 linear metres	N.A.	6 months to 20 years	

**including Radio Television Hong Kong and the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration*

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)020****(Question Serial No. 4204)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of the Bureau and its departments in 2014-15 and 2015-16, 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	Cap on entertainment expenses (including beverages) per head for the year	Cap on gift expenses per guest for the year	Number of receptions held and total number of guests entertained in the year

- (b) Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of the bureau and its departments in 2015-16, 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))

- (c) Please provide the estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts for 2016-17 using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department	Estimated provision for expenses on entertainment and gifts	Cap on entertainment expenses per guest	Cap on gift expenses per guest

Asked by: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 45)

Reply:

As a general rule, all civil servants should observe the same principles and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines when providing official entertainment in the form of meals. Government officers are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy when entertaining guest(s) for official purposes in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance. According to the existing general guidelines, the expenditure limits on 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. The actual expenses on official entertainment incurred by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) and its departments* in 2014-15 and 2015-16 (as at 10 March 2016), and the estimated expenditure on official entertainment for 2016-17 are as follows:

Bureau/department	Expenses		Estimated expenditure for 2016-17
	2014-15	2015-16 (as at 10 March 2016)	
CEDB(CCIB)	Approx. \$22,000	Approx. \$48,000	\$49,000
Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK)	Approx. \$127,000	Approx. \$18,000	\$50,000
Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA)	Approx. \$10,000	Approx. \$1,000	\$10,000

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 we do not maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, we do not have the relevant statistics.

* including RTHK and OFNAA.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)021****(Question Serial No. 4205)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the studies (if any) conducted by the Bureau and its departments for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

(a) Using the table below, please provide information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds have been allocated in the past two financial years (2014-15 and 2015-16):

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on 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) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting internal studies this year (2016-17)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Title, content and objective of project	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For studies 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 (2016-17)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For studies 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 Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

We hereby provide the relevant information in respect of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) and its departments*:

(a) Relevant information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds have been allocated in 2014-15 and 2015-16 is as follows:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Culture and Development Consultancy Ltd.	Quotation	<p>Title: Mapping Study of Creative Clusters in Hong Kong 2014</p> <p>Objective: It aims at collecting the profiles of local creative clusters; examining the factors leading to the formation of existing creative clusters and the future development of creative clusters; gauging the level of awareness towards creative clusters supported by the Government or non-government organisations (NGOs), and examining the factors encouraging creative establishments to commence business or discouraging them from doing so in creative clusters supported by the Government or NGOs</p>	\$600,000	December 2013	Completed	The Consultancy Report and Executive Summary have been submitted to CEDB(CCIB) and Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) for reference.	The Executive Summary of the Consultancy Report has been uploaded onto the website of CreateHK
Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited	Quotation	<p>Survey on Person-to-Person Telemarketing Calls (P2P calls) in Hong Kong</p> <p>It aims at further grasping the latest situation of P2P calls,</p>	\$829,000	The study commenced in June 2015.	Completed	With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public	The latest development will be reported to the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council in

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		including soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, the employment and business situations of the industry, as well as obtaining an update on the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls.				consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls.	due course.

(b) Relevant information on projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting internal studies this year (2016-17) is as follows:

Title, content and objective of project	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For studies that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Manpower Study on Creative Industries in Hong Kong	Late March 2016	In progress	---	Since the findings of the survey will be for internal reference by CEDB (CCIB) and CreateHK only, there is no plan to make them public.

(c) Relevant information on projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2016-17):

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For studies that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
---	Quotation	Review of Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) services Objective: It aims at assisting the Government in reviewing the existing policy and the way forward on DAB (expected to include assessing local listenership and making reference to overseas experience).	Subject to the result of the quotation exercise	The second quarter of 2016	Under planning	---	The review findings will be made public through appropriate channels.
---	Quotation	Consultancy Study on Telecommunications Infrastructure Capacity in Hong Kong	Subject to the result of the quotation exercise	Expected to commence in the second half of 2016	Under planning	---	It is expected that the consultancy study would not be completed in this financial year.
---	Quotation	Title: Mapping Study of Creative Clusters in Hong	Subject to the result of the quotation	Expected to commence in the	Under planning	---	The summary of the consultancy report will be made public in due

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study report and their progress (if any)	For studies that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		Kong 2016 Objective: It aims at collecting and updating the profiles of local creative clusters.	exercise	second half of 2016			course.

- (d) In awarding a consultancy project to a research institute or a consultant, we will consider the research methods, work plans and schedules proposed by the consultant, as well as its understanding, expertise and experience in the subject matter and the quotations for the project.

**including Radio Television Hong Kong and the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration*

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)022****(Question Serial No. 4207)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please provide details of the meetings, visits or exchanges held between departments under the Bureau and the relevant Mainland authorities in the past year and set out in chronological order the following information for each visit:

- (a) purpose and place of visit;
- (b) titles of officials met;
- (c) size of entourage and post titles;
- (d) days of visit;
- (e) total expenditure involved;
- (f) whether the visit 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) transportation (air tickets and local transportation);
- (ii) accommodation;
- (iii) meals;
- (iv) banquets or entertainment;
- (v) expenses on gifts.

Date	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)

Asked by: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 48)

Reply:

Relevant information on meetings, visits or exchanges between the Communications and Creative Industries Branch and its departments and the relevant Mainland authorities from 1 April 2015 to 29 February 2016 is as follows:

Year (Number of visits)	Content/purpose	Total number of entourage	Expenditure ^{Note} (\$) (Rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars)
2015-16 (9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoting co-operation in areas of telecommunications, broadcasting and creative industries with the Mainland in places including Guangzhou, Beijing, Zhuhai, Zhanjiang, Shanghai, Hubei, Jilin, etc.	17	81,000

The above duty visits were joined by officers of different ranks, led by senior officer or directorate officer.

Note:

- (1) The above expenses include charges for passage and hotel accommodation, subsistence allowances for duty outside Hong Kong and sundry expenses.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided for officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided for officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other details.

The Bureau conducts exchanges or 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 visits and the agreements concluded should be made public in the light of the circumstances and needs.

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 general guidelines, the expenditure limits on 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.

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 this Branch does not specifically maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, relevant statistics are not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)023****(Question Serial No. 4212)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries, (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

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 the Bureau and its departments have been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes, please provide information for 2014-15 and 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 13th 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?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
-----------------------	--	-------------------------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--

- (b) Has provision been earmarked for Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes this year (2016-17)? If yes, please provide information in respect of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes for 2016-17 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 13th 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?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
-----------------------	--	-------------------------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary co-operation? If so, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved over the past year? How much financial and manpower resources have been earmarked in the 2016-17 Estimates?

Asked by: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Member Question No. 54)

Reply:

We hereby provide the relevant information in respect of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) and its departments*:

(a) The Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes carried out in 2014-15 to 2015-16 are as follows:

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
Co-operation Arrangement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Establishment of a Contingency Notification Mechanism on Critical Disruption of Guangdong-Hong Kong Cross-Boundary Telecommunications Networks	<p>To strengthen co-operation in areas relating to contingency handling of major faults of the cross-border telecommunications networks (i.e. the major public telecommunications land cable transmission channels connecting Guangdong and Hong Kong as well as the telecommunications business carried by them) by establishing a mutual notification mechanism for speedy and effective message exchanges to enhance the contingency capabilities of dealing with emergencies so as to ensure the reliability and safety of the telecommunications networks between Guangdong and Hong Kong.</p> <p>The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>	No additional expenditure was involved.	The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Guangdong Communications Administration.	The former Office of the Telecommunications Authority of Hong Kong (now the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA)) and the Guangdong Communications Administration signed the co-operation arrangement at the 14th Plenary of the Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference held on 23 August 2011.	The meeting materials can be found in LC Paper No. CB(1)3102/ 10-11(01) (http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr11-12/english/papers/cicb1-3102-1-e.pdf)	Both sides signed and implemented the contingency notification mechanism on 23 August 2011.	<p>The contents of the document have been made public by the CMAB.</p> <p>No additional expenditure was involved.</p>	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
				document have been made public by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB).		channels connecting Guangdong and Hong Kong” of the Co-operation Arrangement and expect to complete in April 2016.			
SmartHK (Nanjing) 2014	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)) to set up a large-scale exhibition at SmartHK to showcase the excellence of Hong Kong’s creative sectors, including advertising and marketing, architecture and interior design, design and branding, digital entertainment, licensing, new media marketing, printing and packaging services.	Around \$2.25 million	Related departments of the Jiangsu Provincial People’s Government, the Jiangsu Federation of Industry and Commerce, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade,	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK).	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK’s existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
			Jiangsu Sub-Council, the Jiangsu Youth Federation and the Nanjing Municipal People's Government.						
Soaring Creativity – Hong Kong Pavilion 2014-15 (Hong Kong's publishing and printing industry joining three international book fairs in Greater China)	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Publishing Federation Limited (HKPF)) to set up a Hong Kong Pavilion at the South China Book Festival, the Beijing International Book Fair and the Taipei International Book Exhibition to demonstrate the creativity and accomplishment of Hong Kong's publishing and printing industry as well as to help local companies explore outside markets. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$2.92 million	N.A.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
The 3rd Hong Kong Comic Camp -providing training for local comic talents and promoting cultural exchanges of talents in Guangdong, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association (HKDEA)) to stage the event to encourage creative comic works and promote cultural exchanges between young comic artists in Hong Kong, Guangdong, Macau and Taiwan. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$0.54 million	The Guangzhou Animation and Cartoon Association	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by existing CreateHK's resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Hong Kong Creativity in Business 2014/2015	Funding support was given to the organiser (the HKTDC) to stage the event to allow Hong Kong SMEs to have first-hand knowledge of the Mainland market and enterprises as well as establish business networks through study tours/briefing sessions, exchange activities and small-scale exhibitions. The events were held in Chongqing,	Around \$1.86 million	N.A.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	Xiamen, Jinjiang and Dalian.						absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Cross-Strait Architectural Design (CAD) Symposium & Awards 2015	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA)) to stage the event, the CAD Symposium & Awards, to recognise the innovation and excellence of architects in the cross-strait regions and establish a platform for exchanges in architectural culture.	Around \$1.84 million	The Shenzhen Registered Architects Association	Project agreement was signed with the organiser.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
The 3rd Greater China Illustration Awards	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Illustration Association) to stage the event to develop a platform for fostering creativity and exploring business opportunities for the illustration industries in the Greater China region	Around \$1.59 million	The Office of the Organising Committee of the China Hangzhou Cultural and Creative	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	as well as promoting Hong Kong as a creative capital in the region. The event was open to illustrators and design students from Hong Kong, the Mainland, Taiwan and Macau. The organiser held roving exhibitions of the winning entries in Hong Kong, the Mainland, Taiwan and Macau respectively. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.		Industry Expo The Shenzhen Illustration Association The Guangzhou Redtory Art & Design Co. Ltd.	CreateHK.			been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
HK/SZ Initiatives	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Federation of Design Associations (FHKDA)) to stage the 4th HK/SZ Cultural and Creative Forum, conduct a survey on the design industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen and establish a platform to provide design information so as to facilitate the co-operation and development of the design industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen.	Around \$4.17 million	The Shenzhen Industrial Design Profession Association (SIDA)	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.						absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
2014 HK-SZ Bi-City Biennial of Design	Funding support was given to the organiser (the FHKDA) to co-organise the first HK-SZ Design Biennial with SIDA, holding eight exhibitions which cover different areas and a series of public events which include forums, workshops, guided tours, design marts, etc. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$3.7 million	SIDA and around 20 Mainland authorities.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
EcoChic Design Award 2014	Funding support was given to the organiser (the ReDress Limited) to stage the event which is a fashion design contest highlighting up-cycling, reconstruction, and zero waste as design skills. Participating regions include the Mainland.	Around \$2.52 million	Around 10 fashion design institutes in the Mainland.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.						website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Activities involving the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC)	With funding support for the HKDC's basic operation, links were maintained with design bodies in Shanghai and Shenzhen, with exchanges and promotional activities such as exhibitions and forums held.	The HKDC received funding support from the CEDB (CCIB) for its basic operation. It bore the expenditure of the activities and no extra government spending was involved.	The Shanghai Industrial Design Association, and SIDA.	Related documents are not public documents as the memoranda of understanding signed between the HKDC and the relevant design bodies are related to the exchange between both sides, and no government agencies are involved.	N.A.	Completed	The HKDC was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme in Guangdong (2014-15)	<p>The event was co-organised by the Hong Kong Film Development Council (HKFDC), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (GDETO), the Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of Guangdong Province (APPRFTGD), the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association and the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government, allowing the trade to learn more about the film market and film policy in Guangdong and facilitating film co-operation projects among the three places through seminar and exchange with the film industry in the Mainland.</p> <p>The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>	Around \$16,000	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
Guangdong - Hong Kong- Macao Film Production and Investment Fair (2014-15)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, APPRFTGD, the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association and the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government to strengthen the co-operation and exchanges of film projects produced by the three places through lectures, luncheon exchange sessions, film production investment forums, seminars, etc. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	N.A. Transport fee to and from Macau was paid by the participants. Local transport and subsistence fees were paid by the Macao SAR Government.	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	N.A. Target of the film production investment forums were industry players.	N.A.	N.A.
The 2nd Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou (2014-15)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, the GDETO, APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association, featuring the original Cantonese version of 5 Hong Kong films so as to promote the Cantonese version of Hong Kong films in Guangdong and facilitate their	Around \$0.18 million	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	importation for screening, thereby expanding the Guangdong market. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.		Industry Association.						
The 1st Guangdong Film Festival held in Hong Kong (2014-15)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association, featuring 6 films produced by Guangdong to introduce Guangdong films to Hong Kong viewers and to enhance film exchange and co-operation between the two places. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$32,000	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
SmartHK (Jinan) 2015	Funding support was given to local creative bodies to participate in the SmartHK at Jinan which was set up by the organiser (the HKTDC) to promote the capability of Hong Kong's creative sectors in product and service upgrading and allow the Mainland corporations to know more about the	Around \$0.65 million	The Department of Commerce of Shandong Province, the Shandong Economic and Information	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	creative sectors in Hong Kong through a series of exhibition, seminars and networking events.		Technology Committee, the Shandong Development and Reform Commission, the Department of Science & Technology of Shandong Province, the Shandong Provincial Department of Culture, the Hong Kong & Macao Affairs Office of Shandong Provincial People's Government, the State-owned Assets Supervision				website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
			and Administration Commission of Shandong Provincial Government, the Finance Office of Shandong Province, the Information Office Of Shandong Provincial People's Government, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Shandong Sub-council, the Shandong Federation of Industry &						

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
			Commerce.						
The 4th Hong Kong Comic Camp -providing training for local comic talents and promoting cultural exchanges of talents in Guangdong, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan	Funding support was given to the organiser (the HKDEA) to stage the event to encourage creative comic works and promote cultural exchanges among young comic artists in Hong Kong, Guangdong, Macau and Taiwan. The project is in line the Framework Agreement.	Around \$0.58 million	The Guangzhou Animation and Cartoon Association	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Hong Kong Creativity in Business 2015/2016	Funding support was given to the organiser (the HKTDC) to stage the Hong Kong Creativity in Business to allow SMEs of Hong Kong creative industries to have first-hand knowledge of the Mainland market and enterprises as well as establish business networks through study tours/briefing sessions, exchange activities and small-scale	Around \$0.26 million	N.A.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Began in June 2015 and expected to complete in June 2016.	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	exhibitions. The event has been held in Suzhou in Jiangsu Province and Ningbo in Zhejiang Province.						website of CreateHK. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
2015 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism \Architecture	Funding support was given to the organiser (the HKIA) to exhibit a wide range of architectural projects and urban designs at the Hong Kong exhibition of the project held in 2015-16 with the aim of enriching cultural life in Hong Kong and fostering wider public interests in art, design, architecture and city development of Hong Kong. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$5.32 million	The Shenzhen Biennale of Urbanism\ Architecture Organiser Committee	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	Began in January 2015 and expected to complete in June 2016.	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
The 19 th Beijing-Hong Kong Economic Cooperation	The event was a half-day seminar and the organiser was the State-owned Cultural Asset Supervision and Administration Office of the People's	N.A.	The State-owned Cultural Asset Supervision	No agreement was signed.	N.A.	Completed	The Meeting was one of the events held in the Symposium and the	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
Symposium (the Symposium)- Cultural Creativity and Design Services Industry Communication Meeting (the Meeting)	Government of Beijing Municipality (the Office). The Office was responsible for inviting representatives of relevant Government departments and leaders of the design sectors from Hong Kong and Beijing to share with participants the latest situation of creative industries in the two places so as to provide a platform for the trades in the two places to exchange. CreateHK, as a co-organiser, was responsible for inviting related organisations of the creative industries to send representatives to attend the Meeting and uploading the basic information of the event to its website .		and Administration Office of the People's Government of Beijing Municipality				organiser was responsible for event publicity. The organiser has not widely released the information to the public as the target of the Meeting was industry practitioners. But CreateHK, as the co-organiser, has uploaded the basic information of the event to its website. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
The 6th HK/SZ Culture and Creative Forum (2015)	Funding support was given to the organiser (the FHKDA) to stage the 6th HK/SZ Culture and Creative Forum to facilitate the co-operation and development of the design industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen.	Around \$0.66 million	The Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the	N.A.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
			The Shenzhen Graphic Design Association	website of CreateHK.			Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
The 4th Greater China Illustration Awards	Funding support was given to the organiser (the Hong Kong Illustration Association) to stage the event to develop a platform for fostering creativity and exploring business opportunities for the illustration industries in the Greater China region as well as promoting Hong Kong as a creative capital in the region. The event was open to illustrators and design students from Hong Kong, the Mainland, Taiwan and Macau. The organiser will hold roving exhibitions of the winning entries in Hong Kong, the Mainland, Taiwan and Macau respectively.	Around \$1.64 million	The Hangzhou Cultural and Creative Industry Office The Guangzhou Redtory Art & Design Co. Ltd.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	March 2015 to October 2016	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.								
EcoChic Design Award 2015/16	Funding support was given to the organiser (the ReDress Limited) to stage the event which is a fashion design contest highlighting up-cycling, reconstruction and zero waste as design skills. Participating regions include the Mainland. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$2.66 million	Around 10 fashion design institutes in the Mainland.	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.	N.A.	March 2015 to April 2016	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme in Guangdong (2015-16)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, the GDETO, APPRFTGD, the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association and the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR	Around \$14,000	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	Government, allowing the trade to learn more about the film market and film policy in Guangdong and facilitating film co-operation projects among the three places through seminar and exchange with the film industry in the Mainland. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.		Picture Industry Association.						
Guangdong - Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair (2015-16)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, APPRFTGD, the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association and the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government to strengthen the co-operation and exchanges of film projects produced by the three places through lectures, luncheon exchange sessions, film production investment forums, seminars, etc. The project is in line with the	N.A. Transport fee to and from Macau was paid by the participants. Local transport and subsistence fees were paid by the Macao SAR Government.	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	N.A. Target of the trade fair was industry players.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	Framework Agreement.								
The 3 rd Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou (2015-16)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, the GDETO, APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association, featuring the original Cantonese version of 4 Hong Kong films so as to promote the Cantonese version of Hong Kong films in Guangdong and facilitate their importation for screening, thereby expanding the Guangdong market. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$0.2 million	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release in Guangzhou and Hong Kong. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
The 2 nd Guangdong Film Festival held in Hong Kong (2015-16)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association, featuring 4 films produced by Guangdong to introduce Guangdong films to Hong Kong viewers and to enhance film exchange and co-operation between the two places. The project is in line with the	Paid by Guangdong Province.	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No agreement was signed with the co-organiser.	N.A.	Completed	Event details have been made public via press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

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 13th Five-year Plan	Expenditure involved (excluding the expenditure for providing support through the existing resources and staff of the concerned government departments)	Mainland officials and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If not, what are the reasons?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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
	Framework Agreement.								

(b) At present, provision has been earmarked for the following Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in this year (2016-17):

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 13th 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?	Have any minutes of meeting been prepared? If yes, have they been made public?	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/
The 2 nd HK-SZ Design Biennale	Funding support was given to the organiser (the FHKDA) to co-organise the 2 nd HK-SZ Design Biennale in September to November 2016 with the Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association. The	Around \$6.18 million	The Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association and other	Project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement	N.A.	April 2015 to March 2017	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.	N.A.	N.A.

	<p>Biennale includes exhibitions which cover different areas and a series of public events.</p> <p>The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>		Mainland authorities (to be confirmed).	template has been uploaded to the website of CreateHK.			Event details have been uploaded to the website of CreateHK. The workload has been absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme held in Guangdong	<p>To tie in with the measure under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), the event will be held to facilitate film co-operation projects among the three places and explore the Guangdong market.</p> <p>Specific details of the event will be discussed by the three parties concerned.</p>	Estimated Expenditure: \$0.1 million	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No	N.A.	-	It is planned that the public will be informed via press release. The workload will be absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair	<p>To tie in with the Framework Agreement, the event will be held in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau to strengthen the co-operation and exchanges of film projects produced by the three places through lectures, luncheon exchange sessions, film production investment forums, seminars, etc.</p> <p>Specific details of the event will be discussed by the three parties concerned.</p>	<p>N.A.</p> <p>Transport fee to and from Macau will be paid by the participants .</p> <p>Local transport and subsistence fees were paid by the Macao SAR Government.</p>	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No	N.A.	-	<p>No.</p> <p>The trade fair is a small scale event for industry players and no public participation will be involved.</p>	N.A.	N.A.

The 4th Hong Kong Films Exhibition held in Guangzhou	To tie in with the measure under CEPA, the event will be co-organised by the HKFDC, the GDETO, APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Film Industry Association, featuring the original Cantonese version of a few Hong Kong films so as to promote the Cantonese version of Hong Kong films in Guangdong and facilitate their importation for screening, thereby expanding the Guangdong market. Specific details of the event to be discussed.	Estimated Expenditure: \$0.2 million	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No	N.A.	-	It is planned that the public will be informed via press release. The workload will be absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
The 3rd Guangdong Film Festival held in Hong Kong	To tie in with the Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Promoting and Deepening the Development of Film Industries, the event will be held to feature a few films produced by Guangdong to introduce Guangdong films to Hong Kong viewers and to enhance film exchange and co-operation between the two places. Specific details of the event to be discussed.	Paid by Guangdong Province.	The Film Administration Office of APPRFTGD and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association.	No	N.A.	-	It is planned that the public will be informed via press release. The workload will be absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

- (c) Over the past two years, apart from the projects or programmes listed in (a) and (b), the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association signed an “Agreement between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government on Promoting Co-operation in Creative Industries” on 29 February 2016, agreeing to further deepen exchanges and collaboration of the two places in creative industries, which include strengthening co-operation of the two places in organising large-scale creative exchange programmes, and discussion on strengthening talent nurturing and exchange. Both sides also agreed to explore the setting up of an exchange and collaboration platform in Qianhai, Shenzhen, with a view to furthering the co-operation of both cities in domains of creative industries such as design and architecture. Both sides will have further discussion in the coming year on taking forward the Agreement.

Besides, we have been in collaboration with Mainland broadcasters over the years. For instance, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has collaborated with the Mainland broadcasters in programme productions. Such collaboration usually takes the form of simulcast or exchange of programmes but does not involve any manpower and expenditure.

** Including RTHK and the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration.*

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)024

(Question Serial No. 1991)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

As seen in the Estimates of Expenditure, the 2016-17 estimated expenditure for Broadcasting and Creative Industries has increased sharply by 32.5% to \$392.3 million. In comparison to the previous years where the expenses have remained rather stable, what are the reasons for such an increase, and to what items are the funds allocated to? Please provide a detailed breakdown of the estimated expenditure for 2016-17.

Asked by: Hon Dennis KWOK (Member Question No. 11)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure under Programme (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries for 2016-17 is 32.5% (\$96.2 million) higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. This is mainly due to:

- (a) the increased cash flow requirements for the Film Development Fund (+\$15.32 million), the Design Incubation Programme (+\$1.84 million), the CreateSmart Initiative (+\$44.18 million) and the Hong Kong Design Centre (+\$3.46 million);
- (b) the increased provision for the creation of six posts (+\$4.6 million);
- (c) the provision for the promotion of Hong Kong films and design locally and abroad, including the activities on local fashion design (+\$23 million); and
- (d) the increased provision for the promotion of digital audio broadcasting and digital terrestrial television (+\$4 million).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)025

(Question Serial No. 3250)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries, (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget that the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) will be reviewed. Will the Government advise of the scope of the review? When will the review be completed and the results submitted to the Legislative Council for consideration?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

During the scrutiny of the Communications Authority Bill, the Government undertook that priority will be given to reviewing issues including cross media ownership restrictions, foreign ownership restrictions, licensing authorities and appeal mechanisms. Apart from the above issues, priority will also be given to reviewing other differences among the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) (BO), the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) (TO) and the Broadcasting (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 391), with a view to considering whether there is a need for streamlining. These differences include the powers of the Communications Authority (CA), offences and penalties, etc.

In the latter stage of the review, the Government will consider other broader issues and propose necessary and appropriate amendments with a view to keeping pace with the ever-changing communications environment. For example, with the emergence of new technologies such as the Next Generation Network, the demand for telecommunications services has been surging and there are suggestions that the provisions of TO governing access rights to buildings should be enhanced such that operators can expand their networks more easily. Furthermore, the existing requirement imposed on telecommunications licensees to publish tariffs may be considered outdated as this does not provide licensees

with the flexibility to respond to the fast-changing environment of the market. Some operators also suggest that the statutory protection for telecommunications infrastructure under the TO should be enhanced.

In addition, given that the CA has been established for four years, we will take this opportunity to consult the CA and the public on how the Ordinances should be modified to better facilitate the CA in performing its statutory functions.

We plan to set up a new team in the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau for a period of three years to review the BO and the TO and complete the associated legislative exercise. The new team will comprise six posts, including two supernumerary directorate posts. As far as these two posts are concerned, having secured the support of Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting for the proposed creation of the posts in November last year, we will submit the proposal to the LegCo Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee for consideration in due course. The review team, upon its establishment, will formulate a plan on the review and the relevant timetable, and proceed with the review immediately. While it is difficult to give an accurate estimate of how much time is required to complete the review at this stage, we consider that the proposed creation of the review team for a period of three years is necessary and appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)026

(Question Serial No. 0954)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary stated that he will inject an additional \$20 million into the Film Development Fund to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity in the Mainland. The funding is proposed to be increased from the current \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film. This will assist the film industry in leveraging the enhanced measures under the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement to promote Cantonese films to the Mainland. Given that some members in the film industry have relayed that the current amount of subsidy is inadequate, will the Government consider increasing the amount of subsidy? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What specific policies will be adopted in the coming year to assist the film industry in gaining access to the Mainland market? What is the estimated expenditure? What criteria will be used for granting the funding?

Asked by: Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 5)

Reply:

The purpose of setting up the subsidy scheme for Hong Kong films (Cantonese version) distributed in the Mainland under the Film Development Fund is to encourage more locally-produced Cantonese films to be distributed in the Mainland so as to expand the market for Hong Kong Cantonese films. We propose to increase the subsidy for sales and distribution (S&D) expenses from the current level of \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film. We believe that the trade will benefit from the enhanced measure. The proposal seeks to suitably incentivise Hong Kong filmmakers to explore the Mainland market by increasing their risk appetite and lowering the entry barrier. In fact, since the Mainland covers a vast area, the S&D expenses of films, which depend on commercial considerations, may vary

substantially. We need to strike an appropriate balance between policy needs and prudent use of public money.

In the coming year, in addition to the above proposal to increase the subsidy for the S&D expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution in the Mainland, Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) plans to stage the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou which will feature a few Hong Kong films in their original Cantonese version with a view to promoting locally-produced Cantonese films in the Guangdong Province, thereby expanding the Guangdong market for Hong Kong films. In addition, CreateHK also plans to co-operate with relevant authorities in Guangdong and Macau to organise the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme and the Film Production Investment and Trade Fair to facilitate co-operation among the film industries of the three places and promotion of Hong Kong films to the Mainland. CreateHK estimates that the expenditure for the above-mentioned activities in 2016-17 will be around \$500,000. In addition, CreateHK also provides funding through the Film Development Fund (FDF) for the organisation of the “Entertainment Expo Hong Kong” in March every year. The “Hong Kong International Film & TV Market” and the “Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum” of the Entertainment Expo attract many film industry players from around the world, including Mainland film investors and distributors who come to Hong Kong to make business deals with Hong Kong film companies. They are important platforms for Hong Kong films to gain access to the Mainland market. According to past experience, the FDF provides funding of around \$5.8 million every year for the relevant projects.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)027

(Question Serial No. 0974)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

During 2016-17, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch (CCIB) will continue to monitor and to review the implementation of digital audio broadcasting services. What are the details of the work and the expenditure and manpower involved? The CCIB will also continue to assist in the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to analogue sound broadcasting services. When will the Administration decide whether or not to renew the licences of Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited? What is the progress of the work?

Asked by: Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 26)

Reply:

We have all along been monitoring the implementation of digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services, and have adopted the following three general directions in evaluating the implementation of the services –

- (a) monitoring the progress of service roll-out by the broadcasters;
- (b) monitoring the progress of the construction of the transmission network by the broadcasters and the enhancement of signal coverage; and
- (c) keeping in view the sale of DAB receivers.

As one of the DAB licensees has left the market owing to commercial considerations, and in view of the fact that other DAB licensees have also indicated to us that they have encountered difficulties in their businesses, we are now reviewing the development of DAB in Hong Kong. We will deploy existing resources to carry out the monitoring and the review of DAB services.

Regarding analogue sound broadcasting services, Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) submitted their analogue sound broadcasting licence renewal applications (the Licence Renewal Applications) to the Communications Authority (CA) on 31 July 2014 and 25 August 2014 respectively. The CA submitted its recommendations on the Licence Renewal Applications to the Chief Executive (CE) in Council in accordance with the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) (Cap. 106) on 15 May 2015. On 22 March 2016, the CE in Council, having regard to the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors, and in accordance with the TO and established procedures, decided to renew the analogue sound broadcasting licences of CRHK and Metro for 12 years (from 26 August 2016 to 25 August 2028 (both dates inclusive)).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)028

(Question Serial No. 0975)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

During 2016–17, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch will continue to assist in the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to domestic free television programme services (free TV), domestic pay television programme services and analogue sound broadcasting services. What is the progress of the handover arising from the non-renewal of Asia Television Limited's free TV licence and the expenditure and manpower involved? Moreover, HK Television Entertainment Company Limited has been granted a free TV licence, and its free TV channel ViuTV will be officially launched on 6 April 2016. However, there is still no definite date and plan for Fantastic Television Limited owned by Hong Kong Cable Television Limited to start broadcasting. What follow-up work has been carried out by the Administration and the expenditure and manpower involved? Furthermore, Hong Kong Television Network Limited (HKTVN) earlier applied for a judicial review against the decision of the Government not to grant it a free TV licence and the ruling has been in favour of HKTVN. In this connection, will the Government re-consider granting it a free TV licence? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What is the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government on this lawsuit so far?

Asked by: Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai (Member Question No. 27)

Reply:

After the Chief Executive (CE) in Council decided not to renew the existing domestic free television programme service (free TV) licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) on 1 April 2015, a task force led by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has started to handle the handover issues arising from the non-renewal of the licence. In the latter half of 2015, the Government commenced the procedures to resume by phases Government land /

Government-owned premises where ATV's transmission stations were located to ensure other broadcasters which required such facilities can provide transmission service. The relevant procedures are largely completed. Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has made arrangement to launch its analogue TV service on 2 April 2016 with a view to providing stop-gap analogue TV service to households that are not yet equipped with integrated digital TV sets or set-top boxes. Separately, the free TV channel ViuTV of HK Television Entertainment Company Limited (HKTVE) started to provide free TV services on 31 March through a fixed network and will launch its free TV services through the broadcasting spectrum to be vacated by ATV on 6 April.

Regarding the free TV application of Fantastic Television Limited (Fantastic TV), the Government announced on 15 October 2013 that the CE in Council had decided to grant approvals-in-principle to the applications for free TV licences from Fantastic TV and HKTVE, but the formal licence grant was subject to the CE in Council's further review and final determination under the Broadcasting Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 562) at the second stage. In January 2015, the Communications Authority (CA) submitted to the CE in Council its recommendations on whether a free TV licence should be formally granted to Fantastic TV. Having taken into account the latest request of Fantastic TV, the CE in Council decided to further extend the deadline to 18 March 2016, granting Fantastic TV more time to provide supplementary information related to its free TV licence application to the CA and invited the CA to consider any supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV, and to submit further recommendations to the CE in Council in respect of Fantastic TV's free TV licence application. The CA is examining the supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV on 11 March 2016, with a view to submitting further recommendations to the CE in Council.

Hong Kong Television Network Limited (HKTVN) has applied for judicial review against the decision announced on 15 October 2013 that the CE in Council had decided not to grant it a free TV licence. The Court of First Instance (CFI) heard the case between 27 and 29 August 2014 and handed down its judgment on 24 April 2015, ruling in favour of HKTVN. After considering legal advice, the CE in Council has decided to lodge an appeal against the judgment on the judicial review case handed down earlier by the CFI of the High Court. The Court of Appeal heard the appeal on 17 and 18 February 2016. On 22 October 2015, the Court granted stay of CFI's order that HKTVN's first free TV licence application be remitted back to the CE in Council for reconsideration, pending the Court of Appeal's judgment on the appeal. At present, the Court of Appeal has not yet ruled on the judicial review appeal.

The work of the Administration to assist in the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to free TV services under Head 55 will be absorbed by existing resources. No separate breakdown of expenditure is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)029

(Question Serial No. 2877)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 148 of the 2015-16 Budget Speech that he had “asked all policy bureaux... to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising” and “launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of two per cent over the next three financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services.” Please inform this Committee of the implementation of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the services affected by the programme and details of the expenditure involved.

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

Reply:

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) has reviewed afresh the operational needs and re-prioritise procurement (e.g procurement of office supplies and computers) in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 by allocating resources to procurement with top priority first so as to achieve efficiency gains under the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme.

In 2016-17, the estimated total recurrent expenditure of the CEDB(CCIB) is around \$178 million, representing a net increase of around \$40 million (29.2%) over the revised estimate for 2015–16. This reflects that under the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme, resources have been re-allocated to the CCIB, which will be used for delivering projects related to the development of creative industries.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)030

(Question Serial No. 1201)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please advise of the justifications for increasing the commitments for Items 866 "CreateSmart Initiative" and 897 "Hong Kong Design Centre" under Subhead 700. Please also advise of the estimated expenditure in 2016-17 and the anticipated cashflow requirements of these two items in every subsequent financial year.

Asked by: Hon LEE Cheuk-yan (Member Question No. 12)

Reply:

We propose to increase the commitments of the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) by HK\$400 million and HK\$18.6 million respectively.

CSI

The Government's policy towards the creative industries is to continue to support the development and promotion of the trade by creating an atmosphere that inspires creativity, expanding local and overseas markets and nurturing talents. Since the establishment of the CSI in 2009, the number of approved projects and the amount of commitment has been increasing, representing the strong demand of the trade for the CSI. The uncommitted balance of the CSI was \$81.62 million as at end February 2016. We expect that it will be fully committed around the first quarter of 2016-17. We consider it necessary to inject \$400 million into the CSI to continue providing support to the trade. We will earmark dedicated funding out of the injection to support the new phase of the Design Incubation Programme (DIP), the newly launched Fashion Incubation Programme (FIP), the Business of Design Week (BODW) and DFA Awards.

We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) on the above funding proposal at its meeting of 17 July 2015. Members supported the proposal.

HKDC

The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Economic Development Commission and will launch a series of measures on a pilot basis from 2016-17 to 2018-19 to promote the development of the fashion industry (i.e. Fashion Initiatives). The Advisory Group on Implementation of Fashion Initiatives (AGF) was set up in July 2015 to advise on, guide and co-ordinate the implementation of the Fashion Initiatives. The Government has tasked the HKDC to serve and support the AGF and to assist in the implementation of the Fashion Initiatives. In this connection, we propose to further allocate \$18.6 million to the HKDC for performing the duties in respect of the implementation of the Fashion Initiatives during the period from April 2016 to March 2019.

We consulted the Panel on the above funding proposal at its meeting of 11 January 2016. Members supported the proposal.

The indicative cashflow requirements of the above two additional funding support are as follows -

	2016-17 (\$'000)	2017-18 (\$'000)	2018-19 (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
(I)CSI:				
(a)CSI projects	54,500	89,500	89,500	233,500
(b)DIP and FIP	35,500	35,500	35,500	106,500
(c)BODW and DFA Awards	20,000	20,000	20,000	60,000
CSI Total	110,000	145,000	145,000	400,000
(II) HKDC	6,100	6,200	6,300	18,600

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)031

(Question Serial No. 2776)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The provision under Programme (1) for 2016-17 is \$392.3 million. Please advise of the following:

- (a) What is the amount of funding granted to the three applications approved under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2015?
- (b) A total of 12 applications were received under the FDF in 2015. Of these, three applications were approved and 0 refused. What is the position of the remaining nine applications?
- (c) On what grounds and figures did the Administration estimate that the number of applications received under the FDF in 2016 will increase sharply?
- (d) Will the Administration consider helping those refused applicants so that they can receive funding? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen (Member Question No. 25)

Reply:

- (a) The applications of the following three film projects were approved under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) of the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2015:

Film Title	Funding Amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the estimated production budget
Water Dragonfly	2,586,867	20%
The Moment	2,760,000	30%
Love Revolution	2,997,300	20%

- (b) Four and eight applications were received under the FPFS and the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS) of the FDF respectively in 2015. As mentioned above, three applications were approved under the FPFS, and the remaining one application under the FPFS and the eight applications under the FPGS were all received in December 2015. As at end 2015, the nine applications were still being processed.
- (c) The FPGS was launched in end 2015 under the FDF, and is open for applications on a quarterly basis. Since the FPGS was only open for applications for one quarter in 2015, whereas the scheme will be open for applications for four quarters in 2016, it is anticipated that the total number of applications in 2016 will increase sharply.
- (d) The assessment of the FPFS and FPGS is professional and comprehensive to ensure proper use of public money. If an application is not approved, the applicant can submit a fresh application after the contents of the film project have been refined.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)032

(Question Serial No. 2184)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please advise this Committee, in tabular form, of the estimated expenditure in respect of the following units in 2016-17, with information on the establishment, ranks, salaries and relevant allowances for directorate civil servants, as well as the amount of personnel related expenses:

- (a) The Communications and Creative Industries Branch
- (b) The Administration Division
- (c) A Division
- (d) B Division
- (e) Create Hong Kong

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 2041)

Reply:

Details of directorate and non-directorate civil service posts in the establishment of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) in 2016-17 are as follows:

- (a) Directorate staff:

Total Directorate Establishment	Rank	Total Personal Emoluments~ (\$'000)	Total Personnel Related Expenses^ (\$'000)
9	Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1 (1) Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 (1) Administrative Officer Staff Grade B (1) Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (3) Head of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) (1)@ Senior Principal Executive Officer (1)* Secretary-General of the Film Development Council(1)#	19,247	18

- Note: () Figures in brackets indicate the number of posts.
 @*# The posts of Head of CreateHK (1 no.), Senior Principal Executive Officer (1 no.) and Secretary-General of the Film Development Council (1 no.) are created in CreateHK.
 ~ Personal emoluments include salaries, allowances and job-related allowances.
 ^ Personnel related expenses include the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution and the Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.

(b) Non-directorate staff:

	Total Non-directorate Establishment	Rank	Total Personal Emoluments~ (\$'000)	Total Personnel Related Expenses^ (\$'000)
Communications and Creative Industries Branch	2	Personal Assistant Senior Personal Secretary	1,577	-
Administration Division	39	Chief Executive Officer Senior Executive Officer Executive Officer I Executive Officer II Senior Official Languages Officer Official Languages Officer I Government Counsel Senior Information Officer Accounting Officer I Personal Secretary II Senior Typist Typist Supplies Supervisor I Confidential Assistant Clerical Officer Assistant Clerical Officer	17,263	600

	Total Non-directorate Establishment	Rank	Total Personal Emoluments~ (\$'000)	Total Personnel Related Expenses^ (\$'000)
		Clerical Assistant Chauffeur Motor Driver Workman II		
A Division	7	Senior Administrative Officer Administrative Officer Senior Executive Officer* Assistant Clerical Officer** Personal Secretary I	6,105	429
B Division	7	Senior Administrative Officer Administrative Officer Senior Executive Officer* Assistant Clerical Officer** Personal Secretary I	5,042	335
CreateHK	56	Principal Entertainment Standards Control Officer Chief Entertainment Standards Control Officer Entertainment Standards Control Officer Senior Geotechnical Engineer Senior Explosives Officer Explosives Officer I Explosives Officer II Systems Manager Analyst/Programmer I Principal Trade Officer Trade Officer Assistant Trade Officer II Chief Executive Officer Senior Executive Officer Executive Officer I Executive Officer II Statistical Officer I Personal Secretary I Personal Secretary II Assistant Clerical Officer Clerical Assistant Typist	34,023	804

	Total Non-directorate Establishment	Rank	Total Personal Emolument s~ (\$'000)	Total Personnel Related Expenses^ (\$'000)
--	---	------	--	--

* One of the Senior Executive Officers is shared between A Division and B Division.

** One Assistant Clerical Officer is shared between A Division and B Division.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)033

(Question Serial No. 0637)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in this year's Budget Speech that the Government will inject an additional \$20 million into the Film Development Fund (FDF) to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland and the funding was proposed to be increased from the current \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film, which will assist the film industry in leveraging the enhanced measures under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement to promote Cantonese films to the Mainland. Regarding the work of the FDF to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please list, over the past three years, the approved applications of locally-produced Cantonese film projects, the amounts of funding approved and the box office receipts of these films in the Mainland.
- (b) Has the Administration made a comparison between the box office receipts of the FDF's subsidised films in Guangdong Province and Guangxi Province in the Mainland and that in other provinces where Cantonese is not a popular dialect? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) Apart from subsidising the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland, what kind of work will the Administration conduct to promote locally-produced Cantonese films to the Mainland? What is the expenditure involved in 2016-17?

Asked by: Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

- (a) In the past three years, the Film Development Fund (FDF) approved the following 3 applications for subsidising the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland –

Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Mainland box office receipts (RMB¥)
Doomsday Party (also known as 「命運派對」 in Chinese)	219,641.27	688,344*
The Way We Dance	250,000	569,056*
Grey Met Shrek	250,000	436,842#

* “Doomsday Party” and “The Way We Dance” are films partly financed by the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) under the FDF. The production companies concerned are required under the agreements to submit to the Government the sales reports of the films. The Mainland box office receipts provided in the table are the actual Mainland box office receipts provided by the production companies concerned in their sales reports submitted to the Government in May 2015 and June 2015 respectively.

“Grey Met Shrek” is not a film partly financed by the FDF. The production company concerned is not required to provide the Mainland box office receipts of the film to the Government. The Mainland box office receipts provided in the table are the box office receipts when the film was released in Guangdong Province in January 2015. The figure was provided by the production company concerned when it applied for the sales and distribution subsidy.

- (b) According to the prevailing practice, only films partly financed under the FPFS are required to report the Mainland box office receipts to the Government. The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) has not requested the production companies to provide a breakdown of the box office receipts by province. Therefore, we cannot compare the box office receipts of the FDF-funded films in Guangdong Province and Guangxi Province with those in other provinces in the Mainland where Cantonese is not a popular dialect.
- (c) CreateHK plans to stage the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou in 2016, which will feature a few Hong Kong films in their original Cantonese version with a view to promoting locally-produced Cantonese films in the Guangdong Province, thereby expanding the Guangdong market for Hong Kong films. In addition, CreateHK also plans to co-operate with relevant authorities in Guangdong and Macau to organise the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme and the Film Production Investment and Trade Fair to facilitate co-operation among the film industries of the three places and promotion of Hong Kong films to the Mainland. CreateHK estimates that the expenditure for the above-mentioned activities in 2016-17 will be around \$500,000. In addition, CreateHK also provides funding through the FDF for the organisation of the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong in March every year. The Hong Kong International Film & TV Market and the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum of the Entertainment Expo attract many film

industry players from around the world, including Mainland film investors and distributors who come to Hong Kong to make business deals with Hong Kong film companies. They are important platforms for Hong Kong films to gain access to the Mainland market. According to past experience, the FDF provides funding of around \$5.8 million every year for the relevant projects.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)034

(Question Serial No. 2739)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On propelling development in the cultural and creative industries, please set out in table form:

- (a) specific measures that the Administration introduced last year to support sectors of the cultural and creative industries (e.g. advertising, architecture, design, film and video, digital entertainment, music, publishing, software and computing, television and radio) and the expenditure involved in these measures;
- (b) specific measures that the Administration has in the coming year to support sectors of the cultural and creative industries (e.g. advertising, architecture, design, film and video, digital entertainment, music, publishing, software and computing, television and radio) and the budget for these measures.

- (c) The estimated expenditure under Programme (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries for 2016-17 is 32.5% higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. What is the purpose of the increased expenditure? What are the details involved?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 39)

Reply:

- (a) The Communications and Creative Industries Branch provides financial support to projects conducive to the development of the creative industries mainly through the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the Film Development Fund (FDF) as well as other internal resources, etc. The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is responsible for promoting various creative industries, covering advertising, architecture, design, film, animation, comics and digital entertainment, music (generally refers to the phonographic industry), publishing, and enterprises associated with the television (TV) industry (excluding TV stations), etc. In 2015-16, the Government has allocated around \$251.9 million for CreateHK to promote the development of the creative industries, which include providing financial support to the trade to stage various signature creative events (e.g. Entertainment Expo Hong Kong, Hong Kong International Film Festival, Hong Kong Film Awards Presentation Ceremony, Hong Kong Asian-Pop Music Festival, Business of Design Week, DFA Awards, etc.) and organise projects (e.g. the Design Incubation Programme, the First Feature Film Initiative, talks under the Knowledge of Design Week, the Nurturing Programme of Hong Kong Young Design Talent Award, the Animation Support Program, the Support Program for Advertising and Music Talents (Microfilm Production), the graduate support schemes for the digital entertainment and digital advertising sectors, etc.) to nurture local creative talents and start-ups. The expenses involved also include supporting the trade to expand local and overseas markets, maintaining the operation of the Hong Kong Design Centre and assisting in promoting the Comix Home Base (CHB) and the PMQ (e.g. provide funding to the CHB for promotional activities in celebration of its 2nd anniversary).

Regarding digital terrestrial television (DTT) services, the Government has all along been monitoring the implementation of DTT services, including the DTT take-up rate. Regarding digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services, the Government has made corresponding investments to the transmission network through Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). The Government has also been providing technical advice and support to the DAB broadcasters through the Office of the Communications Authority and RTHK.

Moreover, RTHK has started to implement the three-year Pilot Project for Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS) since 2013, which has developed into a regular service in 2016, bringing a wide range of social gains to the community which includes promoting creativity and nurturing talents.

- (b) In 2016-17, CreateHK will continue to provide financial support to projects conducive to the development of the creative industries. The estimated expenditure

is \$341.5 million. Apart from the existing projects, such as supporting the Asian Film Awards Academy Limited to organise professional study tours, student tours, roadshows of Asian films, master classes, etc, funding has also been approved for new projects including The 2nd Hong Kong/Shenzhen Design Biennale, Hong Kong Designers Association Global Design Awards 2016, Fashion Guerilla–Paris 2016, the 17th Asian Congress of Architects, the Ani-Com Park@Harbour “Fun”, etc. Regarding the TV and radio broadcasting services, we will continue to carry out the measures mentioned in part (a) through internal resources in 2016-17, of which around \$2 million was earmarked for publicity and promotion activities in relation to the DTT and DAB services. Moreover, RTHK envisages that around 60 applications submitted by the community groups and individuals will be approved to produce CIBS programme. The Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund involved is estimated to be about \$12 million.

- (c) The increase in the expenditure of CreateHK in 2016-17 is mainly attributable to the followings:
- (i) the FDF enhanced the Film Production Financing Scheme in May 2015 by raising the upper limit of the production budget from \$15 million to \$25 million. It also introduced a new Film Production Grant Scheme in November 2015 to subsidise small-budget film productions with production budget not exceeding \$10 million per film, capped at \$2 million per film project. Moreover, the FDF will enhance the “Sponsorship Scheme for Hong Kong Films (Cantonese Version) Distributed in the Mainland” in 2016. The subsidy for the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity in the Mainland is proposed to be increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film. It is anticipated that the above-mentioned measures will attract more film projects to apply for various funding under the FDF;
 - (ii) for the CSI, apart from providing funding to existing and new projects to support the development of the fashion industry in Hong Kong, dedicated allocation has also been reserved to support projects like incubation programmes, Business of Design Week and DFA Awards;
 - (iii) additional expenditure will also be incurred to provide funding to the Hong Kong Design Centre for the provision of support and services to the Advisory Group on Implementation of Fashion Initiatives, and to cater for the additional operating expenditure involved in implementing the new phase of the Design Incubation Programme and the newly-launched Fashion Incubation Programme; and
 - (iv) to provide funding to projects held locally and overseas to promote Hong Kong films and design, including projects to promote local fashion design.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)035****(Question Serial No. 2740)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget that an additional \$400 million will be injected into the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI). In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please list, according to the table below, the number of projects approved under the CSI and the amount of funding involved over the past three financial years by sectors of the creative industries.

		Advertising	Architecture	Design	Digital Entertainment	Printing and publishing	Television	Music	Others
Number of projects approved in 2013-14	of								
Amount of funding approved in 2013-14	of								
Number of projects approved in 2014-15	of								
Amount of funding approved in 2014-15	of								
Number of									

projects approved in 2015-16								
Amount of funding approved in 2015-16								

- (b) How many applications have been received under the CSI over the past three years and how many of them have been approved? For those unsuccessful applications, what are the major reasons for not approving them? Which sector of the creative industries do they usually come from?
- (c) What measures will the Administration adopt to encourage different sectors of the creative industries to apply for the CSI?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

- (a) The number of projects approved under the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the amount of funding involved over the past three financial years by sectors of the creative industries are as follows:

	Advertising	Architecture	Design	Digital Entertainment	Printing and publishing	Television	Music	Others
Number of projects approved in 2013-14	5	1	17*	11	1	2	2	6
Amount of funding approved in 2013-14 (\$m)	9.15	2.62	41.29*	12.50	2.96	1.45	8.36	12.04
Number of projects approved in 2014-15	3	3	18*	14	2	2	2	4
Amount of funding approved in 2014-15 (\$m)	4.82	5.23	44.49*	23.71	6.64	1.44	8.16	5.51
Number of projects approved in 2015-16 (as at Feb 2016)	3	3	14*	7	3	2	1	6
Amount of funding approved in 2015-16 (\$m) (as at Feb 2016)	3.46	10.17	53.49*	14.51	6.89	1.45	5.96	7.33

* The number of projects and the amount of funding approved exclude those approved under the Design-Business Collaboration Scheme (DBCS), which has migrated to the CSI since 24 May 2013. In 2013-14 (as from 24 May 2013), 2014-15 and 2015-16 (as at February 2016), the number of projects approved under the DBCS were 19, 21 and 13 and the amount of funding involved were \$619,625, \$779,020 and \$462,030 respectively.

- (b) Over the past three years, the number of applications received and approved under the CSI, and the sectors of the creative industries that the unsuccessful applications mainly came from and the major reasons for not approving them are as follows:

	No. of applications	No. of projects approved[#]	Amount of funding approved (\$m)[#]	No. of cases rejected[#]	Other cases[@]
CSI (from 2013-14 to 2015-16) (as at February 2016)	219	123	280.65	35	61
DBCS under CSI [^] (from 2013-14 to 2015-16) (as at February 2016)	163	53	1.86	63	47

[#] Excluding applications received before 2013-14.

[@] Other cases include applications withdrawn by the applicants and those being processed by the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK).

[^] DBCS has migrated to the CSI since 24 May 2013. The DBCS no longer accepts applications after 31 December 2015.

For the CSI, the main reasons for rejecting the applications include: the objectives of the projects applying for funding are not in line with the CSI's strategic direction to drive the development of the creative industries; the deliverables of the projects serve only the interests of individual private companies or institutions rather than the entire creative industries or individual creative sectors in Hong Kong; the projects have duplicated or may duplicate the work of other institutions; and the applicants are too optimistic about the expected impact of the projects, etc. Most of the rejected cases are projects of the design sector.

For the DBCS, the main reasons for rejecting the applications include: the applicant small and medium enterprises (SMEs) at the time of applying for project funding were start-ups or companies with no on-going business for the DBCS to help upgrade; the projects could not help the applicant SMEs upgrade their brands or increase their competitiveness effectively; the contents of the projects fell outside the funding scope of the DBCS, etc.

- (c) CreateHK has been maintaining close liaison with individuals and organisations from different sectors of the creative industries to introduce the objective and details of the CSI and encourage them to apply for funding under the CSI. CreateHK also promotes the CSI through our own publicity and promotional materials and those produced by individual CSI projects. CreateHK is now producing a number of videos to further promote the CSI to the public. Some of the local creative industries practitioners that have participated in the CSI funded projects will share in the videos

how they benefited from the projects concerned. It is anticipated that the videos concerned will be broadcasted in different platforms and events in 2016-17.

The Administration will continue to promote the CSI by various means and encourage different sectors of the creative industries to submit applications.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)036

(Question Serial No. 2741)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016-17 that the Government will continue to assist in the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to domestic free television programme services, domestic pay television programme services and analogue sound broadcasting services. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) The application for domestic free television programme service licence from Fantastic Television Limited has been granted approval-in-principle, but the formal licence has not been granted so far. What are the reasons? When will the licence be granted? Can the Administration promise to finish the relevant work within this year and set a deadline for granting the formal licence?
- (b) At present, two companies (i.e. Hong Kong Television Entertainment Company Limited and Forever Top (Asia) Limited) have submitted applications for free television programme service licences. When will the Administration announce the results of the applications concerned? Can the Administration promise to finish the relevant work within this year?
- (c) Does the Administration have any measures to facilitate the development of local independent television production companies? If yes, what are the details? What is the expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

- (a) The Government announced on 15 October 2013 that the Chief Executive (CE) in Council had decided to grant approvals-in-principle to the applications for domestic free television programme service (free TV) licences from Fantastic Television Limited (Fantastic TV) and HK Television Entertainment Company Limited (HKTVE), but the formal licence grant was subject to the CE in Council's further review and final determination under the Broadcasting Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 562) at the second stage. In January 2015, the Communications Authority (CA) submitted to the CE in Council its recommendations on whether a free TV licence should be formally granted to Fantastic TV. Having taken into account the request of Fantastic TV, the CE in Council decided to further extend the deadline to 18 March 2016, granting Fantastic TV more time to provide supplementary information as required and invited the CA to consider any supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV, and to submit further recommendations to the CE in Council in respect of Fantastic TV's free TV licence application. The CA is examining the supplementary information submitted by Fantastic TV on 11 March 2016, with a view to submitting further views to the CE in Council.
- (b) The CA has completed its assessment of the application for a free TV licence, submitted by Hong Kong Television Network Limited (HKTVN) in April 2014, in accordance with the BO as well as established procedures and criteria, and submitted its recommendations in respect of the application to the CE in Council on 22 January 2016. The CE in Council will consider the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors in accordance with relevant legislation and established procedures before making a decision on HKTVN's application for a free TV licence submitted in April 2014.

The CA is now examining the application for a free TV licence submitted by Forever Top (Asia) Limited (Forever Top) in April 2015 in accordance with the BO as well as established procedures and criteria, which include conducting a six-week public consultation (from 21 August 2015 to 2 October 2015) on the application and requesting Forever Top to provide further information as required for examination by the CA. The time required for processing each application varies and depends on individual merits of the application and whether sufficient information is provided by the applicant. The CA will examine the application prudently and submit its recommendations to the CE in Council as soon as practicable.

- (c) In response to public requests for more independent local productions, when processing the applications for free TV licence renewal and new free TV licence, the Administration has required respectively Television Broadcasts Limited to provide independent local programmes on its free TV channels on an incremental basis from 20 hours per year in 2016 to 60 hours per year by 2020 and the new free TV licensee (i.e. HKTVE) to pledge to set up a \$300 million fund to develop and purchase independent local TV programmes, including dramas, variety shows, talk shows, documentaries and reality shows.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)037

(Question Serial No. 4750)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) When will the results of the survey on person-to-person telemarketing calls conducted in 2014-15 be made public?
- (b) Are there any concrete actions or budget for following up the relevant issues in 2016-17?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 53)

Reply:

To further grasp the latest situation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

The results of the survey have reflected the views of some members of the public and the industry as well as the latest situation of the industry. With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls. In 2016-17, we have earmarked around \$1.2 million for the purpose of conducting the public consultation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)038

(Question Serial No. 4766)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

One of the digital audio broadcasting (DAB) operators left the market last year. The Administration will “continue to monitor and to review the implementation of DAB services” in 2016-17. Regarding this work, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) In the past year, what is the number of DAB listeners? What is the signal coverage of the operators? What is the sale of DAB receivers?
- (b) What specific measures has the Administration taken in 2016-17 to promote the use of DAB services by the public and enhance public awareness of the advantages of DAB? What is the budget for these measures?
- (c) How many meetings were held by the Digital Audio Broadcasting Steering Committee (DABSC) in 2015? What specific plans the DABSC has for promoting DAB services?
- (d) How does the Administration assess the DAB penetration and performance? Will the Administration consider granting another DAB licence?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 69)

Reply:

- (a) We do not have the statistics on the number of digital audio broadcasting (DAB) listeners over the past year. According to a survey conducted by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) from August to September 2015, among the

listeners who have listened to DAB services in the past seven days and who are certain of the DAB channel they have listened to, the listening rate of RTHK's DAB channels is 23%.

DAB broadcasters have established transmission facilities on seven major hilltop sites. In addition, three gap-filler stations have already come into operation. The DAB network coverage is about 86.5%. Currently, DAB radios are being sold at shops selling audio-visual and electrical products.

- (b)&(c) Since the grant of sound broadcasting licences in March 2011 for the provision of DAB services, the Government has supported the development of DAB through the Digital Audio Broadcasting Steering Committee (DABSC). Members of the DABSC exchanged views through various channels. In 2015, the DABSC and its working groups held two meetings, and Members exchanged views through circulation of papers by email. We also maintained contact with the DAB licensees and met with them on occasions other than the DABSC meetings to discuss matters on the development of DAB services. In 2016-17, the Government will continue to take specific measures to promote DAB services through the DABSC, including co-operation with DAB operators to launch a new round of publicity campaigns in 2016 with a view to stepping up the promotion of DAB services and enhancing public awareness of the services concerned.
- (d) As one of the DAB licensees has left the market owing to commercial considerations and in view of the fact that the other DAB licensees have also indicated to us that they have encountered difficulties in their businesses, we are now reviewing the development of DAB in Hong Kong. The review will cover audience feedback and overseas experience in the development of DAB services with a view to assessing whether it is necessary to change the existing policy and proposing recommendations. We have earlier indicated that during the review, it is not appropriate from the policy perspective for the Government to consider granting a new licence. Since the Government may change the policy concerned following the review of the development of DAB, the applicants should be reminded of the risks of changes in policy as early as possible. However, if any application for sound broadcasting licence is received, the Administration will handle it in accordance with relevant legislation and established procedures.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)039

(Question Serial No. 3128)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget that (the Branch) analysed the results of the survey on person-to-person telemarketing calls and formulated the way forward. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the scope of the survey?
- (b) Are telemarketing calls categorised for the purpose of conducting the survey? If yes, please list the classifications.
- (c) When will the analysis of the survey be completed?
- (d) Will the results of the analysis be provided for the Legislative Council? If yes, what is the anticipated timetable?

Asked by: Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

To further grasp the latest situation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)040

(Question Serial No. 3129)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Bureau will monitor the Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee the following:

- (a) From its implementation to this financial year, what is the amount of funding and the number of cases received, accepted and completed?
- (b) The CCSS aims at resolving billing disputes. Will the Administration earmark provision to expand the scope of the CCSS to cover other customer complaints such as difficulty in terminating service plans from telecommunications service providers, being forced to purchase bundling packages, etc. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen (Member Question No. 51)

Reply:

The Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme (CCSS) aims to help resolve billing disputes in deadlock between consumers and their telecommunications service providers. The CCSS ran for a trial period of two years from November 2012 and its long-term implementation commenced on 1 May 2015 upon completion of the review.

- (a) The numbers of cases processed under the CCSS during its trial run and since its long-term implementation are as follows:

	(1st Trial Year) From November 2012 to October 2013	(2nd Trial Year) From November 2013 to October 2014	(Transitional Period) From November 2014 to April 2015	(Long-term Implementation) From May 2015 to February 2016
No. of cases meeting the eligibility criteria for admission under the CCSS	106	251	87	137
No. of cases settled before referral to the mediation service centre	75	84	34	67
No. of cases successfully settled after referral by OFCA to the mediation service centre for processing	31	166	52	63
No. of cases not settled	0	1	1	3
No. of cases pending mediation to be arranged by the mediation service centre	-	-	-	4
Percentage of eligible cases being settled (processed)	100%	99.6%	98.9%	97.7%

The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) supports the CCSS by providing administrative support and sponsoring the necessary funding for operating the CCSS. The expenditure involved is met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- (b) The CCSS aims to resolve billing disputes by means of mediation, helping to reach an agreement on the amount in dispute which is acceptable to both sides. For disputes related to service contracts such as those involving termination of service plans, practical experiences show that it will be more effective to promulgate relevant guidelines and codes of practice for telecommunications service providers to observe. In this connection, the industry has implemented the Industry Code of Practice for Telecommunications Service Contracts starting from July 2011, enabling consumers to enjoy more comprehensive protection when entering into telecommunications service contracts, which includes enhancing the clarity in contract terms and service charges as well as enhancing the arrangements for contract termination, contract renewal, unilateral variation of contract, relocation of services, etc.

Besides, trade practices (including sales of bundling packages) of telecommunications service providers are subject to the regulation under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO). If a consumer suspects that a telecommunications service provider has contravened the TDO, he/she may lodge a complaint to OFCA, and OFCA will take follow-up action in accordance with the legislation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)041

(Question Serial No. 3231)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many additional civil service Information Technology (IT) posts were applied for creation by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) to the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) over the past three years? How many of these posts applied for were approved by the CSB (please list by department, year and post title)?
- (b) What were the justifications of the CSB if the application requests of such IT posts were revised or rejected?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 39)

Reply:

- (a) The number of civil service posts approved for creation in the grades of information technology (IT) staff (the IT grades include (1) Analyst/Programmer; (2) Computer Operator and (3) Data Processor) in the Communications and Creative Industries Branch in the past three years is set out below :

Financial Year	Number of posts approved
2013-14	-
2014-15	-
2015-16	1

- (b) The Government's guiding principles for considering the creation of additional civil service posts are as follows: when the operational need is fully justified; and the work involved cannot be handled by streamlining the procedures, re-organisation, re-deployment of existing staff or any other means. The above principles are applicable across all the civil service grades, including the IT grades. Manpower in the IT grades will be increased as and when it is fully justified on the grounds of maintaining effective operation and addressing the manpower needs arising from new and improved services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)042****(Question Serial No. 5302)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In respect of the public relations expenditure of government departments, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The total expenditure of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) for publishing advertisements, sponsored content or advertorials in newspapers registered under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance in the past year as well as the relevant details:

Date of publish (Day/Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2016)	Government or public organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name and purpose of advertisement	Name of media organisation and newspaper	Frequency (as at 29 February 2016)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2016)

- (b) The expenditure of the CEDB(CCIB) for sponsoring local free-to-air television stations, paid television stations and radio stations to provide information and produce programmes or materials in the past year as well as the relevant details:

Date of broadcast (Day/Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/done)	Government or public	Name and purpose of	Media organisation	Frequency (as at 29 February 2016)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2016)
---------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------	---	---

	ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2016)	organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	advertisement		February 2016)	February 2016)

- (c) The media organisations which published or broadcast advertisements/sponsored content of the CEDB(CCIB) in the past three years, as well as the frequency and the total expenditure involved (in descending order of amount spent):

Name of media organisation	Frequency	Total expenditure (\$)

- (d) The websites/network platforms on which the CEDB(CCIB) published online advertisements/sponsored content in the past three years, as well as the frequency, the duration (days) and the total expenditure involved (tabulated in descending order of amount spent):

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, number of impressions and number of viewers	Total expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 76)

Reply:

- (a) The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) has not published advertisements, sponsored content or advertorials in newspapers registered under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance in the past year.
- (b) The expenditure of the CEDB(CCIB) for sponsoring local free-to-air television stations, paid television stations and radio stations to provide information and produce programmes or materials in the past year as well as the relevant details are as follows:

Date of broadcast (Day/Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2016)	Government or public organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name and purpose of advertisement	Media organisation	Frequency (as at 29 February 2016)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2016) (\$)
24/3/2015 – 3/4/2015	Done	Create Hong Kong	The second edition of the First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI): aims at promoting the FFFI and appealing to interested parties to join the FFFI	nowTV	51 times	98,000

- (c) Details of the media organisations which published or broadcast advertisements/sponsored content of the CEDB(CCIB) in the past three years, as well as the frequency and the total expenditure involved (in descending order of amount spent) are as follows:

Name of media organisation	Frequency	Total expenditure (\$)
Sky Post	7	195,000
Hong Kong Economic Times	7	128,189
Sing Tao Daily News	3	87,609
Oriental Daily News	1	62,300
South China Morning Post	1	50,674
Sudden Weekly	1	39,000
Ming Pao Daily News	1	33,320
Hong Kong Standard	3	31,800
AM730	2	26,900
UMagazine	1	26,000
Headline Daily	1	20,909
Milk Magazine	2	19,400
East Touch Magazine	1	10,000
Apple Daily	1	10,000
Cult Magazine	1	2,500

- (d) Details of the websites/network platforms on which the CEDB(CCIB) published online advertisements/sponsored content in the past three years, as well as the frequency, the duration (days) and the total expenditure involved (tabulated in descending order of amount spent) are as follows:

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, number of impressions and number of viewers	Total expenditure (\$)
Google	Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB)	1 time	56 days	Accumulated hit rate: 37 000 (Data on number of impressions and number of viewers not available)	300,000
Yahoo	DAB	1 time	56 days	Number of impressions: 13 000 000 (Data on hit rate and number of viewers not available)	299,538
Mobile Applications (1) HK Movie (2) HK Toolbar (3) Metro Radio (4) AM730	Promotion of the “Inspiration Sparks HK” project	(1) 1 time (2) 1 time (3) 2 times (4) 2 times	(1) 7 days (2) 7 days (3) 2 times; 14 days in total (4) 2 times; 28 days in total	Number of impressions: (1) 360 958 (2) 1 064 014 (3) 795 727 (4) 1 250 000 Accumulated hit rate: (1) 772 (2) 2 613 (3) 868 (4) 1 523 (Data on number of viewers not available)	100,000
Website: (1) Discuss (2) Uwants (3) Facebook	Promotion of the “Inspiration Sparks HK” project	(1) 2 times (2) 2 times (3) 2 times	(1) 2 times; 14 days in total (2) 2 times; 14 days in total (3) 2 times; 28 days in total	Number of impressions: (1) 642 601 (2) 1 385 416 (3) 7 738 090 Accumulated hit rate: (1) 408 (2) 699 (3) 1072 (Data on number of viewers not	50,000

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, number of impressions and number of viewers	Total expenditure (\$)
				available)	
Facebook	Mascot Design Competition	15 times	21 days	Number of impressions: 11 492 621 Accumulated hit rate: 25 523 (Data on number of viewers not available)	4,000

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)043****(Question Serial No. 5322)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) Please tabulate the details of the social media platforms set up and run by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) and its subvented agencies (including outsourced contractors or consultants) in 2015-16 (as at 29 February 2016).

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keeps on updating/ ceased updating)	CEDB(CCIB)/ Subvented organisations	Name	Social media platforms	Purpose of setting up (the platforms) and content	Number of 'Likes'/'subscribers'/ average monthly visits	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/No)	Average daily messages posted and interaction per message (number of 'Likes', responses and shares in total)	Rank and number of officers responsible for the operation	Expenditure involved in setting up (the platforms) and daily operation

- (b) Please provide the number of deleted messages and blocked accounts on the above social media platforms.

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 96)

Reply:

- (a) The details of the social media platforms set up and run by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) in 2015-16 (as at 29 February 2016) are as follows:

--

Commencement date (month/year)	Status (keeps on updating/ceased updating)	CEDB(CCIB) /its subvented agencies	Name	Social media platforms	Purpose of establishment and contents	No. of "likes"/ subscribers/ average monthly visits	Regular compilation of summary of comments and follow-up (yes/no)	Average no. of posts per day and average no. of interactions per post (total no. of "likes", comments and shares)	Ranks and no. of officers responsible for running the platforms	Expenditure for setting up the platforms and daily operational expenses
12/2010	Keeps on updating	Hong Kong Film Development Council (HKFDC)*	HKFDC	Facebook	To publicise the activities related to the HKFDC	No. of "Likes"/ Subscribers: 308 Average monthly visits: 818	No	Average no. of posts per day: 0.05 Average no. of interaction per post: 4	1 Personal Secretary I (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with Create Hong Kong (CreateHK)'s existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
11/2011	Ceased updating	CreateHK	Hong Kong - Asia's Creative Capital	Facebook	To promote the work of CreateHK	No. of "Likes": 1 065	Ceased updating	Average no. of posts per day: 0.28 Average no. of interaction per post: 3	1 Assistant Trade Officer II (ATOII) (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with CreateHK's existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
11/2011	Ceased updating	CreateHK	Hong Kong - Asia's	Sina Weibo	To promote the work of	No. of fans: 476	Ceased updating	Average no. of posts	1 ATOII (in addition	Implemented with CreateHK's existing

Commencement date (month/year)	Status (keeps on updating/ceased updating)	CEDB(CCIB) /its subvented agencies	Name	Social media platforms	Purpose of establishment and contents	No. of "likes"/ subscribers/ average monthly visits	Regular compilation of summary of comments and follow-up (yes/no)	Average no. of posts per day and average no. of interactions per post (total no. of "likes", comments and shares)	Ranks and no. of officers responsible for running the platforms	Expenditure for setting up the platforms and daily operational expenses
			Creative Capital		CreateHK			per day: 0.2 Average no. of interaction per post: 0	to other duties)	manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
11/2011	Ceased updating	CreateHK	Hong Kong - Creative Capital	Twitter	To promote the work of CreateHK	No. of subscribers: 51	Ceased updating	Figures for 2015-16 not available in the system	1 ATOII (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with CreateHK's existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
4/2012	Ceased updating	CreateHK	Hong Kong - Asia's Creative Capital	Youku	To showcase promotional videos produced by CreateHK	No. of subscribers: 12 No. of video	Ceased updating	Figures for 2015-16 not available in the system	1 ATOII (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with CreateHK's existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not

Commencement date (month/year)	Status (keeps on updating/ceased updating)	CEDB(CCIB) /its subvented agencies	Name	Social media platforms	Purpose of establishment and contents	No. of “likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits	Regular compilation of summary of comments and follow-up (yes/no)	Average no. of posts per day and average no. of interactions per post (total no. of “likes”, comments and shares)	Ranks and no. of officers responsible for running the platforms	Expenditure for setting up the platforms and daily operational expenses
						broadcast: 2 436				possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
4/2012	Keeps on updating	CreateHK	CreateHK	YouTube	To showcase promotional videos produced by CreateHK	No. of subscribers: 88 No. of views: 17 053	No	Average no. of posts per day: 0.02 Average no. of interaction per post: 0	1 ATOII (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with CreateHK’s existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation of the social media.
8/2014	Keeps on updating	CreateHK	CreateHK’s First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI)	YouTube	To share the news of the FFFI-related persons and matters	No. of subscribers: 13 No. of views: 3 086	No	Average no. of posts per day: 0.03 Average no. of interaction	1 Entertainment Standards Control Officer (in addition to other duties)	Implemented with CreateHK’s existing manpower and resources and no additional resources are involved. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the financial resources involved in the

Commencement date (month/year)	Status (keeps on updating/ceased updating)	CEDB(CCIB) /its subvented agencies	Name	Social media platforms	Purpose of establishment and contents	No. of "likes"/ subscribers/ average monthly visits	Regular compilation of summary of comments and follow-up (yes/no)	Average no. of posts per day and average no. of interactions per post (total no. of "likes", comments and shares)	Ranks and no. of officers responsible for running the platforms	Expenditure for setting up the platforms and daily operational expenses
								per post: 1.5		establishment and daily operation of the social media.

* The HKFDC is an advisory body under the CEDB, the main role of which is to advise the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on the policy, strategy and institutional arrangement for the promotion and development of the film industry, as well as the use of public funds to support the industry.

(b) There is no deleted message or blocked account on the above social media platforms.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)044

(Question Serial No. 5341)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 68 of the Budget Speech that the Government will inject \$400 million into the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) with priority given to supporting start-ups and nurturing talents. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many job opportunities and nurturing opportunities for creative talents and start-ups have been created under the CSI over the past five years? By what means did the Administration assess the effectiveness of the scheme? Has it adopted any performance indicators? If it is assessed, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the timetable for and the manpower and resources involved in conducting the assessment in future?
- (b) What are the details of the outcome of the review on the administration and the way forward of the CSI envisaged to be completed in the middle of last year? How the new injection will be allocated to the following three areas: (a) nurturing talents and facilitating start-ups; (b) exploring markets; and (c) fostering a creative atmosphere?
- (c) What are the locations, number of participants and details of the work attachment in overseas countries provided through the CSI in the past three years?
- (d) It is estimated that how many opportunities of on-the-job training, overseas work attachment and further study, job, creative talents and start-ups nurtured will be increased by the new injection?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 128)

Reply:

- (a) Since the launch of the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) in June 2009 and up to end December 2015, the numbers of job opportunities created and nurturing opportunities offered to creative talents and start-ups as generated by CSI-funded projects are listed in the following table:

(i)	Number of directly created job opportunities	Approx. 1 840
(ii)	Number of indirectly created job opportunities	Approx. 8 400
(iii)	Number of nurturing opportunities created for creative talents and start-ups	Approx. 32 500

Remarks:

- (1) Directly created job opportunities refer to the job opportunities created by projects under the financial support of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK).
- (2) Indirectly created job opportunities refer to the additional job opportunities generated by the projects concerned but out of the scope of CreateHK's financial support. It is an estimated figure. The expenditure incurred due to these additional job opportunities was borne by the projects organisers concerned.

Apart from performance indicators, CreateHK all along has been assessing the effectiveness of the projects by means of questionnaire survey to evaluate participants' satisfaction level towards the events organised under the CSI-funded projects. As at end December 2015, major findings of the questionnaire survey are as follows:

(i)	Percentage of respondents who rated the activities/programmes as "Excellent", "Very satisfactory" or "Satisfactory"	97%
(ii)	Percentage of respondents who rated the duration/format/content /publicity/participation fee of the activities/programmes as "Excellent", "Very satisfactory" or "Satisfactory"	93% - 97%
(iii)	Percentage of respondents who considered the activities/programmes help achieve the following objectives: <i>Enhance Knowledge in the Business, Expand Contact Network, Explore New Business Opportunities, Better Understand the Industry's Position in the Global Markets, Broaden the Scope about the Industry</i>	79% - 90%
(iv)	Percentage of respondents who rated the activities/programmes as "Definitely Useful", "Very Useful" and "Useful"	91%

Remarks: Number of respondents: over 56 000

CreateHK has been deploying existing manpower to process and analyse the data submitted by the project applicants and information provided by the project participants through the questionnaires for compiling the performance indicators of the CSI. The expenditure involved is mainly emoluments of the staff concerned, which has been included in the overall expenditure of the Communications and Creative

Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau without a separate breakdown of expenditure.

- (b) CreateHK has completed a comprehensive review to evaluate the merits of the CSI. Questionnaire surveys and focus group discussions to gauge the views of major stakeholders were conducted to review the administration and the way forward of the CSI. Regarding the administration of the CSI, members of the CSI Vetting Committee and industry and trade organisations generally considered that the current approval mechanism and assessment criteria are reasonable and practical. CreateHK has also reviewed the procedures of assessing funding applications as well as the management and monitoring of approved CSI projects. Specifically, the review recommended improvement measures such as enhancing application guidelines, modifying the disbursement pattern of CSI funding, expanding the scope of allowable cost items, etc. Besides, the application and control procedures will be clarified so as to facilitate smooth implementation of the approved projects.

The review also reflected that most of the respondents considered the CSI effective, particularly in terms of nurturing creative talents. The CSI will continue to support projects that are conducive to further developing creative industries. Apart from continuing with the prevailing market-driven approach in allocating the CSI funding, the Government will accord priorities to certain types of projects so as to make more strategic use of the limited resources available and tie in with the Government's directions in promoting the development of creative industries. In the next few years, we will seek to encourage or accord priority where appropriate to those projects which focus on nurturing of talents, start-up incubation, promotion of Hong Kong designers and brands, etc. with a view to building up a nurture-based progressive ladder of the CSI-funded programmes. We briefed the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting in July 2015 on the report on the review of the CSI and details of injection another \$400 million into the CSI.

Through the 2016-17 Budget, we will inject \$400 million into the CSI. We will continue with the prevailing market-driven approach in allocating the CSI funding. The industry may submit applications for funding from the CSI according to their individual needs and the approval of funding applications will be determined on their individual merits. The Government will not pre-set a ratio for resources to be allocated to various areas. However, in order to tie in with the Government's directions in promoting the development of creative industries, we will accord priorities to certain types of projects to make more strategic use of the limited resources available. For example, we will earmark dedicated funding to support the Design Incubation Programme (DIP) and the Fashion Incubation Programme (FIP) (\$106.5 million) as well as the Business of Design Week and the DFA Awards (\$60 million).

- (c) In the past three years, a total of 17 young designers were sponsored by the CSI to undergo overseas work attachment. Each received a funding of either \$250,000 or \$500,000 for work attachments lasting for 6 to 12 months at famous overseas design firms, studios or design museums so as to acquire new perspectives and learn about the latest trend in design. Locations of the work attachments included the Mainland of

China, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, the United States, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand.

In view of the satisfactory performance of the above-mentioned scheme, the Government has increased the quota of sponsoring young designers and design graduates to undergo overseas work attachment or further study from 4 to 12 since 2014. The Government will keep in view and adjust the quota as and when required.

- (d) The CSI-funded projects are initiated and implemented by the industry while the Government provides financial support. As the CSI-funded projects are mainly market-driven and the actual content of the projects will depend on specific applications, we cannot provide estimation on the number requested in the question at this stage. However, we believe that, generally speaking, the opportunities of on-the-job training, overseas work attachment and further study, jobs, nurturing creative talents and start-ups will increase. For instance, the new injection will be allocated to support the new phase of the DIP. We plan to increase the average annual intake from the current 20 incubatees to 30 incubatees in the coming three financial years from 2016-17 to 2018-19. The overall target is to admit 90 additional incubatees within three years, which represents an increase of 50% in the scale of intake against the current phase of the DIP. Moreover, the FIP supported by the new injection is a newly launched programme and will provide incubation service for up-and-coming fashion designers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)045

(Question Serial No. 5355)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Over the years, quite a number of schools and residents in remote areas such as outlying islands and villages in the New Territories have been requesting the Government to help establishing fixed broadband networks. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Whether the Administration has taken any specific measure in 2015-16 to promote the development of broadband networks in remote areas? What are the specific work and the expenditure?
- (b) Whether the Administration has compiled statistics on the needs of residents in various areas for fixed broadband networks and encouraged operators to explore feasible options with a view to enhancing the penetration rate of the broadband Internet access services in remote areas and the territory? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) Did the Administration receive any applications from service operators for establishing fixed broadband networks in remote areas and requests from residents living in these areas for such services over the past three years? What are the details and the number of applications received? What are the reasons for rejecting the applications?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 145)

Reply:

- (a) With a view to encouraging fixed network operators (FNOs) to invest in network

expansion, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has all along been committed to offering facilitation measures, including assisting the FNOs in rolling out network across public streets, government-owned bridges and tunnels, etc., explaining to the public the responsibilities and duties of the FNOs and the advantages that would bring to the public in respect of network rollout, and assigning radio spectrum for the development of wireless fixed broadband services so as to enhance broadband network coverage in rural and remote areas. The expenditure involved is absorbed by existing resources of OFCA.

(b) and (c)

With the full liberalisation of the telecommunications market in Hong Kong, the provision of all fixed broadband service is determined by market competition. The FNOs are not required to report the number or details of the applications for service received to the Communications Authority (CA). The number of enquiries OFCA received from the public on fixed broadband network coverage and choices of broadband services (including the enquiries from the public living in rural and remote areas) over the past three years are 59, 48 and 58 respectively. OFCA has relayed the enquiries to major FNOs for planning their network expansion and encouraged them to explore feasible options to enhance the network coverage in these areas. To our understanding, at least three FNOs, two of which are the existing FNOs, are actively building fibre networks in rural and remote areas so as to provide higher speed broadband services. The other one is a new FNO, which obtained the CA's approval last year for amending its unified carrier licence, such that it is able to use radio spectrum to provide wireless fixed broadband services in rural and remote areas. The network coverage proposed by that FNO spans across 114 villages in New Territories East, New Territories West, North District and outlying islands, including some of the rural and remote areas mentioned by individual groups before.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)046

(Question Serial No. 5357)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On the handling of complaints concerning telecommunications services by the Communications Authority (CA), please advise of the following:

- (a) The manpower and expenditure involved in handling complaints concerning telecommunications services by the CA in 2015-16.
- (b) The number of complaints concerning telecommunications services received by the CA over the past three years (broken down by the type of complaints); and
- (c) Of the figures in (b), the number of complaints handled by the CA (broken down by the type of complaints).

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 148)

Reply:

Telecommunications services are widely available to consumers in Hong Kong and have become an integral part of their daily lives. The Communications Authority (CA) receives enquiries and complaints concerning telecommunications services from the public from time to time. The authority of the CA to regulate the telecommunications industry is derived from the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) and the licence conditions. Where there is evidence indicating that an operator may have breached the TO and/or the licence conditions, the CA will conduct an investigation. In cases where there is sufficient evidence to substantiate a breach of the relevant ordinance or conditions, the CA will take regulatory action against the operator concerned.

The TO and the licence conditions do not empower the CA to arbitrate in the disputes between service operators and their customers over service quality, billing and contractual matters.

- (a) The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has set up the Consumer Affairs Division, which comprises ten staff members*, for handling consumer complaints against telecommunications services operators/suppliers, and compiling statistics and trends related to various types of complaints for reference by the CA's management with a view to facilitating the review and formulation of relevant regulatory measures. The expenditure involved is met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- (b) The number of complaints concerning telecommunications services received by the CA over the past three years, broken down by the type of complaints, is set out below:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Billing disputes	954	1,049	548
Service quality (e.g. quality of network services, quality of customer services, etc.)	1 447	1 127	929
Contractual disputes (including disputes over termination of service contracts)	894	588	458
Others (e.g. service disruption and telephone number porting matters)	1 008	663	636
Total	4 303	3 427	2 571

- (c) The above-mentioned complaints on telecommunications services mainly concern disputes between service operators and their customers over service quality, billing and contractual matters. As mentioned above, the CA has no relevant statutory authority to arbitrate in such disputes.

After receiving complaints from the consumers concerned, OFCA will, in accordance with the prevailing procedures for handling consumer complaints** and with the consent of the complainants, refer them to the operators concerned and ask the operators to reply to the complainants directly for resolution. OFCA will closely monitor the follow-up action and replies of the operators. Based on past experience, except for cases which could not be further processed because the complainants were unable to provide adequate information, or did not agree to authorise OFCA to

disclose case information or refer the cases to the operators concerned, most of the cases have been handled properly.

- * The establishment comprises one Head, two Managers, six Officers and one Administrative Assistant.
- ** The CA has established the mechanism and procedures for handling complaints against telecommunications service operators from the public. For details, please refer to the CA's website.
(<http://www.coms-auth.hk/en/complaints/procedures/telecomm/index.html>).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)047

(Question Serial No. 5358)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On the handling of complaints relating to broadcasting services by the Communications Authority (CA), please advise of the following:

- (a) The manpower and expenditure involved in handling complaints relating to broadcasting services by the CA in 2015-16.
- (b) The number of complaints relating to broadcasting services received by the CA over the past three years (broken down by types of complaints); and
- (c) Of the figures in (b), the number of cases handled by the CA (broken down by types of complaints).

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 149)

Reply:

- (a) The manpower and expenditure involved in handling complaints relating to broadcasting services by the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) were met by the OFCA Trading Fund.
- (b)&(c) The Communications Authority (CA) handles all complaints relating to broadcasting services in accordance with the Broadcasting (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance and the established procedures.

Over the past three years (i.e. from 2013 to 2015), the CA has handled a total of 63 681 complaints* relating to broadcasting services, involving 7 725 cases**.

Of the above-mentioned 7 725 cases handled, the major areas of complaints included programme contents being inaccurate and misleading (about 18%), being partial (about 14%), amounting to indirect advertising (about 7 %), containing crude language (about 4%), being not suitable for children (about 4%), involving denigrating or insulting remarks (about 4%),etc.

- * Number of complaints includes a single complaint against different broadcasting service licensees or different issues in individual programmes. Number of complaints excludes complaints falling outside the statutory ambit of the CA, e.g. complaints about the technical problem of individual households' reception devices.
- ** Complaints with similar allegations against the same issue or broadcast material are handled together and counted as a single case. Of the 7 725 cases handled over the past three years, there were cases which involved a large number of complaints, including one involving more than 27 000 complaints.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)048

(Question Serial No. 5360)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the enforcement of the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (UEMO), please advise of the following:

- (a) What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the enforcement of the UEMO in 2015-16?
- (b) In 2015-16, what are the respective numbers of advisory letters, warning letters, enforcement notices issued and prosecution cases initiated by the Communications Authority to message senders who were found to be, or were likely to have been, in breach of the UEMO?
- (c) In 2015-16, did the Administration review the UEMO so as to keep pace with the latest technological development, examine the effectiveness of the enforcement of the UEMO and improve the reporting and investigation procedures, and establish a do-not-call register for person-to-person telemarketing calls under the UEMO? If yes, what are the specific schedule, staffing arrangement and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 151)

Reply:

- (a) The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has been delegated by the Communications Authority (CA) the powers to enforce the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (UEMO) (Cap. 593). At present, there are 12 staff members in

OFCA responsible for taking enforcement action under the UEMO. The expenditure involved is met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- (b) In general, if OFCA discovers after investigation that a person has contravened the rules of sending commercial electronic messages set out under the UEMO, it will consider issuing an advisory letter or a warning letter to that person. According to OFCA's past experience in handling the complaint cases, most complained senders would be willing to take remedial action immediately upon approach by OFCA. If the sender concerned has taken remedial action, OFCA will not exercise the powers delegated by the CA to issue an enforcement notice for that case. However, OFCA will consider issuing an enforcement notice to the sender concerned if it is of the view that the contravention will likely continue or be repeated. According to the UEMO, any person who contravenes an enforcement notice served on him commits an offence and is liable to prosecution.

The numbers of advisory letters, warning letters and enforcement notices issued and prosecution instigated by OFCA for the period from April 2015 to February 2016 are as follows:

	Number
Advisory letter	106
Warning letter	22
Enforcement notice	2
Prosecution	0

- (c) Since the full implementation of the UEMO, the number of reports received by OFCA has dropped substantially from some 8 000 in 2008 to about 2 100 in 2015, indicating that the implementation of the UEMO has been effective to a certain extent. OFCA has been continuously monitoring the situation of the sending of unsolicited commercial electronic messages and streamlined the procedures for more effective enforcement. The existing UEMO adopts a technology-neutral approach in regulating the sending of commercial electronic messages. This means that the sending of all commercial electronic messages are regulated by the UEMO, regardless of the type of telecommunications devices, electronic technologies or methods (including some mobile messaging applications) adopted in sending such messages. This approach ensures that we are able to keep pace with the technological development and regulate the sending of all kinds of commercial electronic messages transmitted through the public telecommunications network.

However, like law enforcement agencies in other jurisdictions combating spamming, OFCA faces difficulties in law enforcement when handling electronic messages sent from overseas. In this connection, OFCA has established a bilateral reporting referral

channel with the law enforcement agencies in the Mainland, Japan, South Korea, Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom, etc. to combat the problem of cross-border e-mail spamming. OFCA has also joined the London Action Plan, an organisation comprising law enforcement agencies worldwide aiming at promoting international co-operation in issues such as combating the problem of spamming of e-mails and other commercial electronic messages. Through the London Action Plan, OFCA expanded its connections to work together with more overseas law enforcement agencies in tackling the spamming problem of commercial electronic messages sent from overseas to Hong Kong.

We also review the operation of the UEMO from time to time and amended the provision relating to service of specified notices in December 2014 to provide greater flexibility in the methods of serving notices. This enhances the effectiveness of the enforcement mechanism under the UEMO.

Besides, OFCA reviews its workload regularly and arranges adequate manpower to handle the investigation and enforcement work. The expenditure involved will be met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

On person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

The findings of the survey have reflected the views of some members of the public and the industry as well as the latest situation of the industry. With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls. In 2016-17, we have earmarked around \$1.2 million for the purpose of conducting the public consultation. The workload involved will be absorbed by the existing manpower of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)049

(Question Serial No. 5361)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) services, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the latest DDT coverage of Hong Kong's population?
- (b) What are the expenditure of the work and the projects undertaken by the Government in 2015-16 to increase the DDT coverage?
- (c) What specific measures will the Government adopt to expedite the progress of the work before formally switching off analogue broadcasting? What are the work plan, schedule, staffing arrangement and estimated expenditure envisaged for this year?
- (d) Whether the Administration will allocate resources to facilitate the migration to digital broadcasting, assign the released spectrum through auction or conduct a consultancy study? If yes, what are the work plan, schedule, staffing arrangement and estimated expenditure envisaged for this year?
- (e) Has the Administration assessed the economic implications of the deferral of the switch-off of analogue television broadcasting on "digital dividend"? If yes, what are the relevant figures?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 152)

Reply:

- (a)&(b) By September 2013, the coverage of digital terrestrial television (DTT) services

already reached at least 99% of Hong Kong's population, on a par with that of analogue television (TV). The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) will continue to study and explore, together with concerned TV operators, practical and cost-effective ways to enhance DTT coverage in areas where TV signals cannot be received or where reception is poor.

- (c)&(d) The Government had earlier decided to revise the working target of switching off analogue TV services (ASO) to end 2020. Before ASO, we will continue to deploy internal resources to continue to promote DTT to the public so as to enhance the penetration rate. We will also continue to co-ordinate with the Mainland authorities on the utilisation of spectrum to ensure a smooth migration of terrestrial TV service from analogue broadcasting to digital broadcasting.
- (e) At present, at least 572 MHz of spectrum has already been assigned for mobile telecommunications services. With the continued expansion of network capacity by the operators and the enhanced efficiency of spectrum usage by adopting new techniques, the spectrum resources already assigned will be sufficient to meet the demand for mobile telecommunications services in the next few years. We do not think that the decision to revise the ASO work target to end 2020 will have any significant economic implications.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)050

(Question Serial No. 5363)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in Programme (2) that the Government plans to implement a spectrum utilisation fees charging scheme for administratively assigned spectrum. In this connection, please advise of the following:

- (a) Has the Administration estimated the economic value of all such spectrum? If yes, what is the value?
- (b) The free television programme service provided by Asia Television Limited (ATV) will cease on 1 April 2016 at the latest. The single frequency network (SFN) multiplex 37 held by ATV has not yet assigned to any television services provider. What is the cost of running the SFN multiplex 37? If the SFN multiplex 37 is to be left idle, what is the economic loss involved? Does the Government have any plan for the spectrum concerned?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 154)

Reply:

- (a) The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and the former Office of the Telecommunications Authority (now the Office of the Communications Authority) issued a joint statement on 23 September 2011, stating the arrangement for charging spectrum utilization fee (SUF) for administratively assigned spectrum. According to the arrangement, if the utilization rate of administratively assigned spectrum is 75% or above, SUF would be imposed. The frequency bands concerned include those allocated for use for fixed links, Electronic News Gathering/Outside Broadcast links and certain satellite links. These bands were neither auctioned nor traded. Their

value may normally share only a small portion of a company's value, and such portions among different companies are expected to differ. Hence, there is no reference point about their value in the market. In this connection, based on the recommendations of the consultant, the Administration has used the Least Cost Alternative approach to set the level of SUF, rather than charging SUF based on the economic value of spectrum. Therefore the estimation of the economic value of the spectrum concerned is not made.

- (b) To ensure the efficient allocation and use of broadcasting spectrum, the CA considers that only domestic free television programme service (free TV) licensee under the Broadcasting Ordinance should be eligible for assignment of spectrum, as only they are in a ready position to effectively and efficiently use that spectrum for the benefit of the viewing public. In addition, as a general principle, subject to the availability of spectrum, free TV licensees should be assigned such amount of broadcasting spectrum as is commensurate with, and no more than what is required to meet, their respective licensed service needs. Such licensed service needs would be measured primarily in terms of a free TV licensee's licensed service programme channel line-up. Based on the above eligibility and criterion for assignment of spectrum, the CA has assigned spectrum to two free TV licensees, i.e. Television Broadcasts Limited whose licence has just been renewed, and HK Television Entertainment Company Limited (HKTVE) which has been granted a new licence, for the provision of their respective free TV services.

The CA will consider assignment of that single frequency network (SFN) multiplex on a case-by-case basis to the new free TV licensee, having regard to all relevant factors and the above eligibility and criterion for assignment of spectrum. Following HKTVE, so far, no operator has been granted a new licence and thus eligible for assignment of spectrum for the provision of free TV service. Hence, there would be no question of incurring economic loss by the SFN multiplex concerned pending assignment.

The CA does not have information on the cost of running the SFN multiplex concerned by Asia Television Limited.

End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)051

(Question Serial No. 5364)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Under Programme (2), there is a substantial increase of 46.4% in the estimated expenditure for 2016-17 against the revised estimate for 2015-16. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the reasons for the substantial increase in the budget?
- (b) What are the content, specific schedule, staffing arrangement and expenditure of the preparatory work for the review of the Broadcasting Ordinance (BO) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) in 2015-16,?
- (c) What are the work plan, schedule, staffing arrangement and estimated expenditure for the review of the BO and TO in 2016-17?
- (d) Has the Administration studied the merger of these two Ordinances? If yes, what are the progress, target, schedule and expenditure of the study?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 155)

Reply:

- (a) The estimated expenditure under Programme (2) Telecommunications for 2016-17 is 46.4% (\$7 million) higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. This is mainly due to the increased provision for the consultation on person-to-person telemarketing calls as well as the planned consultancy study on

telecommunications infrastructure capacity in Hong Kong, and the creation of four posts.

- (b)-(d) We plan to set up a team in 2016-17 for a period of three years to review the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106). The team will comprise six posts, which are all additional posts, including two directorate posts (one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B and one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and four non-directorate posts (one Senior Executive Officer, two Personal Secretary I and one Assistant Clerical Officer). The emoluments of these additional posts will carry an annual total cost of about \$6.22 million. The relevant departmental expenses will be around \$2.3 million annually, and one-off expenditure will be about \$0.9 million. There is no relevant expenditure in 2015-16 as the team has not yet been set up.

As far as the two supernumerary directorate posts are concerned, having secured the support of Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting in November last year for the proposed creation of the posts, we will submit the proposal to the LegCo Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee for consideration in due course. The expenditure involved will be absorbed by existing resources.

The review team, upon its establishment, will formulate a plan on the review and the relevant timetable, and proceed with the review immediately. At this stage, it is difficult to give a realistic estimate of how much time will be required to complete the review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)052

(Question Serial No. 5365)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Licensing matters were mentioned in Programme (1). Regarding the processing of the applications for renewal of the sound broadcasting licences from Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro), will the Administration advise of the following:

- (a) What are the work plan, schedule, staffing arrangement and expenditure relating to the applications for renewal of the sound broadcasting licences in 2015-16?
- (b) The Communications Authority (CA) has indicated that it submitted its recommendations on the relevant licence renewal applications to the Chief Executive in Council on 15 May 2015. More than nine months have passed since then. What remaining work has been done on these recommendations from the CA and what is the expenditure involved?
- (c) What are the reasons for not yet announcing to the public the results of the applications for renewal of the sound broadcasting licences from CRHK and Metro?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 157)

Reply:

Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) and Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) submitted their analogue sound broadcasting licence renewal applications (the Licence Renewal Applications) to the Communications Authority (CA) on 31 July 2014 and 25 August 2014 respectively. The CA submitted its recommendations on the Licence Renewal Applications to the Chief Executive (CE) in Council in accordance

with the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) (Cap. 106) on 15 May 2015. On 22 March 2016, the CE in Council, having regard to the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors, and in accordance with the TO and established procedures, decided to renew the analogue sound broadcasting licences of CRHK and Metro for 12 years (from 26 August 2016 to 25 August 2028 (both dates inclusive)).

The workload involved in assisting the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to sound broadcasting services will be absorbed by existing resources. No separate breakdown of expenditure is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)053

(Question Serial No. 5741)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) Please provide, in table form, the number of requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) and its subvented organisations in 2015-16 as well as the relevant details:

Bureau/ Department/ Organisation	Number of requests received	Information involved (items)	Number of requests being handled	Number of requests in which all information was provided	Number of requests in which part of the information was provided	Average number of days taken to handle the requests (working days)

- (b) The three pieces of information most frequently requested by the public and the number of such requests;
- (c) The five requests for information which took the longest time to handle, the number of days taken to handle such requests and the reasons; and
- (d) The content of the requests refused, the reasons for the refusal and the number of requests for reviews lodged by the public.

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 176)

Reply:

- (a) Details of the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) from January to September 2015 are as follows:

Bureau/ Department/ Organisation	Number of requests received	Information involved (items)	Number of requests being handled	Number of requests in which all information was provided	Number of requests in which part of the information was provided	Average number of days taken to handle the requests (days)
CEDB(CCIB)	2	2	0	2	0	14

- (b) The information requested in the cases received by this Branch varies, and there is no duplication of the content.
- (c) All the requests for information under the Code were handled by this Branch within the target response time (i.e. 21 days) as set out in the Code.
- (d) This Branch had not refused any requests for information received during the said period.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)054

(Question Serial No. 5745)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the processing of the applications for renewals of the domestic free television programme service (free TV) licences, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) The Communications Authority (CA) conducted a public consultation on the application for a free TV licence from the Forever Top (Asia) Limited (Forever Top) in August last year. What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (b) Regarding the consultation mentioned in (a), what is the total number of responses/submissions received? Did the responses/submissions received tend to support or object to Forever Top's application?
- (c) When will the CA make recommendations to the Chief Executive in Council in respect of Forever Top's application?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 180)

Reply:

- (a) The Communications Authority (CA) has conducted a six-week public consultation on the application for a domestic free television programme service (free TV) licence from the Forever Top (Asia) Limited (Forever Top) submitted in April 2015. The expenditure of the consultation was met by the Office of the Communications Authority Trading Fund.

- (b) The CA received around 400 submissions during the consultation period. The CA will publish the public views collected when the Government announces the decision of the Chief Executive (CE) in Council in respect of Forever Top's application.
- (c) The CA is now examining the application for a free TV licence submitted by Forever Top in accordance with the Broadcasting Ordinance as well as established procedures and criteria, which include conducting a six-week public consultation on the application and requesting Forever Top to provide further information as required for examination by the CA. The time required for processing each application varies and depends on individual merits of the application and whether sufficient information is provided by the applicant. The CA will examine the application prudently and submit its recommendations to the CE in Council as soon as practicable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)055

(Question Serial No. 2268)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-17, has the Government earmarked funds for the purpose of studying options for opening up the airwaves? If yes, what is the amount of funds set aside? Please list the estimated expenditure items. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 32)

Reply:

The formulation of policy on radio spectrum used for broadcasting purposes is part of our regular duties. The relevant expenditure is covered by Head 55 without an itemised breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)056

(Question Serial No. 2269)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the safety of mobile phones, has the Government set aside any resources in 2016-17 to study the setting up of a centralised reporting system through which lost mobile phones can be traced using their International Mobile Equipment Identity numbers so as to protect the interest of users? If yes, what is the amount of funds set aside and what are the estimated expenditure items? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 33)

Reply:

The use of International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers to verify and identify stolen mobile phones to deter theft and snatching of them comes with various technical problems. These include: IMEI numbers can be changed, some mobile phones are not embedded with valid IMEI numbers (e.g. all mobile phones manufactured in the same lot share the same IMEI number or are embedded with non-unique IMEI number), and the lost mobile phones may be shipped out of Hong Kong for use.

The Government does not have plans to set up the said centralised reporting system and this Bureau has not earmarked funds for the purpose of providing technical support for such a reporting system.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)057

(Question Serial No. 5031)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding matters on domestic free television programme service (free TV) licences, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of the work relating to free TV licences in 2015-16? And what is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the details of the work relating to free TV licences in 2016-17? And what is the expenditure involved?
- (c) What is the progress in processing the application of Hong Kong Television Network Limited for a free TV licence? When will the Administration announce the outcome of the application?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) assisted in the licensing and regulatory matters in relation to the domestic free television programme (free TV) services in 2015-16 and will continue the relevant work in 2016-17. The supporting work involved will be absorbed by existing resources without a separate breakdown of expenditure.
- (c) The Communications Authority (CA) has completed its assessment of the application for a free TV licence submitted in April 2014 by Hong Kong

Television Network Limited (HKTVN) in accordance with the Broadcasting Ordinance and established procedures, and submitted its recommendations in respect of the application to the Chief Executive (CE) in Council on 22 January 2016. The CE in Council will consider the CA's recommendations and all relevant factors in accordance with relevant legislation and established procedures before making a decision on HKTVN's application for a free TV licence submitted in April 2014.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)058

(Question Serial No. 5032)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding matters on sound broadcasting licensees, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of complaints involving the above licensees received by the Administration in each of the past three years;
- (b) the major areas and alleged breach of legislation of the complaints in each of the past three years; and
- (c) the details of sanctions imposed by the Administration on the offending licensees, including warnings issued and financial penalties imposed in each of the past three years.

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

- (a) In the past three years, the number of complaints involving sound broadcasting licensees received by the Communications Authority (CA) is as follows -

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of complaints* (Number of cases involved**)	2 526*** (154)	922 (343)	119 (106)

* Number of complaints includes single complaint against multiple broadcasting service licensees.
Number of complaints excludes complaints falling outside the statutory ambit of the CA, e.g. complaints about the technical problem of individual households' reception devices.

** Complaints with similar allegations against the same issue or broadcast material are handled together and counted as a single case.

*** One of the cases involved more than 2 200 complaints.

(b) In the past three years, the major areas of complaints involving sound broadcasting licensees were programme contents in breach of the relevant provisions of the Radio Code of Practice on Programme Standards or the Radio Code of Practice on Advertising Standards, which mainly included:

- (i) programme contents which were partial, inaccurate and misleading;
- (ii) programme contents which amounted to indirect advertising; or
- (iii) programmes which were of bad taste, or the remarks which were considered to be denigrating or insulting individual person or group.

(c) In the past three years, the CA imposed sanctions against the sound broadcasting licensees on the following substantiated complaint cases#:

Year	Minor Breaches ##	Advice	Strong Advice	Warning	Serious Warning	Financial Penalties	Total
2013	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
2014	6	0	0	1	0	0	7
2015	3	1	1	1	0	0	6

The figures exclude cases which are not initiated by complaints but in which the CA imposed sanctions on the offending licensees after investigation (e.g. failure to pay the licence fees in accordance with relevant legislation).

Cases of minor breaches mainly relate to inaccurate contents of radio programmes of which the impact was minor, such as inaccurate information in news programmes and minor errors in weather reports.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)059

(Question Serial No. 5033)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding matters on domestic free television programme service licensees, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of complaints involving the licensees concerned received by the Administration in each of the past three years;
- (b) the major areas and alleged breach of legislation of the complaints in each of the past three years; and
- (c) the details of sanctions imposed by the Administration on the offending licensees, including warnings issued and financial penalties imposed in each of the past three years.

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No.42)

Reply:

- (a) In the past three years, the number of complaints involving domestic free television programme service (free TV) licensees received by the Communications Authority (CA) is as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of complaints* (Number of complaint cases**)	34 944*** (1 851)	14 164 (1 904)	3 319 (1 138)

* Number of complaints includes single complaint against multiple broadcasting service licensees.
Number of complaints excludes complaints falling outside the statutory ambit of the CA, e.g. complaints about the technical problem of individual households' reception devices.

** Complaints with similar allegations about the same issue or broadcast material are handled together and counted as a single case.

*** One of the cases involved more than 27 000 complaints against free TV and pay TV licencees.

(b) In the past three years, the major areas of complaints involving free TV licensees were programme contents in breach of the relevant provisions of the Radio Code of Practice on Programme Standards or the Radio Code of Practice on Advertising Standards, which mainly included:

(i) programme contents which were partial, inaccurate and misleading;

(ii) programme contents which amounted to indirect advertising; or

(iii) programme contents which were not suitable for children.

(c) In the past three years, the CA imposed sanctions against the free TV licensees on the following substantiated complaint cases#:

Year	Minor Breaches ##	Advice	Strong Advice	Warning	Serious Warning	Financial Penalties	Total
2013	39	3	5	1	4	9	61
2014	188	10	1	2	2	2	205
2015	109	4	4	0	0	1	118

The figures exclude cases which are not initiated by complaints but in which the CA imposed sanctions on the offending licensees after investigation (e.g. failure to pay the licence fees in accordance with relevant legislation).

Cases of minor breaches mainly relate to inaccurate contents of TV programmes of which the impact was minor, such as slightly inaccurate information or incorrect subtitles in news programmes and minor errors in weather reports.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)060

(Question Serial No. 5034)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding matters on domestic pay television programme service licensees, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of complaints involving the licensees concerned received by the Administration in each of the past three years;
- (b) the major areas and alleged breach of legislation of the complaints in each of the past three years; and
- (c) the details of sanctions imposed by the Administration on the offending licensees, including warnings issued and financial penalties imposed, in each of the past three years.

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 43)

Reply:

- (a) In the past three years, the number of complaints involving domestic pay television programme service (pay TV) licensees received by the Communications Authority (CA) is as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of complaints* (Number of complaint cases**)	27 774*** (156)	1 126 (328)	320 (146)

* Number of complaints includes single complaints against multiple broadcasting service licensees.

Number of complaints excludes complaints falling outside the statutory ambit of the CA, e.g. complaints about the technical problem of individual pay TV households' reception devices, and poor service quality.

** Complaints with similar allegations against the same issue or broadcast material are handled together and counted as a single case.

*** One of the cases involved more than 27 000 complaints against free TV and pay TV licensees.

(b) In the past three years, the major areas of complaints involving pay TV licensees were programme contents in breach of the relevant provisions of the Radio Code of Practice on Programme Standards or the Radio Code of Practice on Advertising Standards, which mainly included:

(i) programme contents which were partial, inaccurate and misleading;

(ii) programme contents which amounted to indirect advertising; or

(iii) programme contents which were not suitable for children or contained crude language.

(c) In the past three years, the CA imposed sanctions against the pay TV licensees on the following substantiated complaint cases#:

Year	Minor Breaches ##	Advice	Strong Advice	Warning	Serious Warning	Financial Penalties	Total
2013	11	1	1	1	0	0	14
2014	37	1	0	3	0	0	41
2015	21	1	0	0	0	0	22

The figures exclude cases that are not initiated by complaints but in which the CA imposed sanctions on the offending licensees after investigation (e.g. failure to pay the licence fees in accordance with relevant legislation).

Cases of minor breaches mainly relate to inaccurate contents of TV programmes of which the impact was minor, such as slightly inaccurate information and incorrect subtitles in news programmes and minor errors in weather reports.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)061

(Question Serial No. 5035)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the review of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Telecommunications Ordinance, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of the relevant work undertaken by the Administration in 2015-16? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the details of the relevant work undertaken by the Administration in 2016-17? What is the expenditure involved?
- (c) Has the Administration formulated a timetable for the review? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (d) Will the Administration conduct a public consultation on the review of the said Ordinances in 2016-17? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

We plan to set up a team in 2016-17 for a period of three years to review the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106). The team will comprise six posts, which are all additional posts, including two directorate posts (one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B and one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and four non-directorate posts (one Senior Executive Officer, two Personal Secretary Is and one Assistant Clerical Officer). The emoluments of these additional posts will carry an annual

total cost of about \$6.22 million. The relevant departmental expenses will be around \$2.3 million annually, and one-off expenditure will be about \$0.9 million. There is no relevant expenditure in 2015-16 as the team has not yet been set up.

As far as the two supernumerary directorate posts are concerned, having secured the support of Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting for the proposed creation of the posts in November last year, we will submit the proposal to the LegCo Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee for consideration in due course. The expenditure involved will be absorbed by existing resources.

The review team, upon its establishment, will formulate a plan on the review and the relevant timetable, and proceed with the review immediately. At this stage, it is difficult to give a realistic estimate of how much time will be required to complete the review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)062

(Question Serial No. 5036)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On monitoring the demand of the industry for radio spectrum trading, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of the work in 2015-16? What is the expenditure involved? What are the major worries of the industry about the said issue? What follow-up action has been taken by the Administration?
- (b) What are the details of the work in 2016-17? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 45)

Reply:

We review from time to time the experience of other countries and regions in respect of spectrum trading and learn the views of the industry on spectrum trading through the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA). The manpower and expenditure involved are met by existing resources. We have communicated with the industry through OFCA to understand the relevant situation. Although existing mobile network operators (MNOs) indicated their support for the implementation of spectrum trading, it is unlikely that they would be willing to trade the spectrum they currently hold. This is because the local market for mobile communications services is competitive, the demand of MNOs for spectrum is acute, and MNOs have already fully utilised the spectrum they currently hold for provision of various mobile communications services for users. In addition, spectrum trading is a complicated issue and involves a number of implementation problems, including the ways to prevent MNOs from acquiring more spectrum to lessen market competition and the eligibility of participating operators, etc. The Government will continue to

communicate with the industry, and carefully study the feasibility and assess the implications of introducing spectrum trading before mapping out the way forward. We will report to the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting when the next step of the work plan is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)063

(Question Serial No. 5043)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the implementation of a spectrum utilisation fees charging scheme for administratively assigned spectrum, what are the details and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

Regarding the charging of spectrum utilisation fee for spectrum assigned administratively, it aims at encouraging the more efficient use of scarce spectrum resources by spectrum users. We are now preparing the legislative amendments. The workload involved is absorbed by existing manpower and resources of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) and no additional expenditure is involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)064

(Question Serial No. 5044)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What are the details and outcome of the public consultation on the eight-digit numbering plan for telecommunications services?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 53)

Reply:

Since it is forecast the amount of 8-digit numbers currently available for allocation to mobile services may be used up by as early as November 2018, the Communications Authority (CA) launched a two-month public consultation on 29 October 2015, proposing five measures for more efficient utilisation of the 8-digit numbering plan with a view to making available additional number resources for mobile services, and invite views from the public on the proposed measures and the implementation timeframe. The CA briefed Members of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the consultation at its meeting of 14 December 2015. The five measures are as follows:

- (a) Measure 1 - Relocating some of the existing numbers for paging services and re-allocating some of the numbers in the “7(0-3)X” levels for mobile services, which will be able to release 3.2 million numbers to meet the demand for mobile numbers for 24 months;
- (b) Measure 2 - Re-allocating numbers in the “4X” level for mobile services, which will be able to release 5.6 million numbers to meet the demand for mobile numbers for 42 months;

- (c) Measure 3 - Re-allocating vacant numbers in the “8(1-3)X” levels for mobile services, which will be able to release 0.98 million numbers to meet the demand for mobile numbers for 7 months;
- (d) Measure 4 - Raising the threshold of utilisation rate for allocation of additional numbers to network operators, which will be able to release 2.42 million numbers to meet the demand for mobile numbers for 18 months; and
- (e) Measure 5 - Releasing most of the Special Number Blocks for normal allocation, which will be able to release a maximum of 3.52 million numbers to meet the demand for mobile numbers for 26 months.

If all the five proposed measures are to be implemented, a total of 15.72 million numbers will become available for allocation to mobile services. This will extend the life span of the existing 8-digit numbering plan by around 10 years to September 2028. For details, please refer to the consultation paper:

http://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/en/content_711/cp20151029_e.pdf

The above-mentioned consultation ended on 29 December 2015. The CA is considering and analysing the views received. It is expected that the CA will decide on the way forward in respect of more efficient utilisation of the 8-digit numbering plan (including the specific measures to be implemented and the related timeframe) and announce the relevant details in the latter half of 2016.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)065

(Question Serial No. 7253)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the Film Development Fund (FDF), will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many films have been financed by the FDF since its establishment? What are the titles of the films financed?
- (b) Since the establishment of the FDF, what is the ratio of film productions? What is the ratio of the expenditure on publicity? What is the ratio of other expenses?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 31)

Reply:

- (a) Since the launch of the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2007 and up to 10 March 2016, a total of 33 films were partly financed by the FDF as follows –

1. McDull Kungfu Ding Ding Dong	12. Lost in Wrestling	23. Doomsday Party
2. Claustrophobia	13. MicroSex Office	24. The True Love
3. Coweb	14. The Killer Who Never Kills	25. The Seventh Lie
4. Strawberry Cliff	15. Love Lifting	26. Kick Ass Girls
5. Give Love	16. The Bounty	27. The Midnight After
6. Lover's Discourse	17. Love Expert	28. Twilight Online
7. Echoes of the Rainbow	18. Mama Eva	29. Wonder Mama
8. Break Up Club	19. The Way We Dance	30. The Merger
		31. Water Dragonfly

9. La Comédie humaine 10. 37 11. Beach Spike	20. A Complicated Story 21. CJ7 The Cartoon 2 22. Bends	32. The Moment 33. Love Revolution
--	---	---------------------------------------

- (b) Since the Government revived the FDF in April 2005 and up to 10 March 2016, the FDF has approved a total funding of \$352.56 million, through which 39 film productions have been funded by the FPFS, the Film Production Grant Scheme and the First Feature Film Initiative, and the amount of funding involved is \$122.26 million which constitutes 34.7% of the FDF's approved funding. The film production companies concerned are responsible for the publicity and expenditure of individual films partly financed by the FDF. After deducting the publicity and distribution expenses from the total revenue, the film production companies will distribute the net revenue to all investors (including the Government) according to their proportion of investment.

Besides, in order to help locally produced Cantonese films to explore the Mainland market, the FDF provides a cash subsidy to eligible films, capped at \$250,000 per film, to pay for expenses for distribution and publicity of the films conducted in the Mainland. When the scheme was launched in July 2012, it only covered the Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films distributed in Guangdong Province. Starting from July 2015, its scope of application has been extended to cover all places in the Mainland. Since the launch of the scheme, three films have benefitted from the funding support and the total amount of subsidy approved is around \$720,000 which makes up 0.2% of the FDF's approved funding.

For the remaining amount of funding, the FDF provides financial support for the industry and related organisations to organise film-related projects with a view to nurturing film talents, facilitating audience development, showcasing and promoting Hong Kong films in the Mainland and overseas, etc.

Regarding the promotion of the FDF, the workload is absorbed by existing manpower of the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) and the expenditure involved is included in the operational expenses of CreateHK.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)066

(Question Serial No. 0815)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries, (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The estimated expenditure of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau for 2016-17 is \$414.4 million, representing an increase of \$103.2 million or 33.2% over the expenditure for 2015-16 (\$311.2 million). What are the details of the increased expenditure?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 13)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch for 2016-17 is 33.2% (\$103.2 million) higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. This is mainly due to:

- (a) the increased cash flow requirements for the Film Development Fund (+\$15.32 million), the Design Incubation Programme (+\$1.84 million), the CreateSmart Initiative (+\$44.18 million) and the Hong Kong Design Centre (+\$3.46 million);
- (b) the increased provision for the creation of ten posts (+\$7.2 million);
- (c) the provision for the promotion of Hong Kong films and design locally and abroad, including the activities on local fashion design (+\$23 million); and
- (d) the increased provision for the promotion of digital audio broadcasting and digital terrestrial television, the consultation on person-to-person telemarketing calls, the consultancy study on the future usage and capacity of telecommunications infrastructure in Hong Kong (+\$8 million).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)067

(Question Serial No. 0816)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-17, one of the key tasks of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau is continuing to monitor the development of Next Generation Networks (NGNs) and ensuring that the regulatory regime remains updated and appropriate in the next generation network era. In this regard, according to the observation of the Administration on the development of NGNs, what are the differences between NGNs and the existing networks? When will it be made available to the market? Does the Administration need to study about amending the existing legislations to cope with the development of NGNs?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 14)

Reply:

Traditional networks adopt circuit-switched technologies and are primarily designed for the conveyance of standalone service. Next Generation Network (NGN) adopts packet-switched technology and can convey at the same time a variety of telecommunications services such as fixed telephony service, data service, mobile service and television service. NGN provides an open platform such that service providers are able to develop innovative services and applications for users more freely.

Currently, a number of operators have been progressively building their own NGN to replace obsolete network equipment. Moreover, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has established the NGN Working Group, with members from the industry and various professional organisations, to deliberate at regular intervals on relevant technical issues pertinent to NGN and to monitor the progress of NGN implementation by the operators.

In 2012, the former Office of the Telecommunications Authority (now known as OFCA) commissioned a consultancy study on the implications of the advent of NGN on the telecommunications regulatory framework in Hong Kong. It is stated in the study report that the prevailing technology-neutral regime is in general applicable to the regulation for NGN and the consultant only recommended OFCA to consider reviewing in due course:

- (a) section 14 of the Telecommunications Ordinance (TO) such that fixed carriers will have the same access right to common parts of “single-owner” buildings, which they currently enjoy for “multiple-owner” buildings; and
- (b) section 36A of the TO such that the basis for determining interconnection charges under the TO can reflect economic efficiency, which includes but is not limited to cost-based considerations.

The Government will continue to closely monitor the development of NGN in Hong Kong, and will follow up and consider the above-mentioned recommendations relating to legislation when reviewing the TO and the Broadcasting Ordinance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)068

(Question Serial No. 0195)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned under this programme that one of the responsibilities of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch is to “analyse the results of the survey on person-to-person telemarketing calls and formulated the way forward”. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the progress of the above-mentioned work?
- (b) It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016-17 that the Administration will “continue to implement the way forward on person-to-person telemarketing calls”. What are the specific plan and completion schedule of the above-mentioned work?
- (c) What are the estimated expenditure and staffing arrangement of the above-mentioned work?

Asked by: Hon TANG Ka-piu (Member Question No. 12)

Reply:

To further grasp the latest situation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and

Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

The results of the survey have reflected the views of some members of the public and the industry as well as the latest situation of the industry. With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls. In 2016-17, we have earmarked around \$1.2 million for the purpose of conducting the public consultation. The workload involved will be absorbed by existing manpower of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)069

(Question Serial No. 3219)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Communications and Creative Industries Branch mentioned that it will continue to support the organisation of signature events to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital during 2016-17. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What signature events have been organised over the past three years? After assessment, what are the benefits brought? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What is the work plan in 2016-17? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon James TIEN Pei-chun (Member Question No. 51)

Reply:

- (a) The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) under the Communications and Creative Industries Branch allocated about \$108 million in total from 2013-14 to 2015-16 to provide funding support to 17 signature events to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital. The signature events include annual projects, namely the Business of Design Week (BODW), the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong, the Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF), the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum and the Hong Kong Asian-Pop Music Festival; and projects held in specific year, namely the International Comics Artist Conference 2013, the Cross-Strait Architectural Design Symposium & Awards 2015, etc. These signature events have attracted no less than 0.65 million visitors from at least 50 countries and regions.

These signature events are conducive to helping creative industries to gain exposure,

nurture talents and start-ups, broaden commercial networks, explore local and overseas markets and foster creative atmosphere. Among these signature events, the Business of Design Week and the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong have become international renowned events that attract overseas and the Mainland celebrities in the industry and buyers to attend. It is indeed difficult to reflect immediately the benefits of these events in economic activities and some are intangible benefits (such as an enhanced international profile and aroused media interest) which are hard to quantify. However, according to the participants' feedback we collected, their responses to the projects are generally positive.

- (b) In 2016-17, CreateHK will continue to sponsor the staging of signature creative events through the Film Development Fund and the CreateSmart Initiative to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital. Tentative projects include the 41st HKIFF, the 17th Asian Congress of Architects, the BODW 2016, etc. The amount of funding is subject to the merits of individual applications. The above-mentioned projects do not include projects for which funding have yet to be sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)070

(Question Serial No. 4620)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

During 2016-17, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch will continue to administer the various funding schemes under the Create Hong Kong. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Over the past three years, what is the total number of organisations benefitted and the total amount of funding? What are the highest, the lowest and the average amounts of funding allocated?
- (b) What is the work plan in 2016-17? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon James TIEN Pei-chun (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

- (a) In the past three financial years, the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) has been providing funding support to projects conducive to the development of the creative industries mainly through the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the Film Development Fund (FDF). The Design-Business Collaboration Scheme (DBCS) has migrated to the CSI since 24 May 2013 and ceased accepting applications with effect from 1 January 2016. As the projects funded under the DBCS were different from those funded under the CSI by nature and scale, we will provide the information about the DBCS separately.

Moreover, the Government has commissioned the Hong Kong Design Centre to administer the Design Incubation Programme (DIP) to nurture design start-ups. Each incubatee under the DIP receives funding support of up to \$500,000 over the two-year incubation period, covering office rental, overheads, and costs incurred for promotion

and development, management training courses and technical and administration matters.

The tables below list the number of organisations funded under the relevant funding schemes and the details of the approved funding in the past three financial years.

Name of the funding scheme	Financial Year	No. of organisations funded	Total amount of funding approved (\$ million)	Average amount of funding approved for each organisation (\$ million)
CSI#	2013-2014	26	90.4	3.5
	2014-2015	27	100.0	3.7
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	27	103.3	3.8
	Total	80	293.7	3.7 (three-year average)

Excluding the DBCS

Name of the funding scheme	Financial Year	No. of organisations funded	Total amount of funding approved (\$ million)	Average amount of funding approved for each organisation (\$ million)
FDF- Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS)	2013-14	3	8.3	2.8
	2014-15	1	1.9	1.9
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	3	8.3	2.8
	Total	7	18.5	2.6 (three-year average)
FDF- Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS)*	2013-14	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2014-15	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0
FDF- Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects	2013-14	12	12.9	1.1
	2014-15	15	36.0	2.4
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	19	25.3	1.3
	Total	46	74.2	1.6 (three-year average)

* The FPGS was launched in November 2015. A total of 8 applications was received in the first quarter and they are being processed as at end February 2016.

Name of the funding scheme	Financial Year	No. of organisations funded	Total amount of funding approved (\$ million)	Average amount of funding approved for each organisation (\$ million)
DBCS [^]	2013-14 (as from 24 May 2013)	19	0.6	0.03
	2014-15	19	0.8	0.04
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	13	0.5	0.04
	Total	51	1.9	0.04 (three-year average)

[^] The DBCS has migrated to the CSI since 24 May 2013 and stopped accepting applications with effect from 1 January 2016.

Name of the funding scheme	Financial Year	No. of incubatees	Total amount of funding approved (\$ million)	Average amount of funding approved for each organisation (\$ million)
DIP	2013-14	22	Each incubatee receives funding support of up to \$500,000 over the two-year incubation period. Funding is payable on a reimbursement basis.	
	2014-15	16		
	2015-2016 (as at February 2016)	9		
	Total	47	N.A.	

- (b) In 2016-17, the CSI will continue with the prevailing market-driven approach in allocating funding and will seek to encourage or accord priority where appropriate to those projects which focus on nurturing of talents, start-up incubation, promotion of Hong Kong designers and brands, etc. with a view to building up a nurture-based progressive ladder of the CSI-funded programmes. The estimated expenditure of the CSI in 2016-17 is around \$157 million.

Besides, CreateHK will continue to support the film industry through the FDF, and to encourage commercial investment in film productions through the FPFS and the FPGS (launched in November 2015) so as to increase the production volume of local films and nurture film talents. We will also strengthen the support for the subsidy scheme for Hong Kong films (Cantonese version) distributed in the Mainland. We propose to increase the subsidy for the expenses incurred by eligible films for distribution and publicity in the Mainland from \$250,000 to \$500,000 per film so as to encourage Hong Kong filmmakers to explore the Mainland market. We will launch the 3rd First

Feature Film Initiative to continue identifying talents in the film industry. The estimated expenditure of the FDF in 2016-17 is around \$47 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)071****(Question Serial No. 1641)**

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the Film Development Fund (FDF), will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Films that have been benefitted from the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) so far:

Film title	Funding amount	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt	Hong Kong film/ co-production

- (b) Films that have been benefitted from other film-related projects so far:

Film title	Funding amount	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt	Hong Kong film/ co-production

- (c) The Hong Kong-produced Cantonese films distributed in the Mainland over the past five years:

Film title	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt	Distributed in/ outside Guangdong Province

(d) So far, among the Hong Kong-produced Cantonese films distributed in Guangdong Province, how many films have been granted the sales and distribution subsidies? What are the percentages of the subsidies against the production cost?

(e) Films that have participated in the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou so far:

Film title	Funded by the FDF	Percentage of the subsidies against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt

(f) Regarding the films participated in the above-mentioned film exhibition, what are the advantages they enjoyed when applying for commercial release in Guangdong Province? How much time has been actually saved in the distribution arrangements? Has the Administration planned to increase the number of Hong Kong films promoted in the film exhibition?

(g) Over the past five years, by what means did the FDF use to assist up-and-coming directors, small-to-medium budget films and independent films? What are the expenditures involved respectively?

Asked by: Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun (Member Question No. 25)

Reply:

(a) Since the launch of the Film Production Financing Scheme (FDFS) under the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2007 and up to 10 March 2016, the following 33 films have been partly financed by the scheme:

	Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt (HK\$)	Hong Kong film/ Co-production
1.	McDull Kungfu Ding Ding Dong	3,598,800	30%	Hong Kong	13.8.2009	2,479,101	Co-production
				Macau	2010	31,051	
				Mainland China	24.7.2009	84,750,000	
2.	Claustrophobia	1,618,255	30%	Hong Kong	12.2.2009	841,445	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	2009	4,616,749	
				Taiwan	5.2009	11,195	
				Singapore and Malaysia	5.2009	186,569	
3.	Coweb	2,993,179	30%	Hong Kong	14.6.2012	327	Co-production
				Mainland China	15.5.2009	2,582,446	

	Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt (HK\$)	Hong Kong film/ Co-production
4.	Strawberry Cliff	3,017,435	30%	Hong Kong	1.12.2011	670,837	Hong Kong film
5.	Give Love	2,419,674	30%	Hong Kong	19.2.2009	165,700	Hong Kong film
				Macau	19.2.2009	15,800	
				Mainland China	13.2.2009	21,811,833	
6.	Lover's Discourse	1,855,297	30%	Hong Kong	6.1.2011	1,986,669	Hong Kong film
				Macau	6.1.2011	115,151	
				Mainland China	31.12.2010	4,565,295	
				Singapore	2011	68,374	
7.	Echoes of the Rainbow	3,598,274	30%	Hong Kong	11.3.2010	23,109,330	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	16.4.2010	16,978,112	
				Malaysia	6.2010	326,666	
				Taiwan	6.2010	430,378	
				Brunei	6.2010	333,065	
8.	Break Up Club	1,759,500	30%	Hong Kong	16.6.2010	10,333,691	Hong Kong film
				Taiwan	2010	43,075	
				New Zealand	2010	66,577	
9.	La Comédie humaine	2,520,000	30%	Hong Kong	8.7.2010	7,505,515	Hong Kong film
				Malaysia	2011	3,268,549	
10.	37	2,842,500	25%	Hong Kong	19.9.2013	33,520	Co-production
				Mainland China	1.6.2012	187,492	
11.	Beach Spike	2,799,836	35%	Hong Kong	7.7.2011	1,679,801	Hong Kong film
				Macau	2011	73,400	
				Mainland China	29.7.2011	3,903,680	
12.	Lost in Wrestling	3,748,788	25%	Hong Kong	10.9.2015	3,729	Co-production
				Mainland China	5.6.2015	*	
13.	MicroSex Office	1,723,750	35%	Hong Kong	9.6.2011	3,423,452	Hong Kong film
14.	The Killer Who Never Kills	3,012,250	25%	Hong Kong	10.11.2011	545,196	Hong Kong film
				Taiwan	29.7.2011	12,300,756	
				Mainland	6.1.2012	7,184,580	

	Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt (HK\$)	Hong Kong film/ Co-production
				China			
15.	Love Lifting	2,708,816	25%	Hong Kong	22.3.2012	1,297,890	Co-production
				Mainland China	8.3.2012	4,800,000	
16.	The Bounty	2,605,711	20%	Hong Kong	21.6.2012	2,920,321	Co-production
				Mainland China	21.6.2012	4,473,770	
17.	Love Expert	2,995,500	30%	Mainland China	1.12.2013	*	Co-production
				Hong Kong	2.9.2015	5,625	
18.	Mama Eva	4,147,500	35%	Has decided to stop filming and will terminate the financing agreement with the Government.			Hong Kong film
19.	The Way We Dance	2,119,519	40%	Hong Kong	8.8.2013	13,448,639	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	24.4.2014	674,237	
20.	A Complicated Story	3,014,859	40%	Hong Kong	16.1.2014	274,157	Hong Kong film
21.	CJ7 The Cartoon Movie 2	4,214,400	30%	Not yet released			Co-production
22.	Bends	4,000,000	40%	Hong Kong	21.11.2013	402,972	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	10.2.2014	*	
23.	Doomsday Party	3,384,000	40%	Hong Kong	28.11.2013	290,326	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	21.2.2014	815,574	
24.	The True Love	1,597,100	20%	Mainland China	6.1.2014	*	Co-production
25.	The Seventh Lie	1,840,000	40%	Hong Kong	30.10.2014	584,975	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	23.3.2015	*	
26.	Kick Ass Girls	2,251,147	25%	Hong Kong	14.11.2013	1,450,055	Hong Kong film
				Malaysia	16.11.2013	1,584,941	
27.	The Midnight After	5,250,000	35%	Hong Kong	10.4.2014	21,204,584	Hong Kong film
28.	Twilight Online	1,500,000	30%	Hong Kong	4.9.2014	4,460,210	Hong Kong film
				Mainland China	26.6.2015	*	
29.	Wonder Mama	1,590,180	20%	Hong Kong	4.6.2015	443,366	Co-production

	Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt (HK\$)	Hong Kong film/ Co-production
				Mainland China	29.5.2015	*	
30.	The Merger	1,951,632	20%	Hong Kong	17.9.2015	483,470	Hong Kong film
31.	Water Dragonfly	2,586,867	20%	Not yet released			Hong Kong film
32.	The Moment	2,760,000	30%	Not yet released			Hong Kong film
33.	Love Revolution	2,997,300	20%	Not yet released			Hong Kong film

* The film has been already released in the Mainland but the production company has not yet submitted the sales report. Hence, the Mainland box office receipt is not available yet.

- (b) The purpose of setting up the Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects is to provide financial support to projects conducive to the development of the film industry, including projects conducive to nurturing talents in film production and distribution, etc. The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) launched the First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI) in 2013 to nurture and identify new film directors and filmmakers through a competition on screenplays and production proposals. The FDF would make available funding under the Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects to cover the full production costs of the first feature films made by the winning teams. So far, a total of five films as set out below are fully subsidised by the FDF:

Film title	Funding amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the funding against the production cost	Region of release	Date of release	Box office receipt	Hong Kong film/ co-production
Opus 1	5,000,000	100%	Not yet released	-	-	Hong Kong film
Mad World	2,000,000	100%	Not yet released	-	-	Hong Kong film
Weeds on Fire	2,000,000	100%	Not yet released	-	-	Hong Kong film
Love@TheSquare	5,500,000	100%	Under production	-	-	Hong Kong film
In Your Dream	3,250,000	100%	Under production	-	-	Hong Kong film

* The actual funding amount and the proportion involved have to be checked against the production cost subject to valid audit report submitted by the grantee and recognised by the Government.

- (c) As film production companies are not required to report to the Government of the HKSAR on their film productions, we do not have information concerning Hong Kong films or co-productions which were theatrically released in the Mainland. According to unofficial figures, a total of 292 Hong Kong films were theatrically released in the Mainland in the period from 2011 to 2015, including imported Hong Kong films, Hong Kong-Mainland co-productions, Hong Kong-overseas co-productions and outdated Hong Kong films first released in the Mainland. However, we do not have information on whether these films are released in the Mainland in Putonghua and/or Cantonese versions. For the Cantonese version of the three films that have been granted subsidies by the FDF for the expenses on distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland, relevant information is listed in the table shown in (d).
- (d) As at 10 March 2016, the FDF has approved the applications of three locally produced Cantonese films for subsidies for the expenses on distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland as follows –

Film title	Funding Amount (HK\$)	Percentage of the subsidies against the production cost[^]
Doomsday Party (also known as 「命運派對」 in Chinese)	219,641.27	2.6%
The Way We Dance	250,000	5.2%
Grey Met Shrek	250,000	No information [#]

[^] The production cost of the film does not cover the expenses for distribution and publicity.

[#] “Grey Met Shrek” is not a film financed by the FDF, therefore we do not have information on its production cost.

- (e) Since 2013, CreateHK and the Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of Guangdong Province (GAPPRFT) have jointly organised the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou. Over the past three years, a total of 14 Hong Kong films participated in the exhibition:

2013	2014	2015
1. The Way We Dance	6. My Voice, My Life	11. The Merger
2. A Complicated Story	7. I Sell Love	12. She Remembers, He Forgets
3. Bends	8. 澳門街 (Name in Chinese only)	13. 我們遇見松花湖 (Name in Chinese only)

4. Doomsday Party (also known as 「命運派對」 in Chinese)	9. Wonder Mama	14. Sand Pebbles
5. A Secret Between Us	10. Uncertain Relationship Society	

Among the above-mentioned participating films, “The Way We Dance”, “A Complicated Story”, “Bends”, “Doomsday Party”, “Wonder Mama” and “The Merger” are films partly financed by the FDF. The information on these six films is listed in items 19, 20, 22, 23, 29 and 30 respectively in the table shown in (a) above. For the other eight films, they are not films financed by the FDF and we do not have the relevant information.

- (f) In early 2013, the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television (SAPPRFT) delegated to GAPPRT the authority to approve and censor films (including the Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films) to take part in film exhibitions in Guangdong Province for foreign exchange purposes. While the participating films still have to go through the prevailing film importation mechanism for commercial release in Guangdong Province in future, the time required for SAPPRFT to consider the applications will be much shorter. This will help the Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films access the Guangdong market more efficiently and easily. Since the implementation of the above measure, the time required for importing Hong Kong films into the Mainland for distribution has been reduced from six to nine months to around three months.

With a view to further solving the problem of long lead time for film importation, the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement signed in November 2015 provides a green passage for importing Hong Kong films into the Mainland. After being vetted and approved by the Film Import and Export Corporation of the China Film Group Corporation (CFG), Hong Kong films may, without any quotas or geographical restrictions, be distributed in the Mainland by companies possessing the Operation Licence for Film Distribution. There are over 200 companies possessing the Operation Licence for Film Distribution in the market. This liberalisation measure can help save the time and cost of the Hong Kong film industry in film distribution and is applicable to the whole of Mainland China. Since then, Hong Kong films can be submitted for censorship sent directly through the CFG, instead of being vetted and approved by the authority of Guangdong Province.

The number of Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films participating in the film exhibitions depends on the demand of the Mainland and the results of vetting and approval.

- (g) In the period from 2011 to 2015, a total of 19 small to medium budget films were financed by the FDF, in which 9 films have engaged directors who are film directors for the first time and the total amount of funding involved is \$23,307,349. Moreover, the FDF helps nurture new film directors through the FFFI. The 1st and the 2nd FFFI

were held in 2013 and 2015 respectively, in which funding has been provided to 5 new directors to make their first feature films and the total funding involved is \$17,750,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)072

(Question Serial No. 2379)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Administration will “continue to implement the way forward on person-to-person telemarketing calls” in 2016-17. What specific measures will be taken for this purpose? What is the estimated expenditure involved? What criteria will be used for assessing the effectiveness of the measures?

Asked by: Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

To further grasp the latest situation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

The results of the survey have reflected the views of some members of the public and the industry as well as the latest situation of the industry. With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls. In 2016-17, we have earmarked around \$1.2 million for the purpose of conducting the public consultation. The workload involved will be absorbed by existing manpower of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)073

(Question Serial No. 3286)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please set out the following information in table form:

- (a) The expenditure incurred by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) on publicity on the Internet/social media in 2015-16, the manpower involved and the percentage this item accounts for in the total expenditure. Please provide a breakdown by publicity channel;
- (b) The means to be adopted by CEDB(CCIB) to assess the effectiveness and value for money of the above initiatives; and
- (c) The estimated expenditure to be incurred by CEDB(CCIB) on the above initiatives in 2016-17 and the manpower to be involved.

Asked by: Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

(a)&(b)

The expenditure incurred by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB(CCIB)) on publicity on the Internet/social media in 2015-16, the manpower involved and the percentage this item accounts for in the total expenditure, broken down by publicity channel, are listed below:

Publicity channel	Expenditure incurred in publicity on the Internet/social media (as at 29 February 2016)	Manpower involved in publicity on the Internet/social media	The percentage this item accounts for in the total expenditure	The means to be adopted to assess the effectiveness and value for money of the above initiatives
Official website of CEDB(CCIB)	\$86,000	1 Executive Officer II (EOII) (in addition to other duties)	0.08%	Based on the hit rate of the website
Dedicated website for Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT)	\$30,075	1 project manager (in addition to other duties)	0.03%	Based on the hit rate of the website
Dedicated website for Digital audio broadcasting (DAB)	\$39,836	1 Senior Executive Officer (SEO) (in addition to other duties)	0.04%	Based on the hit rate of the website
Website of the Hong Kong Film Development Council (FDC)	Around \$38,200	1 EOII (in addition to other duties)	0.04%	Based on the hit rate of the website
Website of the Film Services Office (FSO)	Around \$70,000	1 Coordinator (Film Services) (in addition to other duties) and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer (ACO) (in addition to other duties)	0.07%	Based on the hit rate of the website
Website of the Special Effects	Around \$41,100	1 Explosives Officer II (in	0.04%	Based on the hit rate of the

Publicity channel	Expenditure incurred in publicity on the Internet/social media (as at 29 February 2016)	Manpower involved in publicity on the Internet/social media	The percentage this item accounts for in the total expenditure	The means to be adopted to assess the effectiveness and value for money of the above initiatives
Licensing Unit of the FSO		addition to other duties)		website
Website of the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) (Design Support)	N.A.*	N.A.*	---	Based on the hit rate of the website
Website of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) (including mobile versions)	Around \$160,000	1 EOII (in addition to other duties) and 2 Assistant Trade Officers II (ATOIIs) (in addition to other duties)	0.15%	Based on the hit rate of the website
FDC Facebook	\$0	1 Personal Secretary I (PSI) (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage
First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI) (YouTube)	\$0	1 Entertainment Standards Control Officer (ESCO) (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage
Hong Kong - Asia's Creative Capital (Facebook)	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage
Hong Kong - Asia's Creative	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to	---	Based on the hit rate of the

Publicity channel	Expenditure incurred in publicity on the Internet/social media (as at 29 February 2016)	Manpower involved in publicity on the Internet/social media	The percentage this item accounts for in the total expenditure	The means to be adopted to assess the effectiveness and value for money of the above initiatives
Capital (Sina Weibo)		other duties)		webpage
HK - Creative Capital (Twitter)	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage
Hong Kong - Asia's Creative Capital (Youku)	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage
CreateHK (YouTube)	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to other duties)	---	Based on the hit rate of the webpage

* Information on the approved projects in the CSI (Design Support) system will be updated automatically.

- (c) The estimated expenditure to be incurred by CEDB(CCIB) on publicity on the Internet/social media in 2016-17 and the manpower to be involved, broken down by publicity channel, are listed below:

Publicity channel	Estimated expenditure incurred in publicity on the Internet/social media	Estimated manpower involved in publicity on the Internet/social media
Official website of CEDB(CCIB)	\$102,000	1 EOII (in addition to other duties)
Dedicated website for DTT	\$150,000	1 project manager (in addition to other duties)
Dedicated website for DAB	\$150,000	1 SEO (in addition to other duties)
Social media for DAB: (including Yahoo, Google,	\$330,000	1 SEO (in addition to other duties)

Publicity channel	Estimated expenditure incurred in publicity on the Internet/social media	Estimated manpower involved in publicity on the Internet/social media
Facebook, YouTube)		
Website of the FDC	Around \$45,000	1 EOII (in addition to other duties)
Website of the FSO	Around \$71,000	1 Coordinator (Film Services) (in addition to other duties), 1 ACO (in addition to other duties)
Website of the Special Effects Licensing Unit	Around \$40,000	1 Explosives Officer II (in addition to other duties)
Website of CreateHK (including mobile version)	Around \$160,000	1 EOII (in addition to other duties), 2 ATOIIs (in addition to other duties)
FDC (Facebook)	\$0	1 PSI (in addition to other duties)
FFFI (Facebook)	Around \$182,000	1 Chief Entertainment Standards Control Officer (in addition to other duties)
FFFI (YouTube)	\$0	1 ESCO (in addition to other duties)
CreateHK (YouTube)	\$0	1 ATO II (in addition to other duties)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)074

(Question Serial No. 0329)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Administration will analyse the feedback from the consultation exercise on the review of the conditions of carrier licences issued under the Telecommunications Ordinance and prepare the relevant legislative amendments. The public have been very concerned about the problem that the locations of mobile telephone base stations being close to residential settlements might affect their health. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee whether the procedure and parameters for vetting and approving applications for installing mobile phone base stations is included in the review? If yes, what are the details? If not, will additional provision be allocated in the coming year for conducting the review? If yes, what are the estimated expenditure and manpower? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 123)

Reply:

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and the Communications Authority (CA) completed the review of licence conditions in carrier licences issued under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) in March 2015. The review aimed at removing the licence conditions in the carrier licences which duplicate with the cross-sectoral legislation or regulation. It involved the removal of five special licence conditions governing road opening works by telecommunications network operators and one general licence condition concerning restrictions on attachment to public buildings and trees by telecommunications network operators. We have briefed the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting of the Legislative Council on the review and the proposed removal at its meeting on 9 November 2015. The proposal was supported by the Members. The removal of five special licence conditions has come into force upon completion of the

review while the removal of one general licence condition will come into force upon enactment of the subsidiary legislation.

The review did not cover the procedure and parameters for vetting and approving applications for installing radio base stations (“RBSs”) for mobile telecommunications.

Currently, operators are required under the carrier licences to obtain approvals from the CA before installing each RBS. In vetting the applications, the CA will conduct technical assessments on the level of electromagnetic radiation, and applications will be considered only if the level of electromagnetic radiation generated is below the international standard limits. The CA adopts the International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection Guidelines (ICNIRP Guidelines), which is an objective and scientific standard recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO also states that if the electric and magnetic fields strength generated by the installation does not exceed the limits of the ICNIRP Guidelines, it will not bring significant impact to human health. We and the CA both consider the above-mentioned vetting and approving mechanism effective and have no plan to conduct a review at present.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)075

(Question Serial No. 0880)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government has indicated that it will commit to promoting the development of the film industry in Hong Kong. As such, has the Government allocated any financial resources and manpower to grasp the situation of talent nurturing in the film industry in Hong Kong? If yes, with a view to assessing the effectiveness of the work, please provide the name of the tertiary institutions currently offering programmes to nurture film related talents and the name of the programmes, the number of intake and graduates from the institutions annually over the past three years, the proportion of graduates engaged in the film industry, and the manpower and financial resources the Government deployed in the process of understanding the status quo.

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (Member Question No. 32)

Reply:

Full-time programmes related to nurturing film talents offered by local tertiary institutions in 2015/16 academic year are as follows –

Institution	Programme
The University of Hong Kong	Bachelor of Journalism (Honours) ⁽¹⁾
School of Professional and Continuing Education, The University of Hong Kong	Higher Diploma in New Media and Communication
School of Professional and Continuing Education Po Leung Kuk Community College, The University of Hong Kong	Associate of Applied Social Sciences in Communication, Public Relations and Journalism

Institution	Programme
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Bachelor in Journalism and Communication (Honours)
City University of Hong Kong	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Media and Communication
Hong Kong Baptist University	Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) in Communication ⁽²⁾
	Higher Diploma in Acting for Film and Television (Acting Techniques Specialisation)
	Higher Diploma in Cinematic Arts (Directing Specialisation)
	Higher Diploma in Cinematic Arts (Script Writing Specialisation)
	High Diploma in Post-production (Editing and Sound Mixing Specialisation)
	Higher Diploma in Production Techniques (Cinematography and Lighting Specialisation)
	Master of Fine Arts in Film, Television and Digital Media
	Master of Arts in Producing for Film, Television, and New-Media
	Doctor of Philosophy in Film
College of International Education, Hong Kong Baptist University	Associate of Arts in Creative Communication
	Associate of Arts in Creative Media Writing
	Associate of Arts in Film, Television and Digital Media Studies
	Associate of Arts in Media Communication
	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Creative Writing for Film, Television and New Media
	Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Media and Social Communication
School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University	Bachelor of Communication and Media ⁽³⁾
School of Professional Education and Executive Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied and Media Arts
Lingnan Institute of Further Education, Lingnan University	Higher Diploma in Chinese Media Writing and Production
The Open University of Hong Kong	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Creative Writing and Film Arts
	Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honours in Cinematic Design and Photographic Digital Art
Hong Kong Shue Yan University	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Journalism and Mass Communication
The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) in Film and Television

Institution	Programme
	Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) in Theatre and Entertainment Arts
	Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) in Drama
	Master of Fine Arts in Drama
	Master of Fine Arts in Cinema Production
	Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Entertainment Arts
Chu Hai College of Higher Education	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Journalism and Communication
	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Communication and Cross Media Programme
SCAD Foundation (Hong Kong) Limited	Bachelor of Fine Arts in Motion Media Design
Hang Seng Management College	Bachelor of Journalism and Communication (Honours)
Hong Kong College of Technology	Higher Diploma in Television Producing and Broadcasting
Hong Kong Art School (a division of Hong Kong Arts Centre)	Higher Diploma in Applied and Media Arts
Vocational Training Council	Higher Diploma in Film and Television
	Higher Diploma in Transmedia
Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong, Vocational Training Council	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Multimedia Technology and Innovation
School for Higher and Professional Education, Vocational Training Council	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Visual Communication (Film & Animation)

Remarks:

- (1) Apart from journalism, the programme also covers film related subjects, e.g. theory and techniques of photography (camera operation and digital editing), techniques of video shooting and editing, appreciation of films (including documentaries), digital media, etc. Besides, the programme has been co-operating with the Hong Kong International Film Festival to invite directors of documentaries from different countries to host talks on film appreciation in Hong Kong.
- (2) The institution concerned adopts broad-based admission to intake students, i.e. students need not opt for their major course when admitted and can opt for the film related specialised courses in Year 2.
- (3) The institution has not provided the Chinese name of the programme.

The numbers of intake in full-time programmes related to the film industry over the past three years are listed by year as follows -

	Year of Intake		
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Higher diploma programmes	309	289	400

	Year of Intake		
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Associate degree programmes	1 218	643	266
Degree programmes	995	835	1 255
Master and doctorate programmes	110	142	115
Total:	2 632	1 909	2 036

The numbers of graduates from full-time programmes related to the film industry over the past three years are listed by year as follows -

	Year of Graduation		
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Higher diploma programmes	190	182	398
Associate degree programmes	693	845	989
Degree programmes	649	637	493 ⁽⁴⁾
Master and doctorate programmes	37	60	92
Total:	1 569	1 724	1 972

Remark:

- (4) As Hong Kong Shue Yan University has not provided the number of graduates from the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Journalism and Mass Communication (“BA in Journalism and Communications, HKSYU”) in 2013/14 academic year, the number of graduates from full-time Bachelor Degree programmes related to the film industry in 2013/14 academic year is less than that in the two previous academic years. There were around 160 graduates from the programme in 2011/12 and 2012/13 academic years respectively. Assuming that there was no big change in the number of graduates in 2013/14 academic year for BA in Journalism and Communications, HKSYU, the number of graduates from full-time Bachelor Degree programme related to the film industry in 2013/14 academic year shall be more or less the same as that in 2011/12 and 2012/13 academic years.

The proportion of graduates in programmes related to the film industry who have engaged in the film-related industry over the past three years⁽⁵⁾ is as follows -

	Year of Graduation		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Higher diploma programmes	77.6%	80.0%	74.3%
Associate degree programmes	N.A. ⁽⁶⁾	N.A. ⁽⁶⁾	N.A. ⁽⁶⁾
Degree programmes	100%	88.2% - 93.3%	85.4% - 94.4%
Master and doctorate programmes	N.A. ⁽⁷⁾	N.A. ⁽⁷⁾	N.A. ⁽⁷⁾

Remarks:

- (5) The above table is consolidated and compiled according to the result of the Graduates Employment Survey provided by the local tertiary institutions. As the number of responses for each programme covered in the survey is less than the corresponding number of graduates, and some of the tertiary

institutions have not conducted the Graduates Employment Survey, the data shown in this table shall not be used to estimate the annual number of graduates engaged in the film industry. As some of the film related programmes cover other relevant subjects (e.g. subjects in journalism), and the Graduates Employment Survey of each institution are conducted on a programme basis, the data collected would not be further broken down to show the number of graduates engaged in other industries related to the programme (e.g. journalism, creative media industry, etc.). Hence, the data shown in this table does not confine to the number of graduates engaged in the film industry.

- (6) The institutions that offered full-time Associate Degree programmes related to the film industry have not provided the result of its own Graduates Employment Survey to the Government.
- (7) Relevant data is not available as the institutions that offered full-time postgraduate courses (i.e. Master and Doctorate programmes) related to the film industry did not conduct its own Graduates Employment Survey.

In understanding the talent situation of the film industry, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch (CCIB) of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) has deployed the existing manpower to collect and consolidate the data concerned as provided by various local tertiary institutions and the Education Bureau each year. The expenditure involved is mainly emoluments of the staff concerned, which have been included in the overall expenditure of the CCIB of the CEDB without a separate breakdown of expenditure.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)076

(Question Serial No. 4547)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

One of the companies providing digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services discontinued its broadcasting services earlier and its licence was terminated. Does the Administration have any new strategies to cope with the development of DAB services?

The Administration has been urging car importers to install DAB radios in vehicles imported to Hong Kong. Will the Administration try to offer duty concession? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 58)

Reply:

As one of the digital audio broadcasting (DAB) licensees has left the market owing to commercial considerations, and in view of the fact that other DAB licensees have also indicated that they have encountered difficulties in their business, we are reviewing the development of DAB in Hong Kong.

At present, the Government has not made any special arrangement on taxation regarding the installation of analogue radios in imported vehicles and has no intention to make any taxation arrangement regarding the installation of DAB radios.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)077

(Question Serial No. 4548)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Are there any specific schedules for the reform of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (Cap. 390) regime and the review of the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106)? What is the earliest time that the relevant outcomes are expected to be made available?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 59)

Reply:

On the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO), we briefed the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) on 9 March 2015 on the details of the improvements to the regulatory regime of the COIAO. Drafting of the amendment bill concerning the improvements is in progress. Upon completion of the relevant work, we will submit the amendment bill to LegCo for consideration as soon as possible.

In addition, we plan to set up a new team in the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau for a period of three years to review the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Telecommunications Ordinance. The new team will comprise six posts, including two supernumerary directorate posts. As far as these two posts are concerned, having secured the support of Members of the Panel for the proposed creation of the posts in November last year, we will submit the proposal to the LegCo Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee for consideration in due course. The review team, upon its establishment, will formulate a plan on the review and the relevant timetable, and proceed with the review immediately. At this stage, it is

difficult to give a realistic estimate of how much time will be required to complete the review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)078

(Question Serial No. 4549)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What are the provisions earmarked by the Bureau to help promoting the PMQ and the Comix Home Base this year? What indicators will the Administration establish to assess the effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 60)

Reply:

The Comix Home Base (CHB) and the PMQ are operated by the Hong Kong Arts Centre and the PMQ Management Co. Ltd. respectively. The Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) under the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) will continue to support or launch projects to promote the CHB and the PMQ or to organise programmes at the CHB and the PMQ through the financial support of CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the re-deployment of internal resources. For example, some activities of the 2nd Hong Kong-Shenzhen Design Biennale hosted by the Hong Kong Federation of Design Associations (with a funding of \$6.18 million under the CSI) will be held at the PMQ. CreateHK will also consider supporting the industry through the CSI to organise a series of activities like exhibitions and open day at the CHB. CreateHK has earmarked \$1 million to display publicity posters at Wan Chai and Central MTR stations respectively in the period from February to April this year. Besides, CreateHK will consider helping the CHB promote activities in celebration of its 3rd anniversary.

The Bureau mainly assess the effectiveness on the basis of the numbers of visitors to the PMQ and the CHB. Since its trial operation in April 2014 and up to end February 2016, the PMQ which is larger in scale has attracted over 6 million visitors. Since its opening in July 2013 and up to end February 2016, the CHB has attracted more than 0.46 million

visitors.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)079

(Question Serial No. 4550)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What is the effectiveness of the “Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme” last year? What is the budget for providing administrative support and sponsorship for the operation of the scheme last year? Will such work be enhanced this year?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 61)

Reply:

The “Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme” (CCSS) aims to help resolve billing disputes in deadlock between consumers and their telecommunications service providers. The scheme ran for a trial period of two years from November 2012, and was implemented on a long-term basis from 1 May 2015 upon completion of the review.

During the ten-month period from 1 May 2015 when the long-term implementation of the CCSS commenced to 29 February 2016, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) received a total of 137 applications which met the CCSS's eligibility criteria. Among these applications, 67 cases were successfully settled before referral to the mediation service centre (service centre), 63 were satisfactorily settled after referral by OFCA to the service centre for processing, three did not lead to agreement to mediate between both parties, and the remaining four were pending arrangement of mediation. During the said period, the settlement rate of eligible cases handled under the CCSS was 97.7%.

OFCA supports the CCSS by providing administrative support and sponsoring the necessary operating expenses of the scheme. The expenditure involved is met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

With a view to enabling more users of telecommunications services to learn about the CCSS, OFCA has stepped up publicity for the scheme since January 2016 by publishing feature articles and promotional articles in a number of newspapers and magazines to introduce and promote the scheme.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)080

(Question Serial No. 4552)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In recent years, there are more and more direct marketing calls from the Mainland involving the trades like beauty, fitness, loan, etc. How does the Administration strengthen the regulation of the activities concerned? Will it consider enacting legislation to regulate the relevant activities?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

We noted that even for jurisdictions where legislation is in place to regulate person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), how to effectively regulate telemarketing calls made offshore remains a challenge. As the enforcement process involves cross-border investigation, collection of evidence and prosecution, it shall be conducted in co-operation with the law enforcement agencies of the relevant jurisdictions. Besides, owing to geographical restrictions, conducting investigation and collecting evidence will be considerably difficult and will take longer time and require the allocation of more resources. Moreover, due to differences in the judicial systems and legislation between different regions, it may not be able to initiate prosecution proceeding against the offenders and the effectiveness of the follow-up action is in doubt.

Nevertheless, to further grasp the latest situation of P2P calls, we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a survey with a view to soliciting the views of the public, the business sector and the industry on the regulation of P2P calls, as well as the employment and business situations of the industry, and obtaining information concerning the regulatory measures taken by other jurisdictions on P2P calls for reference. The survey concerned has been completed. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

of the Legislative Council on the findings of the survey at its meeting on 11 April.

The results of the survey have reflected the views of some members of the public and the industry as well as the latest situation of the industry. With a view to soliciting the views of the public more comprehensively, we are about to conduct a public consultation on the way forward for the regulation of P2P calls.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)081

(Question Serial No. 3124)

Head: (55) Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Miss Susie HO)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary stated in this year's Budget Speech that the Government will inject an additional \$20 million into the Film Development Fund (FDF) to subsidise the expenses incurred by locally-produced Cantonese films for distribution and publicity conducted in the Mainland.

- (a) Please advise what kind of support has been provided and what has been done by the Government in the past financial year to assist Hong Kong-produced films and local film companies to enter the Mainland film market.
- (b) Please list the number of film companies that have applied for funding under the FDF, the number of applications approved and their effectiveness in the past financial year.

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (Member Question No. 350)

Reply:

- (a) In the past year, with a view to promoting Hong Kong-produced Cantonese films in Guangdong Province and exploring the Guangdong market for Hong Kong films, the Government of the HKSAR staged the Hong Kong Films Exhibition in Guangzhou featuring a number of Hong Kong films in their original Cantonese versions. Besides, the Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) has co-operated with relevant authorities in Guangdong Province and Macau to organise the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Film Exchange and Visit Programme and the Film Production Investment and Trade Fair to facilitate co-operation among the film industries of the three places and promotion of Hong Kong films to the Mainland.

In order to solve the problem of long lead time for importing Hong Kong films into the Mainland, the Government of the HKSAR and the Mainland signed the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement in November 2015 to provide a green passage for importing Hong Kong films to the Mainland. After being vetted and approved by the Film Import and Export Corporation of the China Film Group Corporation, Hong Kong films may, without any quotas or geographical restrictions, be distributed in the Mainland by companies possessing the Operation Licence for Film Distribution. Over 200 companies possess the Operation Licence for Film Distribution in the market. This opening up measure can help save the time and cost of the Hong Kong film industry in film distribution.

Moreover, with a view to helping Hong Kong-produced films to explore the Mainland market, CreateHK provides funding to Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films distributed in the Mainland through the Film Development Fund (FDF). Each eligible film may receive funding of not more than \$250,000 to subsidise the expenses for distribution and publicity in the Mainland.

- (b) In the financial year 2015-16, the numbers of film companies that applied for funding from various schemes under the FDF are as follows-

Scheme	No. of film companies applied	No. of film companies successfully applied
Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS)	4*	3
Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS)	8	1
Sponsorship for local films nominated to participate in film festivals overseas	9	9
Subsidy scheme for Hong Kong films (Cantonese version) distributed in the Mainland	1	1

* 1 film company submitted 2 applications, one of which is being processed.

The FPFS has just raised the upper limit of the production budget of a film project applying for financing to \$25 million in May last year and the FPGS was newly launched in November last year. The effectiveness of the enhanced FPFS and the new FPGS remains to be seen. Nevertheless, the FPFS has partly financed a total of 33 films since its inception in 2007, which help encourage more commercial investment in filmmaking and create opportunities for nurturing new talents in the local film industry. The sponsorship for Hong Kong films nominated to participate in film festivals overseas and to distribute and release in the Mainland can help promote Hong Kong film productions to the overseas and Mainland film industry and audiences and expand the market for Hong Kong films.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)082

(Question Serial No. 5428)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In line with the development of Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and audio broadcasting, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) plans to provide more output hours of new programmes to the public, with a special focus on the production of DTT. However, the 3 current buildings along Broadcast Drive are no longer sufficient to cope with the staff's need. Therefore, it is necessary to seek more resources and space in order to develop the 24-hour TV and Digital Audio Broadcasting in the future. RTHK's proposal for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) in Tseung Kwan O was vetoed by pro-establishment camp earlier, thus it will be difficult for the staff to cope with the increasing workload in the future. In this regard, when does the Government plan to re-submit the proposal for the construction of the New BH to the Legislative Council?

How much additional resources and existing resources has RTHK allocated in regard to RTHK's takeover of the analogue television services of Asia Television Limited (ATV), and RTHK's additional output hours of DTT in the coming year? Please provide a breakdown of the genres and output hours of RTHK TV's additional first-runs in the coming year. Is there any plan to provide TV news reports on RTHK TV channels?

What are the arrangements and details of RTHK's takeover of the analogue television services of ATV? How much manpower and expenditure is used with respect to the related transmission?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 187)

Reply:

- (a) The funding application for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was not supported by the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in January 2014. Most PWSC Members agreed in principle that there was a need for a New BH but raised serious concern over the cost estimate and scope of the project. RTHK and the Architectural Services Department have since early 2014 been reviewing the proposal,

having regard to the concerns of the PWSC of LegCo over the cost estimate and scope of the New BH Project, with a view to working out the most cost-effective proposal which can address Members' concern.

As the problems encountered during the review process were more complicated than expected, RTHK need more time to complete the review process. RTHK will take forward the New BH Project in accordance with the procedures for implementing Government capital works projects. Upon completion of the review and internal planning, we will follow up on the proposal in accordance with the established mechanism.

- (b) In 2016-17, RTHK will push forward its development of digital terrestrial television (DTT) services by increasing the broadcasting hours of DTT channels. The new expenditures involved are covered by additional recurrent funding (including provision for salaries), which amounts to about \$14.3 million. Regarding the provision of transitional analogue television service, RTHK will arrange for the simulcast of RTHK TV 31 and TV 33 on the 2 analogue channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited (ATV) after the television programme service licence of ATV expires on 2 April this year. RTHK will not produce another set of programmes for the analogue channels.

In 2016-17, RTHK will produce 1 369 hours of first-run DTT television programmes, which is an increase by 34 hours from 2015-16. The distribution of output by programming nature is listed below:

Distribution of Output by Programming Nature	Hours
Current affairs	227
Special interests group (including elderly, minorities and the underprivileged)	86
Youth and children	201
Arts and culture	208
Civic education	296
Continuing education	253
Mainland affairs	98
Total:	1 369

From 2 April 2016, RTHK will provide 1 video news programme every night on RTHK TV 31 (26 minutes every night from Monday to Friday, and 15 minutes every night on Saturday and Sunday) .

- (c) Regarding the transitional analogue television service, RTHK has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of ATV expires on 2 April this year. As stated in (b) above, RTHK will then arrange for the simulcast of RTHK TV 31 and TV 33 on the 2 analogue channels to be vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, and the other will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary with RTHK TV 33, and the work is in progress.

Regarding the transitional analogue television service in 2016-17, the expenditure it involves amount to about \$59.4 million, which covers the expenses of the above-mentioned transmission service, expenses for acquisition of related broadcasting equipment and other related expenses. For the provision of such service, RTHK has not acquired any additional staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)083

(Question Serial No. 5518)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What are the estimates for the salaries and allowances of Director of Broadcasting and Deputy Director of Broadcasting for 2016-17?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 286)

Reply:

The salaries of Director of Broadcasting and Deputy Director of Broadcasting are as follows:

Civil Service Ranks	Notional Annual Mid-Point Salaries
Director of Broadcasting	\$2,683,800
Deputy Director of Broadcasting	\$2,290,800

Regarding allowances, since they depend on the length of service, terms of appointment and other requirements in relation to the civil servants in those posts, and since not all allowances are paid from Head 160 – Radio Television Hong Kong, the information is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)084

(Question Serial No. 3540)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In recent years, the society's interest in football has been rekindled. Traditionally, radio broadcast has been an effective channel for the public to make contact with Hong Kong football. In this regard, can the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In the past 3 years, how many live broadcast of local football matches has Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) provided and what was the expenditure involved?
- (b) In 2016-17, in order to further promote Hong Kong football, will RTHK consider increasing the number of live broadcast of local football matches? If so, what are the specific plans and the estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 271)

Reply:

- (a) In the past 3 years, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) live broadcasted an average of 40 local football matches per year, and the annual expense for the rental of Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) for live audio signal transmission and the hiring of technicians for outdoor live broadcasts was about \$200,000.
- (b) RTHK keeps in close contact with the Hong Kong Football Association and the football clubs. In the event that there are popular matches, RTHK will try to arrange for broadcasting the matches. It is expected that RTHK would live broadcast approximately the same number of matches in 2016-17, and the estimated expenditure of the rental of ISDN for live audio signal transmission and the hiring of technicians for outdoor live broadcasts would be maintained at about \$200,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)085

(Question Serial No. 3862)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Would the Government advise the related expenditures, manpower, review mechanism and effectiveness of the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS) in 2015; and its projected target(s), related expenditures and manpower in 2016? In addition, will there be any changes on the programme content when the CIBS is continued on a pilot basis in 2016? What measure(s) will be taken to enhance the publicity of the CIBS? What is the estimated expenditure in this regard?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 348)

Reply:

In 2012, the Legislative Council Finance Committee approved an allocation of \$45 million for setting up a Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund (CIBF) to subsidise public participation in programme production. In 2015-16, the estimated expenditure of CIBF is \$7.2 million.

The Pilot Project for Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (the project) is operated through the internal deployment and shared use of resources within Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). There is no itemised breakdown of the relevant expenditure.

RTHK has always valued public opinions in regard to the project. From September to November 2014, RTHK conducted a focus group study in order to find out the awareness and opinions of the public and various sectors about the project. The study also provided advice in various aspects on how to improve the quality of the project. The result of the study indicates that the participants generally had positive feedback on the project and considered that the project could involve community members to take part in producing programmes and voice their opinions. The secretariat also invited community members who had programmes successfully produced to participate in opinion surveys on the project. According to the surveys, participants generally considered that the project had helped them

better understand programme production, and it had also achieved the anticipated social gain and enriched their knowledge related to the programme topics.

In 2016-17, RTHK will continue the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service and develop it into an on-going service. The relevant expenditure will be covered by the total expenditure of the Radio Division with no itemised breakdown. RTHK is currently mapping out the future development of the project, including output hours, themes, etc. and RTHK will also strengthen its promotion to the public. The estimated expenditure on promotion for 2016-17 will be about \$3.5 million. The budget will be used to cover advertising on major public transport facilities, mainstream newspapers and publications for ethnic minorities, culture magazines, internet platforms, social media, etc. and the upgrading works of the project's online platform.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)086

(Question Serial No. 3863)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Radio Television Hong Kong launched a trial run for its 3 digital terrestrial television channels in 2014 and introduced new services in 2015. In regard to each of the channels, please inform us of each item of expenditure involved, manpower resources involved and allocation of such, the anticipated number of viewers and plans for future work.

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 349)

Reply:

In 2016-17, the total provision of the TV Division of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is \$523.7 million, including the provision for the 3 digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels and the transmission of the transitional analogue television service. \$464.3 million of the provision will be used for the programme production of the 3 DTT channels and all the related operation cost. For the effective use of resources, the production equipment and manpower resources for the 3 DTT channels are shared among themselves and not calculated separately.

The staffing establishment of Public Affairs and General Television Programme consists of a total of 383 non-directorate staff, including 204 programme production staff and 179 production supporting staff.

The DTT service provided by RTHK is still in the development stage, and the signal can cover about 80% of the population in Hong Kong. However, according to the Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong commissioned by RTHK, the results of the telephone interview conducted in January 2016, with respect to the reception of RTHK digital TV signal indicated that, in the 1 063 samples successfully interviewed, 55% responded that they could watch RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 at home, and 41% indicated that they had watched RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 before.

RTHK is planning to enhance its DTT services. RTHK's DTT network is anticipated to extend to a coverage of about 99% of the local population by early 2019. RTHK is also

preparing to launch a complete 24-hour service on RTHK TV 31 in the future. RTHK's current plan is to gradually increase the production hours of its first-run TV programmes by 215 hours in 5 years, from around 1 335 hours in 2015-16 to 1 550 hours in 2020-21.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)087

(Question Serial No. 3864)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On the plan for the construction of the New Broadcasting House in Tseung Kwan O in relation to television services, can the Government provide details on the current work progress, and the estimated expenditures and manpower involved in the planning?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 350)

Reply:

The funding application for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was not supported by the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council in January 2014. Most PWSC Members agreed in principle that there was a need for a New BH but had grave concerns over the project estimate and scope. RTHK and the Architectural Services Department have been, since early 2014, conducting thorough review of the project taking into account the concerns of the PWSC Members with a view to working out the most cost-effective proposal while at the same time addressing Members' comments.

Since the issues encountered during the review were more complicated than expected, we need more time to deal with them. We will take forward the New BH Project in accordance with the procedures for implementing Government capital works projects. Upon completion of the review and internal planning, we will follow up on the proposal in accordance with the established mechanism.

The relevant expenditure on the planning of the New BH has been covered by Head 160 - Radio Television Hong Kong without an itemised breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)088

(Question Serial No. 3865)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the transmission of programmes on the 2 analogue television channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited, can the Government provide us with the current work plans and progress, and each item of estimated expenditure involved and manpower resources required as planned?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 351)

Reply:

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. The works are proceeding on schedule.

In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees of the aforementioned transmission service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)089

(Question Serial No. 2564)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Under this programme, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the operational expenses, staff establishment and estimated annual salary expenditure for Channel 7 in 2016-17?
- (b) What are the numbers of listeners and audience ratings of Channel 7 in 2015-16?
- (c) What are the operational expenses, staff establishment and estimated annual salary expenditure for DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting) 31 in 2016-17?
- (d) What are the numbers of audience and audience ratings of DAB-31 in 2015-16?
- (e) What are the operational expenses, staff establishment and estimated annual salary expenditure for DAB-32 in 2016-17?
- (f) What are the numbers of audience and audience ratings of DAB-32 in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

Reply:

(a), (c) and (e)

In 2016-17, the estimates of operational expenses (including salaries) of the Radio Division of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) are \$385 million, with a staff establishment of 291. Regarding individual channels, no breakdown of expenditure of such is available.

- (b) According to a listenership survey conducted in November 2015, the number of listeners who had listened to Channel 7 in the past 7 days was 267 000, with a listenership of 4%.
- (d) According to a survey conducted by RTHK between August and September 2015, of the listeners who had listened to DAB in the past 7 days and were certain of which DAB channel they were listening, the listenership of RTHK DAB 31 was 12.2%.
- (f) We do not have information on the number of listeners of RTHK DAB 32 of 2016-17. According to the survey conducted by RTHK between August and September 2015, of the listeners who had listened to DAB in the past 7 days and were certain of which DAB channel they were listening, the listenership of RTHK DAB 32 was 2.1%.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)090

(Question Serial No. 5618)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

So far only one digital terrestrial television channel provides news programmes; regarding this, please inform us of whether Radio Television Hong Kong will increase its news hours in order to keep viewers informed of the latest information.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 797)

Reply:

Regarding news programmes, from 2 April 2016, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will provide 1 video news programme every night on RTHK TV 31 (26 minutes every night from Monday to Friday, and 15 minutes every night on Saturday and Sunday).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)091

(Question Serial No. 2514)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) According to the Estimates, the amount under “cost per hour” of production is \$276,200 for 2014-15, \$311,400 for 2015-16, and even \$328,700 for 2016-17, which is quite an increase. Does the Government know the cost of production per hour of other privately-owned TV stations? Compared with them, is the cost of production per hour of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) reasonable, or on the high side?
- (b) How many complaints from the public regarding in-house productions has RTHK received in the past 3 years? How many of these complaints are about programmes of current and public affairs? What are the main aspects of the contents of these complaints?
- (c) What measures does RTHK currently have to ensure that the current and public affairs programmes produced, covered or hosted by frontline staff all abide within the principles of fairness and impartiality, with no exercising of special favour for the speech, stance and party identity of any one side, nor with launching of constant attack on the speech, stance and party of any one side?

Asked by: Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun (Member Question No. 42)

Reply:

- (a) The “cost per hour” has increased for 2016-17, which is due to the increase in operational expenses. The reasons for such increase in expenses include: overall civil service pay adjustment, increase in staffing establishment, the expenses related to the enhancement of digital terrestrial television services, etc. Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) does not have any information about the production costs of other privately-owned TV stations; moreover, as RTHK’s mode and principles of operation are different from those of the local privately-owned TV stations, it is not appropriate to compare RTHK’s production costs with theirs directly.

- (b) In the past 3 years, a total of 19 complaints against the programmes of RTHK were substantiated by the Office of the Communications Authority; 5 of them were related to current and public affairs programmes. The subject matter of the complaints was about accuracy of contents (3), comprehensiveness of presentation of viewpoints (1), and suitability of transmission in family viewing time (1).
- (c) As a public broadcaster, RTHK requires its production staff to observe public purposes set out in the Charter of Radio Television Hong Kong as production principles, including “to provide an open platform for the free exchange of views without fear or favour”; at the same time, every programme staff member must observe the criteria as set out in “Producers’ Guidelines” to produce programmes of impartial contents in a professional and impartial manner.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)092

(Question Serial No. 1981)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-2017, the cost per hour of a Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) programme is estimated at \$328,700, which is higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16. Please inform this Committee of the following

- (a) The reasons for the increase in cost;
- (b) Although the cost of a programme has increased, the average viewership of prime-time programmes of the two free television broadcasters has dropped, what are the reasons?
- (c) Has RTHK conducted surveys on the average station sharing percentage of the RTHK programmes on RTHK 31? If so, please list the breakdown by programme names. If not, why did RTHK not conduct such surveys? Will RTHK conduct such surveys in the future?

Asked by: Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai (Member Question No. 33)

Reply:

- (a) The “cost per hour” has increased for 2016-17, which is due to the increase in operational expenses. The reasons for such increase in expenses include: overall adjustment in civil service pay, increase in staffing establishment, the expenses related to the enhancement of digital terrestrial television (DTT) services, etc.
- (b) The TV rating surveys were provided by industry-wide professional market research study companies. The research reports indicate that generally speaking, the number of people watching television is constantly decreasing in Hong Kong.
- (c) The DTT service provided by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is still in the development stage, and the signal can cover about 80% of the population in Hong Kong. However, according to the Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong commissioned by RTHK, the results of the telephone interview conducted

in January 2016, with respect to the reception of RTHK digital TV signal indicated that, in the 1 063 samples successfully interviewed, 55% responded that they could watch RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 at home, and 41% indicated that they had watched RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 before. In addition, RTHK has conducted a “Television Programmes Appreciation Index Survey” on its DTT programmes, so as to reflect the quality and acceptability of RTHK television programmes in a more accurate and effective way. According to the survey in 2015, RTHK programmes scored the highest amongst all local stations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)093

(Question Serial No. 3619)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

How will the Government make use of the budget provision to ensure that the news production of Radio Television Hong Kong is independent and free from undue influences?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 295)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is the public service broadcaster in Hong Kong. According to the "Charter of RTHK", the public purposes and mission of RTHK include providing an open platform for the free exchange of views without fear or favour. The Charter also stipulates that RTHK is editorially independent, the editorial principles adhered by RTHK include being impartial in the views it reflects, and even-handed with all those who seek to express their views via the public service broadcasting platform; and being immune from commercial, political and/or other influences.

The programme production and editorial principles upheld by RTHK have no connection to the budget provision.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)094

(Question Serial No. 3620)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Last year, several programmes, of which the hosts/hostesses had participated in the umbrella movement, were discontinued, allegedly because of political pressure, so as to de-politicise the programmes. How will Radio Television Hong Kong make use of the budget provisions to safeguard the programmes' diversified voices and views?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 296)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is the public service broadcaster in Hong Kong. According to the "Charter of RTHK", the public purposes and mission of RTHK include providing an open platform for the free exchange of views without fear or favour. The Charter also stipulates that RTHK is editorially independent, the editorial principles adhered by RTHK include being impartial in the views it reflects, and even-handed with all those who seek to express their views via the public service broadcasting platform; and being immune from commercial, political and/or other influences.

The programme production and editorial principles upheld by RTHK have no connection to the budget provision.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)095

(Question Serial No. 6616)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The provision for 2016-17 is 10.9% higher than the original estimate for 2015-16, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 293)

Reply:

The provision for 2016-17 is 10.9% higher than the original estimate for 2015-16. It is mainly due to enhancement of the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service, increase in operating expenses, filling of vacancies, increase in staffing establishment and overall civil service pay adjustment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)096

(Question Serial No. 6617)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

After Radio Television Hong Kong's takeover of the Asia Television Limited's analogue channels, what will be the additional expenditure involved? How many output hours in total will be provided every week after the takeover?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 297)

Reply:

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. The works are proceeding on schedule. The output hours of programmes provided every week on RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 from 2 April 2016 will be 133 hours and 168 hours respectively.

In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees of the aforementioned transmission service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)097

(Question Serial No. 6619)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On the planning of the construction of the New Broadcasting House in Tseung Kwan O, what is the current work progress? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 300)

Reply:

The funding application for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was not supported by the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council in January 2014. Most PWSC Members agreed in principle that there was a need for a New BH but had grave concerns over the project estimate and scope. RTHK and the Architectural Services Department have been, since early 2014, conducting thorough review of the project, taking into account the concerns of the PWSC Members with a view to working out the most cost-effective proposal while at the same time addressing Members' comments.

Since the issues encountered during the review were more complicated than expected, we need more time to deal with them. We will take forward the New BH Project in accordance with the procedures for implementing Government capital works projects. Upon completion of the review and internal planning, we will follow up on the proposal in accordance with the established mechanism. The relevant expenditure on the planning of the New BH has been covered by Head 160 - Radio Television Hong Kong without an itemised breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)098

(Question Serial No. 6620)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) New Media

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The provision for 2016-17 is 19.7% higher than the original estimate for 2015-16, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 302)

Reply:

The provision for 2016-17 is 19.7% higher than the original estimate for 2015-16. It is mainly due to the overall civil service pay adjustment, filling of vacancies and increase in operational expenses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)099

(Question Serial No. 0394)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-17, Radio Television Hong Kong will continue to expand its services, including strengthening promotion to attract more applicants for the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS); continuing to produce new programmes for Digital Audio Broadcast (DAB) channels and promoting the awareness of DAB broadcasts; producing programmes relating to the 2016 Olympics to be held in Brazil; introducing oral history programmes to document the cultural heritage of local culture and creative industries, etc. In this regard, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many additional civil service staff will the Government recruit in 2016-17? Please give a breakdown by grade and rank. What is the increase over that of 2015-16? How much expenditure will be involved?
- (b) How many additional non-civil service contract staff will the Government recruit in 2016-17? Please give a breakdown by grade and rank. What is the increase over that of 2015-16? How much expenditure will be involved?

Asked by: Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

- (a) In 2016-17, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will have an increase of 19 non-directorate posts. Among the 19 posts to be created, 10 are additional posts while the remaining 9 are newly created posts to replace corresponding non-civil service contract (NCSC) positions which have a long-term need. The 10 additional posts to be created in 2016-17 represent an increase of 10 posts over that in 2015-16 (no additional post). The cost of these posts, in terms of notional annual mid-point salary value, is about \$5.23 million. The breakdown of the 10 posts by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Additional Posts
Senior Programme Officer	1

Programme Officer	2
Assistant Programme Officer	7
Total	10

For the 9 Civil Service posts to be converted from NCSC positions, they represent an increase of 6 posts over that in 2015-16 (3 posts). The cost of these posts, in terms of notional annual mid-point salary value, is about \$3.79 million. The breakdown of the 9 posts by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Additional Posts
Senior Programme Officer	1
Assistant Programme Officer	4
Senior Technical Officer	1
Supplies Supervisor II	1
Supplies Assistant	1
Assistant Clerical Officer	1
Total	9

- (b) In 2016-17, depending on operational needs, RTHK will employ NCSC staff and, where necessary, re-deploy internal resources to meet the requirement.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)100

(Question Serial No. 0964)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-17, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will proceed with transmission of programmes on the two analogue TV channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited in April 2016. Given that the total hours of output of RTHK will reach 34 700 hours in the coming year, doubling the 17 000 hours in 2015-16, what are the transitional arrangements, estimated expenditure and manpower; and are they adequate for handling the additional workload?

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

Reply:

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. The works are proceeding on schedule.

In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees of the aforementioned transmission service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)101

(Question Serial No. 0791)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Among the staff of Radio Television Hong Kong, what are the respective numbers, percentages and emoluments of civil servants (CS) and non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff? Please advise the numbers of NCSC staff by post. Among the staff recruited this year, what are the respective numbers of CS and NCSC staff? What are the numbers of staff employed by internal recruitment and open recruitment respectively? What is the distribution of such posts by rank and what are the remuneration packages?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 9)

Reply:

As at 31 December 2015, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) had a total strength of 890 staff, including 638 civil servants (CS) (71.7% of the total staff) and 245 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff (27.5% of the total staff). The remaining 7 are staff engaged under departmental contracts in the past.

The salaries of CS are as follows:

Civil Service Ranks		Salaries of the Ranks	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade:	Director of Broadcasting	\$217,150-\$223,650	1
	Deputy Director of Broadcasting	\$180,200-\$196,700	1
	Assistant Director of Broadcasting	\$154,950-\$169,450	1
	Controller (Broadcasting	\$130,500-\$142,750	2

Civil Service Ranks	Salaries of the Ranks	Number of Staff
Services)		
Chief Programme Officer	\$101,620-\$117,080	12
Principal Programme Officer	\$80,990-\$95,215	27
Senior Programme Officer	\$63,095-\$77,650	57
Programme Officer	\$49,645-\$62,235	146
Assistant Programme Officer	\$25,505-\$47,235	190
Programme Assistant	\$13,120-\$24,280	22
Ranks in other grades:	\$11,575-\$196,700	179
Total		638

The salaries of NCSC staff are as follows:

NCSC Positions' Comparable Civil Service Ranks	Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Principal Programme Officer	\$88,125	2
Senior Programme Officer	\$52,180-\$64,745	7
Programme Officer	\$32,560-\$51,805	22
Assistant Programme Officer	\$10,500-\$31,020	123
Programme Assistant	\$11,575-\$17,995	10
Ranks in other grades:	\$10,885-\$74,210	81
Total		245

As at 31 December 2015, a total of 53 CS were recruited. Among them, 24 were former NCSC staff of RTHK. The ranks and salaries of the 53 CS are as follows:

Civil Service Ranks	Salaries of the	Number
----------------------------	------------------------	---------------

	Ranks	of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Senior Programme Officer	\$63,095-\$77,650	1
Programme Officer	\$49,645-\$62,235	14
Assistant Programme Officer	\$25,505-\$47,235	23
Programme Assistant	\$13,120-\$24,280	7
Ranks in other grades:	\$17,995-\$95,215	8
Total		53

Meanwhile, a total of 62 persons were recruited as NCSC staff. Their comparable civil service ranks and salaries are as follows:

NCSC Positions' Comparable Civil Service Ranks	Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Senior Programme Officer	\$63,095-\$64,745	2
Programme Officer	\$32,560-\$37,590	8
Assistant Programme Officer	\$10,500-\$20,305	26
Programme Assistant	\$11,575	2
Ranks in other grades:	\$10,885-\$67,745	24
Total		62

When determining the pay level of NCSC staff, RTHK would follow the guidelines of the Civil Service Bureau and take into consideration the prevailing employment market, recruitment situation of relevant job categories and pay level of newly recruited civil servants of comparable civil service ranks. These factors may change from time to time, and the experiences as well as qualifications required for individual NCSC positions may differ. Hence, the salaries of serving and newly recruited NCSC staff may not be the same. However, RTHK would take into account the principle of internal parity when considering the offer of higher pay level to new NCSC staff of the same rank.

Furthermore, RTHK would regularly review the pay of serving NCSC staff under the established mechanism. As some of the serving NCSC staff have longer service in RTHK, their salaries will be higher than the newly recruited NCSC staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)102

(Question Serial No. 0792)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please list the estimate and work for Radio Television Hong Kong Board of Advisors in 2015-16. What are the work plans of the Board in 2016-17? Is there any plan of opening the meetings of the Board to the public so as to enhance their transparency?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has been providing secretariat support service to the RTHK Board of Advisors (the Board) through internal deployment of staff, and RTHK has no separate estimate for the Board. The major works of the Board in 2015-16 are the studies and discussions of RTHK in terms of the "Community Involvement Broadcasting Service", the development of digital terrestrial television services, interaction and participation of the youth, culture and history programmes, acquired programmes, the development of new media, etc.

In 2016-17, the Board will continue its work in accordance with the "RTHK Charter".

Agendas, discussion papers, minutes of meetings and annual reports of the Board are all uploaded onto the RTHK website to inform the public about its work. The Board has no plan of opening up its meetings.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)103

(Question Serial No. 0793)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In regard to the pilot project of the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS), please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) How many applicants have applied for the CIBS since its launch? How many successful applicants are there among them? Among the successful applicants, how many of them are ethnic minorities? What are the details?
- (b) Has the Government received any comments from the participants on the CIBS? What are the details?
- (c) The Government has indicated that it would strengthen the promotion, what is the estimated expenditure concerned? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 11)

Reply:

- (a) Since the launch of the pilot project of the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS), we received a total of 705 applications from the first to the seventh round. After the selection process of the first to the sixth round, applications from a total of 142 groups and 43 individuals were successful (the selection process for the seventh round was carried out on 19 and 20 March). From the first to the seventh round, we received a total of 101 applications under the theme of "ethnic minorities". 46 applications under this category were successful in the first to the sixth round selection. We do not analyse the ethnicity of applicants whether they are groups or individuals.
- (b) Radio Television Hong Kong has always valued the opinions of participants on the CIBS. We have therefore invited participants to complete and return the opinion surveys on CIBS after the broadcast of each programme, with a view to understanding their opinions about CIBS. According to the surveys, participants generally

considered that CIBS had helped them better understand radio programme production, and it had also achieved the anticipated social gain and enriched their knowledge related to the programme topics.

Moreover, starting from the end of February 2016, successful applicants can also contact the secretariat through the online platform of CIBS to voice their opinions.

- (c) The estimated expenditure on promotion for 2016-17 will be about \$3.5 million. The budget will be used to cover advertising on major public transport facilities, mainstream newspapers and publications for ethnic minorities, culture magazines, internet platforms, social media, etc. The budget will also cover additional briefing sessions for the public and large-scale outreaching activities. In addition, the online platform of CIBS will be upgraded in line with the CIBS being established as an on-going service, so as to accord with sustainable development.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)104

(Question Serial No. 0797)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) New Media

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What was the download rate of RTHK News, the new mobile application, in the past year? Has any feedback from users been received? If so, what are the details? Regarding this application, what new initiatives is the Government going to implement in 2016-17? What are the estimated expenditures?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 16)

Reply:

- (a) The mobile application RTHK News was launched on 24 August 2015. As at 29 February 2016, it has been downloaded for 25 500 times in total.
- (b) Ever since the launch of the mobile application "RTHK News", Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has received feedback and they are in general positive and supportive.
- (c) We are planning to introduce live video broadcast functions on the mobile application RTHK News in 2016-17 and the estimated expenditure is \$100,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)105

(Question Serial No. 0804)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In paragraph 148 of the 2015-16 Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary mentioned “I asked all policy bureaux to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising. I have also launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of two per cent over the next three financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services.” Please inform this Committee of how Radio Television Hong Kong will implement the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the services affected and the details of the expenditure involved.

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

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will re-engineer and re-prioritise our work to achieve more efficient use of resources. Without affecting our provision of information, education and entertainment broadcast programmes to the public, we will reduce operating expenditure to meet the objectives of the “0-1-1” envelope savings. The reprioritisation and re-engineering measures that we will adopt are as follows:

- (a) installation of new filming equipment which can allow more efficient processing of lighting and audio arrangements, so as to reduce some manpower requirements through advanced technology;
- (b) installation of virtual set, so as to reduce the time, labour and materials for construction of sets, thereby enhancing the efficiency of studio shooting;
- (c) speeding up the migration to file-based production to streamline workflow, so as to reduce the expenses for the post-production of final assembly of programmes; and
- (d) rationalisation of publicity plans to reduce programme publicity budget.

In 2016-17, the total expenditure of RTHK is estimated at \$978 million, which is an increase of \$155 million (18.9%) from the original estimates in 2015-16. This reflects that part of the new resources freed from the “0-1-1” envelope savings by the Government will be re-allocated to RTHK to be used for enhancing the digital terrestrial television service of RTHK, putting forward the transmission of programmes through the 2 analogue TV channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited, and developing the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service into an on-going service, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)106

(Question Serial No. 1213)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title): (603) Plant, Vehicles and Equipment

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please describe the reasons for and details of Item 899 “Production equipment for enhancement of Digital Terrestrial Television service” set up under Subhead 603, its estimated expenditures in 2016-17, and the estimated cash flow in each following financial year.

Asked by: Hon LEE Cheuk-yan (Member Question No. 24)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will enhance its digital terrestrial television (DTT) service. Upon completion of the building of 22 DTT fill-in stations, RTHK's network coverage will expand and the number of households receiving its programmes will increase. When the establishment is completed in the first quarter of 2019, RTHK's DTT signals are expected to be able to cover about 99% of Hong Kong's population. RTHK also plans to increase gradually its output of first-run TV programmes from about 1 335 hours in 2015-16 by about 215 hours to 1 550 in 2020-21, representing an increase of 16.1%.

To cater for the increase in output hours of TV programmes in the coming years, additional production equipment and system are required to be procured for the processing and production of additional TV programmes to be acquired and commissioned. These include additional production workstations and servers with the required licenses, file-based quality checking system, near-line storage system and network equipment. The additional production equipment and system will be used to provide quality assurance for those additional acquired and commissioned TV programmes to ensure that they meet the current technical and programme standards promulgated by the regulatory authority.

The estimated cost of production equipment and system is \$15.53 million which would be reflected in the budget estimates of the relevant years, with the breakdown as follows -

	\$ million
(a) Production workstations, servers, accessories and licenses	6.19
(b) File-based Quality Checking (QC) System	5.13
(c) Near-line storage system and network equipment	2.21
(d) Hardware and software for programme development on new media platform	0.50
(e) Contingency	1.50
Total	<u>15.53</u>

The estimated cash flow requirement is as follows –

Year	\$ million
2016-17	10.87
2017-18	3.11
2018-19	<u>1.55</u>
Total	<u>15.53</u>

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)107

(Question Serial No. 2179)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the estimated number of staff, annual emoluments, housing allowances and the expenses on visits and entertainment pertaining to the following posts in Radio Television Hong Kong in 2016-17:

Director of Broadcasting
Senior Personal Secretary to Director of Broadcasting
Deputy Director of Broadcasting
Departmental Secretary
Personal Secretary I
Chief Executive Officer
Senior Engineer
Engineer
Senior Technical Officer
Technical Officer
Senior Executive Officer
Executive Officer
Programme Officer
Senior Clerical Officer
Clerical Officer
Supplies Officer
Assistant Supplies Officer
Supplies Supervisor I
Head of News and Current Affairs
News Manager
Deputy Head/Chief Assignment Editor
Assistant Chief Assignment Editor
Assignment Editor
Deputy Head/Multi-media Chief Editor
Multi-media Assistant Chief Editor
Principal Sub-editor

Assistant Managing Editor
 Deputy Head/Managing Editor
 Head/Radio Development and Culture & Education Unit
 Deputy Head/Radio Development and Culture & Education Unit
 Producer
 Head of Programme Service
 Executive Producer
 Deputy Head of Programme Service
 Producer
 Head of Corporate Development Unit
 Head of Programme & Content Management
 Business Development Officer
 Head of Business Development
 Senior Programme Officer
 Programme Officer
 Programme Officer/Record Library
 Principal Programme Officer
 Senior Programme Officer
 Cameraman
 Senior Editor
 Editor
 Senior Graphic Designer
 Graphic Designer
 Senior Animation Designer
 Animation Designer

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 2036)

Reply:

The salaries of the staff of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), including civil servants (CS), non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff and departmental contract staff, are determined by their respective civil service ranks or comparable civil service ranks. As at 31 December 2015, RTHK had a total strength of 890 staff, including 638 CS staff, 245 NCSC staff and 7 staff engaged under departmental contracts in the past.

The salaries of CS staff are as follows:

Civil Service Ranks	Notional Annual Mid-Point Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Director of Broadcasting	\$2,683,800	1
Deputy Director of Broadcasting	\$2,290,800	1
Assistant Director of Broadcasting	\$1,973,400	1
Controller (Broadcasting Services)	\$1,663,200	2
Chief Programme Officer	\$1,309,080	12
Principal Programme Officer	\$1,057,500	27
Senior Programme Officer	\$851,460	57
Programme Officer	\$681,240	146
Assistant Programme Officer	\$430,680	190
Programme Assistant	\$229,920	22

Civil Service Ranks	Notional Annual Mid-Point Salaries	Number of Staff
Ranks in other grades:	\$167,640 - \$2,290,800	179
Total		638

The salaries of NCSC staff are as follows:

NCSC Positions Comparable to Civil Service Ranks	Annual Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Principal Programme Officer	around \$1,057,500	2
Senior Programme Officer	around \$626,160 - \$776,940	7
Programme Officer	around \$390,720 - \$621,660	22
Assistant Programme Officer	around \$126,000 - \$372,240	123
Programme Assistant	around \$138,900 - \$215,940	10
Ranks in other grades:	around \$130,620 - \$890,520	81
Total		245

The salaries of the staff engaged under departmental contracts in the past are as follows:

Comparable Civil Service Ranks	Annual Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade: Assistant Programme Officer	around \$391,000 - \$495,000	5
Programme Assistant	around \$230,000 - \$275,000	2
Total		7

When determining the pay level of NCSC staff, RTHK would follow the guidelines of the Civil Service Bureau and take into consideration the prevailing employment market, recruitment situation of relevant job categories and pay level of newly recruited civil servants of comparable civil service ranks. These factors may change from time to time, and the experiences as well as qualifications required for individual NCSC positions may also differ. Hence, the salaries of serving and newly recruited NCSC staff may not be the same. However, RTHK would take into account the principle of internal parity when considering the offer of higher pay level to new NCSC staff of the same rank. Furthermore, RTHK would regularly review the pay of serving NCSC staff under the established mechanism. As some of the serving NCSC staff have longer service in RTHK, their salaries will be higher than the newly recruited NCSC staff.

Housing allowances for CS staff of RTHK are not paid from Head 160 – RTHK.

In 2016-17, RTHK staff will undertake duty visits on the basis of operational need. At this stage, there are no definite plans for such visits. As regards official entertainment, the estimated expenditure for 2016-17 is \$50,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)108

(Question Serial No. 2736)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) In the past year, what was the average viewership of the digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK)? What measures are there to market and promote RTHK DTT channels and boost viewership?
- (b) In the past year, how many arts and culture TV programmes were produced by RTHK? How many hours of such programmes were aired? What was the number of viewers? What were the expenditures and staffing establishment involved?
- (c) In the past year, how many sports TV programmes were produced by RTHK? How many hours of such programmes were aired? What was the number of viewers? What were the expenditures and staffing establishment involved?
- (d) In the coming year, how many arts and culture, and sports TV programmes does RTHK plan to produce respectively? What are the details? What are the expenditures and staffing establishment involved?
- (e) In the past year, how many TV programmes were acquired by RTHK? How many hours of such programmes were involved? What were the expenditures involved? Among the acquired programmes, how many of them are produced locally? How many are produced overseas or in the Mainland? What were the expenditures involved in the acquired programmes produced locally?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 36)

Reply:

- (a) The digital terrestrial television (DTT) service provided by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is still in the development stage, and the signal can cover about 80% of the population in Hong Kong. According to the Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong commissioned by RTHK, the results of the telephone interview conducted in January 2016, with respect to the reception of RTHK digital

TV signal indicated that, in the 1 063 samples successfully interviewed, 55% responded that they could watch RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 at home, and 41% indicated that they had watched RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 before.

In addition, RTHK has conducted a “Television Programme Appreciation Index Survey” on its DTT programmes, so as to reflect the quality and acceptability of RTHK programmes in a more accurate and effective way. According to the survey in 2015, RTHK programmes scored the highest amongst local stations.

Regarding the promotion and publicity of the RTHK DTT channels, RTHK has been maintaining contact since July 2013 with property management companies, property management offices, Owners’ Corporations, antenna maintenance contractors, etc. to introduce DTT services. Briefing sessions are also held to promote antenna upgrading works. Subsequently, we have also contacted major estate management companies on a regular basis to enquire the work progress and promote the ways to receive DTT services.

Besides private properties, RTHK also contacted the Housing Department (HD) since September 2013 for upgrading the Communal Aerial Broadcast Distribution (CABD) systems in public housing estates. With the staunch support of HD, the upgrading works of the CABD systems in public rental housing estates under the management of HD within the signal coverage area have been substantially completed and RTHK DTT reception is available.

To address the problem of former and existing subscribers of Hong Kong Cable Television Limited (Cable TV) who could not receive RTHK TV channels via Cable TV’s CABD even after upgrading of the public antennae, RTHK has worked with Cable TV to transmit RTHK’s DTT signals through its transmission system in individual residential estates via DTT signals interconnection. With completion of the works, most of Cable TV’s subscribers of those residential estates are able to watch RTHK’s 3 DTT channels.

In addition, RTHK operates a telephone hotline and an email services for the exclusive purpose of answering all sorts of enquiries from the public about reception of RTHK DTT channels. Publicity methods such as press conferences; radio and TV promotional trailers/videos; advertisements in newspapers, on MTR platforms and bus bodies; campaigns to approach the community such as “31 Red Ball” Project, roving exhibitions, etc. are adopted to promote the RTHK TV channels and the ways to receive DTT services. A Channel Tuning Service Team was set up by RTHK in August 2015. The team targets to visit 2 public housing estates on 4 days every month, answering the public’s enquiries relating to the proper reception of RTHK’s DTT channels as well as providing door-to-door tuning service. In 2016-17, we will continue to promote RTHK TV channels and the ways to receive DTT services through different means with a view to allowing more people to watch RTHK TV channels.

- (b) In 2015-16, RTHK has produced 1 335 hours of TV programmes, within which arts and culture programmes account for around 203 hours. Prime-time programmes

broadcast on Asia Television Limited (ATV) has an average viewership of 61 000; and for those broadcast on Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), the average viewership reaches 610 436. RTHK does not formulate separate budget and staff establishment for arts and culture programmes.

- (c) In 2015-16, sports and health programmes account for around 38.5 hours. Prime-time programmes broadcast on ATV has an average viewership of 61 000; and for those broadcast on TVB, the average viewership reaches 610 436. RTHK does not formulate separate budget and staff establishment for sports and health programmes.
- (d) In the coming year, the ratio of arts and culture, and sports and health programmes to be produced by RTHK will be similar to that in 2015-16.
- (e) In 2015-16, RTHK has acquired 536 programmes which account for around 252 hours. The cost and production expenditure of acquired programmes are on average \$118,100 per hour.

With regard to the selection of acquired programmes, it is based on whether such programmes contain the creativity, production standard and content that correspond to RTHK's mission as a public service broadcaster, which is, endeavouring in collecting and covering news and information, popularisation of science, arts and culture and children's programmes in areas not adequately met by commercial broadcasters.

Based on the aforementioned mission, RTHK's current acquired programmes come from the Mainland and around the world, with countries and regions including U.K., France, Japan, U.S.A., Germany, South America, Australia, the Netherlands, Finland, Canada, Sweden, Norway, India, South Korea, etc., with a view to widening the audience's horizon.

In 2015-16, RTHK has not acquired any programmes produced locally. However, RTHK has been providing platforms for new local producers through the commissioning of TV programmes, so that their works, which stretch from documentary, drama to animation, can be broadcast on RTHK TV channels and new media platforms. As such, creativity can be absorbed by the local broadcasting industry, and talents can be nurtured.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)109

(Question Serial No. 2744)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) The 2016-17 estimate for Programme (2), ie. Public Affairs and General Television Programme, see an increase from the revised estimate of 2015-16 by 26%. What is the purpose of the increase in the expenditure concerned? What are the details?
- (b) Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is going to take over the analogue spectrum freed by Asia TV upon the expiry of its domestic free television programme service licence. What is the current status of RTHK's work regarding this?
- (c) What are the expenditures of 2016-17 involved in RTHK's takeover of the analogue spectrum? What is the staffing establishment involved?
- (d) Will RTHK provide 24-hour TV broadcasting service in the future? If so, what are the details and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons for such?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 44)

Reply:

- (a) The 2016-17 estimate of expenditure under Programme (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is 26% higher than the revised estimate of 2015-16. The reasons for such increase include: all expenditures in relation to putting forward the transmission of programmes on the 2 analogue television channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited (ATV), the enhancement of digital terrestrial television (DTT) services, filling of vacant posts, etc.
- (b) Regarding the transitional analogue television service, RTHK has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the free television programme service licence of ATV expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the DTT channels to be simulcast

respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33, and the work is in progress.

- (c) Regarding the transitional analogue television service in 2016-17, the expenditure it involves amount to about \$59.4 million, which covers the fees to be paid to the service provider of analogue television transmission service for RTHK, expenses for acquisition of related broadcasting equipment and other related expenses. For the provision of such service, RTHK has not acquired any additional manpower.
- (d) RTHK is planning to enhance its DTT services. RTHK's DTT network is anticipated to extend to a coverage of about 99% of the local population by early 2019. RTHK is also preparing to launch a complete 24-hour service on RTHK TV 31 in the future. RTHK's current plan is to gradually increase the production hours of its first-run TV programmes by 215 hours, from about 1 335 hours in 2015-16 to 1 550 hours in 2020-21.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)110

(Question Serial No. 2114)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The free TV licence of Asia Television Limited will expire on 1 April, and Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is preparing to take over part of its frequency spectrum for broadcasting. In this regard, please inform the Committee of the latest progress, estimated expenditure in the coming year, and manpower arrangement involved in the related work of RTHK?

Asked by: Hon Claudia MO (Member Question No. 42)

Reply:

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. The works are proceeding on schedule.

In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees of the aforementioned transmission service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)111

(Question Serial No. 5344)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Programme (2) of Head 160 mentions the expenditure of the digital terrestrial television (DTT) services of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). Would the Government inform us of the following:

- (a) the number of transmitting stations (by transmitters, transmitting stations, fill-in stations, etc., in a breakdown) currently used by RTHK to provide DTT services, and their operational expenses in 2015-16;
- (b) the estimated expenditure for the whole project of establishing 22 fill-in stations in 5 years by phases for DTT services, which is underway as indicated by RTHK, and the actual expenditure as at present;
- (c) the timetable of the remaining part of the project in respect of (b) having regard that the first 5 fill-in stations are expected to be completed by early to mid-2016; and
- (d) the format and estimated expenditure of the promotional activities on DTT reception in 2016-17, which is estimated to be in a number of 65?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 132)

Reply:

- (a) As at March 2016, the digital terrestrial television (DTT) transmitting stations / fill-in stations of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) now in operation are listed in the table below:

		Number
Transmitting stations	Temple Hill, Kowloon Peak, Cloudy Hill, Castle Peak, Lamma Island, Golden Hill, Mount Nicholson	7
Fill-in stations	Brick Hill, Sai Wan Shan, Hill 374 (Yuen Long),	5

		Number
	Pottinger Peak, Stanley	

In 2015-16, the total operating expenditure incurred by RTHK on DTT transmitting stations is \$13.63 million.

- (b) The estimated expenditure for the whole project of establishing 22 DTT fill-in stations is \$64.2 million. As at March 2016, the actual expenditure incurred is \$9.82 million.
- (c) In early 2016, RTHK completed the construction of the first batch of 5 fill-in stations, which commenced service in March 2016. RTHK is now working on the preparation and tendering procedures for the second batch of 6 other fill-in stations; these fill-in stations are expected to commence service gradually at the end of 2016. The third batch of 6 and the fourth batch of 5 fill-in stations are expected to commence service at the end of 2017 and in early 2019 respectively.
- (d) In 2016-17, it is estimated that an expenditure of about \$1 million will be incurred on promotion of the reception of RTHK's DTT signals, including enhancement of promotion by advertisements to be placed on major public transport facilities, newspapers, internet platforms, social media, etc. Promotion on various formats will also be done within the community, which includes "31 Red Ball" Project and roving exhibitions to promote RTHK's television channels and how their signals are received. In August 2015, a RTHK TV31 Channel Tuning Service Team was set up; the team targets to visit 2 public housing estates on 4 days every month, answering the public's enquiries relating to the proper reception of RTHK's DTT channels as well as providing door-to-door tuning service, with a view to enabling more members of the public to view RTHK's television channels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)112

(Question Serial No. 5345)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the expenditure of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) in preparing for its takeover of the analogue television channels from Asia Television Limited, will the Government inform us of the following:

- (a) RTHK and Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) signed a contract in February this year regarding the supply of analogue television transmission service, specifying TVB as the provider of the service of 40 analogue television transmitting stations for RTHK from 2 April onwards, for a period of 3 years. How much is this contract worth? What is the coverage of these 40 analogue television transmitting stations? and
- (b) The analogue transmission equipment ordered by RTHK will arrive at the end of this month. What is the amount of expenditure for its purchase? What is the coverage provided by this equipment?

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 133)

Reply:

- (a) Regarding the provision of the stop-gap analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide broadcast of the analogue television transmission service for RTHK from 2 April this year after the expiry of the free television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited. The contract period is 3 years with a value of \$151 million. The service provider is required to provide transmission service and transmission equipment to RTHK for 40 analogue television transmitting stations, with coverage of about 99% of Hong Kong's population.
- (b) As at the end of February 2016, RTHK's actual expenditure incurred on the purchase of analogue transmission equipment is \$4.25 million. Most of the equipment has been delivered to RTHK for testing.

The equipment is mostly the head end equipment of analogue television. Most of which is installed in the Master Control Room of RTHK and used for coding and format conversion before the analogue signal is transmitted to the transmitting stations. The signal is then transmitted to the transmitting stations for broadcasting. As for the transmission service and transmission equipment for the analogue television transmitting stations, they are provided by the service provider, with coverage of about 99% of Hong Kong's population.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)113

(Question Serial No. 5346)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the problems of dilapidation and inadequate floor area of the current facilities in the buildings of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), will the Government inform us of the following:

- (a) In the 2015-16 work plan, RTHK indicated that it would continue the re-planning work for New Broadcasting House project in Tseung Kwan O, and to work out the most cost-effective plan for this. Please inform us of the specific work, expenditure and manpower involved in 2015-16;
- (b) The work plan, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the building of the New Broadcasting House project for 2016-17;
- (c) The number of RTHK staff complaints regarding working environment and occupational health and safety in the past 3 years; and
- (d) The work and the expenditure for ensuring a comfortable and safe working environment and the compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety requirements for 2015-16, and the work plan and estimated expenditure for the coming year.

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 134)

Reply:

The funding application for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was not supported by the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council in January 2014. Most PWSC Members agreed in principle that there was a need for a New BH but had grave concerns over the project estimate and scope. RTHK and the Architectural Services Department have been, since early 2014, conducting thorough review of the project, taking into account the

concerns of the PWSC Members with a view to working out the most cost-effective proposal while at the same time addressing Members' comments.

Since the issues encountered during the review were more complicated than expected, we need more time to deal with them. We will take forward the New BH Project in accordance with the procedures for implementing Government capital works projects. Upon completion of the review and internal planning, we will follow up on the proposal in accordance with the established mechanism.

In 2015-16 and 2016-17, the relevant expenditures on the planning of the New BH have been covered by Head 160 - Radio Television Hong Kong without an itemised breakdown.

In the past 3 years, RTHK did not receive any complaint from the staff on working environment, and occupational health and safety. RTHK always attaches importance to the occupational safety and health of staff. Given the change of works schedule, prior to the commissioning of the New BH, RTHK will strive to continue to properly maintain and improve its existing facilities, so as to ensure occupational safety and health. As works of this nature are included in RTHK's daily maintenance, repair and improvement works, there is no expenditure record on this category.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)114

(Question Serial No. 5349)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio
(2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the performance of the programmes of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), please inform us of the following:

- (a) The average listenership of RTHK's audio broadcast programmes in the past 3 years, and the annual operational expenses for each programme;
- (b) The distribution of categories of RTHK's audio broadcast programmes for 2015-16;
- (c) The average listenership of RTHK TV 31's programmes, and the annual operational expenses for each programme;
- (d) The distribution of categories of RTHK TV 31's programmes; and
- (e) The number of viewers of RTHK TV 31, if statistics of such have been conducted.

Asked by: Hon Charles Peter MOK (Member Question No. 137)

Reply:

- (a) According to the audience surveys conducted in the past 3 years, the number of audience who listened to Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) in the past 7 days is as follows:

2013	2 949 000
2014	3 288 000
2015	3 476 000

The annual total operational expenses of the Radio Division in RTHK already include programme production, and the breakdown of expenditure in relation to individual

programme is not available. The annual operational expenses are \$300 million in 2013-14, \$339 million in 2014-15, and \$362 million in 2015-16.

- (b) In 2015-16, the distribution by categories of RTHK's audio broadcast programmes is as follows:

Programme Categories	%
Music	32
News	19
Arts, Culture and Education	17
Information	15
Current Affairs	4
Entertainment	4
Others	9
Total:	100

- (c) & (e) The digital terrestrial television (DTT) service provided by RTHK is still in the development stage, and the signal can cover about 80% of the population in Hong Kong. According to the Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong commissioned by RTHK, the results of the telephone interview conducted in January 2016, with respect to the reception of RTHK digital TV signal indicated that, in the 1 063 samples successfully interviewed, 55% responded that they could watch RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 at home, and 41% indicated that they had watched RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 before. In addition, RTHK has also conducted a "Television Programme Appreciation Index Survey" on its DTT programmes, so as to reflect the quality and acceptability of RTHK programmes in a more accurate and effective way. According to the survey in 2015, RTHK programmes scored the highest amongst local stations.

In 2015-16, the programme production cost per hour is around \$311,400 on average.

- (d) In 2015-16, the distribution by categories of RTHK TV 31's programmes is as follows:

Programme Categories	%
Current Affairs	16.6
Special Interest Groups (Including elderly, minorities and the underprivileged)	6.3
Youth and Children	14.7
Arts and Culture	15.2
Civic Education	21.6
Continuing Education	18.5
Mainland Affairs	7.1
Total:	100

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)115

(Question Serial No. 2593)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

To assess the human resource management situation of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), so as to measure the reasonableness of the financial provision, please list out the staff wastage rate, the number of staff resigned, the number of retirees, the number of staff dismissed, and the number of staff recruited of RTHK in the past 3 years, and the number of existing staff who were previously employed under non-civil service contracts and now under civil service contracts.

Asked by: Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (Member Question No. 51)

Reply:

The information regarding the recruitment and turnover of civil servants and non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) for the past 3 years is as follows:

(a) Civil Servants

	Number of Staff Recruited (Number of Former RTHK NCSC Staff Recruited)	Number of Staff Leaving RTHK ^{Note 1}	Total Number of Civil Servants	Wastage Rate
2013-14 (as at 31.3.2014)	39 (16)	31 [including 24 retired, 7 resigned]	545	5.7%
2014-15 (as at 31.3.2015)	80 (45)	22 [including 16 retired, 6 resigned]	609	3.6%
2015-16	53	34 [including	638	5.3%

(as at 31.12.2015)	(24)	22 retired, 12 resigned]		
-----------------------	------	--------------------------	--	--

Note 1: Excluding inter-departmental posting of general grades staff.

(b) NCSC Staff

	Number of Staff Recruited	Number of Staff Leaving RTHK^{Note 2}	Total Number of NCSC Staff	Wastage Rate
2013-14 (as at 31.3.2014)	112	92 [including 55 resigned, 35 completed contracts, 2 dismissed]	291	31.6%
2014-15 (as at 31.3.2015)	88	71 [including 43 resigned, 28 completed contracts]	261	27.2%
2015-16 (as at 31.12.2015)	62	47 [including 37 resigned, 10 completed contracts]	245	19.2%

Note 2: Excluding mutual resolution of contracts for taking up civil service appointments/other NCSC positions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)116

(Question Serial No. 2594)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2016-17, the total expenditure of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is estimated at \$978 million, representing an annual increase of 16%. In order to examine whether such increase in expenditure is necessary, please provide a breakdown of the additional expenditure by items, and list out any other options which have been considered by RTHK for each item that requires additional expenditure; and the reasons why the other options were not eventually employed.

Asked by: Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

In 2016-17, the total expenditure of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is estimated at \$978 million. The reasons for the increase include: putting forward the transmission of programmes on the 2 analogue television (TV) channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited (ATV), the enhancement of digital terrestrial television (DTT) services, and the establishment of Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS) as an on-going service, etc.

Regarding the proceeding of transmission of programmes on the 2 analogue channels to be vacated by ATV, since ATV's free TV licence will not be renewed, and the new licensee of free TV service has no intention to provide analogue broadcast, current households who only have analogue TV sets will be lessened the choice of 1 free TV broadcaster and its programmes before they change to digital TV sets or install a set-top box to receive DTT broadcast. To provide more choices, the Government has invited RTHK to provide stop-gap analogue TV service on the 2 analogue TV channels to be vacated by ATV after 1 April 2016, and simulcasting RTHK's programmes broadcast on its digital platforms. After consideration of RTHK's current hardware and software, and a detailed analysis from the perspectives of cost effectiveness, risk management and a seamless transition, we consider that the most prudent way is to procure the analogue TV transmission service from the market. As a result, RTHK has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the analogue TV transmission service for RTHK after the free TV

programme service licence of ATV expires on 2 April this year. RTHK has to increase its expenditures for 2016-17 to pay the fees of the service provider, for installation of related broadcasting equipment and other related expenses.

RTHK is planning to enhance its DTT services. RTHK's DTT network is anticipated to extend to cover about 99% of the local population by early 2019. To meet public demand, RTHK is preparing to launch a full 24-hour service on RTHK TV 31 in the future. RTHK's current plan is to gradually increase the production hours of its first-run TV programmes from around 1 335 hours in 2015-16 to 1 550 hours in 2020-21, with an increase of 215 hours or 16.1%.

Regarding audio broadcast, RTHK launched the Pilot Project for CIBS (the Project) in 2012, with a provision of \$45 million approved by the Legislative Council to set up the Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund to subsidise community groups and members for the successful production of programmes. To find out the awareness and opinions of the public and various sectors about the Project, RTHK conducted a focus group study from September to November 2014. The result of the study indicates that the participants generally had positive feedback on the Project and considered that the Project could involve community members to take part in producing programmes and voice their opinions. Participants of the Project also considered in general that the Project had helped them better understand radio programme production, and it had also achieved the anticipated social gain and promoted their knowledge related to the programme topics. In 2016-17, the Project will be established as an on-going service. RTHK thus needs additional resources to enhance promotion of the service to the public; it will also increase briefing sessions for the public and widen the scope of outreaching promotional activities. The online platforms of the current Project will also be upgraded, so as to accord with sustainable development.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)117

(Question Serial No. 2595)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Radio Television Hong Kong is preparing to proceed with transmission of programmes on the two analogue TV channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited. According to the current plan, how much financial resources and manpower are required in the work related? How much can be deployed from the existing resources and manpower to meet the requirement? How much additional resources and manpower are required?

Asked by: Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (Member Question No. 53)

Reply:

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue TV channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV) -9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. The works are proceeding on schedule.

In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees for the aforementioned service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)118

(Question Serial No. 3258)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the digital terrestrial television (DTT) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), can the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the current coverage percentage of RTHK's DTT services (in public and private housing developments)? When does the Government expect the coverage to reach 100%, so that all the people of Hong Kong can view the TV programmes through DTT?
- (b) What are the current audience ratings of RTHK's DTT?
- (c) After the launch of RTHK's DTT, how many public comments has the Government received with regard to the services? What are the details of the comments?
- (d) As some members of the public have indicated that they had yet been able to receive DTT services, and property management issues were involved. Does the Government have any initiatives that allow the public to view DTT broadcasting programmes as early as possible?
- (e) How much resources will be allocated to the promotion of DTT in 2016-17? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 36)

Reply:

- (a) From 2014, the digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) have been transmitted through 7 transmission stations, namely Temple Hill, Golden Hill, Castle Peak, Kowloon Peak, Cloudy Hill, Lamma Island and Mount Nicholson, to TV households in most of the districts on the Hong Kong Island, Kowloon Peninsula and New Territories; the signal coverage is now stretched to about 75% of the Hong Kong population. RTHK continues to build other fill-in stations.

In early March 2016, the establishment of 5 fill-in stations was completed, expanding the signal coverage to about 80% of the Hong Kong population. Other fill-in stations will be completed by phases until early 2019, further stretching the signal coverage to about 99% of the Hong Kong population.

- (b) The DTT service provided by RTHK is still in the development stage, and the signal can cover about 80% of the population in Hong Kong. According to the Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong commissioned by RTHK, the results of the telephone interview conducted in January 2016, with respect to the reception of RTHK digital TV signal indicated that, in the 1 063 samples successfully interviewed, 55% responded that they could watch RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 at home, and 41% indicated that they had watched RTHK TV 31, TV 32 and TV 33 before.

In addition, RTHK has conducted a “Television Programme Appreciation Index Survey” on its DTT programmes, so as to reflect the quality and acceptability of RTHK programmes in a more accurate and effective way. According to the survey in 2015, RTHK programmes scored the highest amongst local stations.

- (c) Upon the inauguration of RTHK’s DTT services, we have received a lot of feedback from the public by email, telephone and other means. Most of the feedback is positive and in support for RTHK’s DTT services. The most common views are about the wish for continuous enhancement of the services, more broadcast hours and more variety in programme types and contents. Some of the members of the public also enquire about problems of receiving DTT signals, enquire how to scan channels, and seek technical assistance.
- (d) Since RTHK’s transmission network of its DTT signals has not yet covered the entire Hong Kong population, we are meanwhile developing new media platforms to enable viewers to get in touch with RTHK’s TV programmes through various channels. Viewers can click on RTHK’s website and mobile communication applications to view RTHK’s TV programmes. In addition, a large number of RTHK’s DTT programmes have been uploaded to the YouTube platform and social media, such as the special Facebook page.

To address the problem of former and existing subscribers of Hong Kong Cable Television Limited (Cable TV) who could not receive RTHK TV channels via Cable TV’s Communal Aerial Broadcast Distribution even after upgrading of the public antennae, RTHK has worked with Cable TV to transmit RTHK’s DTT signals through its transmission system in individual residential estates via DTT signals interconnection. With the completion of the works, most of Cable TV’s subscribers of those residential estates are able to watch RTHK’s 3 DTT channels.

- (e) In 2016-17, it is estimated that an expenditure of about \$1 million will be incurred on promotion, including enhancement of promotion by advertisements to be placed on major public transport facilities, newspapers, internet platforms, social media, etc. Promotion on various formats will also be done within the community, which includes “31 Red Ball” Project and roving exhibitions to promote RTHK’s television channels

and how their signals are received. In August 2015, a Channel Tuning Service Team was set up; the team targets to visit 2 public housing estates on 4 days every month, answering the public's enquiries relating to the proper reception of RTHK's DTT channels as well as providing door-to-door tuning service, with a view to enabling more members of the public to view RTHK's television channels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)119

(Question Serial No. 3259)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government states that it will launch new mobile applications to enhance its news service; what are the expenditures involved and details concerned? Will the Government set a timetable for launching these new mobile applications, so that the public can be informed of the progress?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong launched the brand-new mobile application “RTHK News” on 24 August 2015.

The related expenditures and details are as follows:

Dates (conclusion)	Details	Expenditure / Estimated Expenditure
August 2015	First-stage development	\$336,000
Second half of 2015	Promotion	\$755,400
October 2015	Enhancement of interface functions	\$55,000
December 2015	Introduction of live broadcast functions for RTHK Radio 1 and 3	\$122,400
Second half of 2016	Introduction of live video broadcast functions	\$100,000 (Estimated expenditure)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)120

(Question Serial No. 5029)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the New Broadcasting House (New BH) project of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) in Tseung Kwan O, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) If RTHK continues to operate on the Broadcast Drive, what will be the effects on its digitisation?
- (b) What is the current progress of the planning of the New BH? Is there a more cost-saving project proposal for submission to the Legislative Council for consideration? If so, what are the details and the works schedule? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) With respect to the planning of the New BH, what are the expenditure and major work in 2016-17?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 38)

Reply:

The funding application for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was not supported by the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council in January 2014. Most PWSC Members agreed in principle that there was a need for a New BH but had grave concerns over the project estimate and scope. RTHK and the Architectural Services Department have been, since early 2014, conducting thorough review of the project taking into account the concerns of the PWSC Members with a view to working out the most cost-effective proposal while at the same time addressing Members' comments.

Since the issues encountered during the review were more complicated than expected, we need more time to deal with them. We will take forward the New BH Project in accordance with the procedures for implementing Government capital works projects.

Upon completion of the review and internal planning, we will follow up on the proposal in accordance with the established mechanism.

The digitisation development of RTHK is hindered to some extent by insufficient space and ageing infrastructures of its existing premises along the Broadcast Drive, and the cost and time for the management, liaison and transportation in the course of digitisation development have also been increased for this.

In the face of the current situation, prior to the commissioning of the New BH, we will endeavour to implement a number of temporary measures to improve the facilities and working environment of RTHK, in order to maintain the service standard of public service broadcasting.

In 2016-17, the relevant expenditure on the planning of the New BH has been covered by Head 160 - Radio Television Hong Kong without an itemised breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)121

(Question Serial No. 5042)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

How many output hours of Radio Television Hong Kong's General TV programmes are broadcast on Television Broadcasts Limited and Asia Television Limited (ATV)? Given that the TV licence of ATV will expire in April 2016, what initiatives does the Government have to ensure that the related programmes will be broadcast as usual?

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 51)

Reply:

In 2015-16, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) broadcast its general television programmes on Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) and Asia Television Limited (ATV) for 391.4 hours and 345 hours respectively. In other words, an average of 7.5 hours and 6.6 hours of the said programmes are broadcast per week on TVB and ATV respectively.

Regarding the transitional analogue television service, RTHK has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of ATV expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue television channels vacated by ATV. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)122

(Question Serial No. 2275)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The work in next year includes proceeding with transmission of programmes on the two analogue TV channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited (ATV) in April 2016. In this regard, would the Government inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) Does it require additional manpower? If so, please provide a breakdown of the manpower by additional posts;
- (b) What is the increased expenditure involved? Please provide a breakdown of the amount by operating expenses and emoluments;
- (c) As premature discontinuation of ATV is highly possible, will Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) consider taking over the two analogue channels in advance?
- (d) If the two analogue channels are taken over in advance, will RTHK consider continued employment of the current ATV staff in order to meet the imminent operational needs?

Asked by: Hon TANG KA-piu (Member Question No. 76)

Reply:

- (a) Regarding the transitional analogue television service, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has awarded the contract to a third party service provider, which will provide the transmission service for the analogue TV broadcast for RTHK after the television programme service licence of Asia Television Limited (ATV) expires on 2 April this year. At that time, RTHK will make arrangements for the simulcast on the digital terrestrial television channels. In other words, one of the vacated analogue TV channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33. Manpower will not be increased in this regard.
- (b) In 2016-17, with respect to the transitional analogue television service, the expenditure involved is approximately \$59.4 million, including the fees for the aforementioned

transmission service, the expenditure for the installation of related broadcasting equipment, and other relevant expenditure.

- (c) If premature discontinuation of ATV happens before 2 April, after the assignment of spectrum has been conducted, RTHK will take over the 2 analogue TV channels to be vacated by ATV in alignment with public interest.
- (d) As a government department, RTHK recruits staff in line with its operation needs, and the recruitments are conducted in accordance with the established procedures. To better assist the staff of ATV, RTHK has already provided the information of job vacancies in RTHK to Labour Department for consolidated handling and dissemination. If ATV staff members are interested in joining RTHK, they can apply in compliance with the procedures. In general, applicants with substantial working experience related to the positions offered, and familiar with the practices of the trade will have advantages in applying for relevant positions and have higher chance of appointment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)123

(Question Serial No. 3086)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Radio Television Hong Kong will proceed with the transmission of programmes on the 2 analogue television channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited in April 2016. Can the Government inform this Committee of whether new first-runs will be produced for these 2 channels; whether new programmes will be acquired, and/or whether certain local and/or overseas free TV channels will be relayed; and whether additional provision will be needed for these purposes?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 122)

Reply:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will arrange for the programmes of RTHK TV 31 and RTHK TV 33 on the digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels to be simulcast respectively on the 2 analogue television channels vacated by Asia Television Limited. In other words, one of the vacated channels will simulcast the programmes of RTHK TV 31, while the other one will simulcast the English programmes of China Central Television (CCTV)-9 Documentary broadcast on RTHK TV 33.

RTHK will enhance the DTT services gradually, including additional production of first-runs, acquisition of new programmes, extending service hours, etc. However, there will not be additional production, acquisition or relay of other overseas channels on the 2 analogue TV channels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)124****(Question Serial No. 4122)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Please provide the following information on the hiring of "out-sourced staff":

	2015-16 (the latest position)
Total number of outsourcing contracts	()
Total sum paid to outsourcing service companies	()
The contract period of each outsourcing service company	()
Number of outsourced employees hired through outsourcing service companies	()
Distribution of outsourced staff posts (for example, customer services, property management, security, cleansing services, telecommunication technology, etc.)	
Monthly salary distribution of outsourced employees	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• Between \$16,001 and \$30,000	()
• Between \$8,001 and \$16,000	()
• Between \$6,501 and \$8,000	()
• Between \$6,240 and \$6,500	()
• Below \$6,240	()
The outsourced staff's length of employment	
• More than 15 years	()
• From 10 to 15 years	()
• From 5 to 10 years	()
• From 3 to 5 years	()
• From 1 to 3 years	()
• Less than 1 year	()
The percentage of outsourced staff against the total number of employees in the department	()
The percentage of the total sum paid to outsourcing service companies against the total staff cost in the department	()
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()

	2015-16 (the latest position)
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
The number of employees with paid meal break	()
The number of employees without paid meal break	()
The number of employees working 5 days a week	()
The number of employees working 6 days a week	()

() increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 103)

Reply:

The information is as follows:

	2015-16 (As at March 2016)
Total number of outsourcing contracts	5(-)
Total sum paid to outsourcing service companies	Around \$86.05m (+6.1%)
The contract period of each outsourcing service company	2 x 2 years 1 x 2.5 years 1 x 3 years 1 x 5 years
Number of outsourced employees hired through outsourcing service companies	Around 218 (-)
Distribution of outsourced staff posts (for example, customer services, property management, security, cleansing services, telecommunication technology, etc.)	Staff engaged in cleansing and security services, engineers and technicians
Monthly salary distribution of outsourced employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • Between \$16,001 and \$30,000 • Between \$8,001 and \$16,000 • Between \$6,501 and \$8,000 • Between \$6,240 and \$6,500 • Below \$6,240 	3 of the contracts do not have the information required. In the other 2 contracts related to cleansing and security services, the monthly salaries of 33 full-time posts are between \$8,001 and \$16,000.
The outsourced staff's length of employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 15 years • From 10 to 15 years • From 5 to 10 years • From 3 to 5 years • From 1 to 3 years • Less than 1 year 	No information
The percentage of outsourced staff against the total number of employees in the	Around 25% (-)

	2015-16 (As at March 2016)
department	
The percentage of the total sum paid to outsourcing service companies against the total staff cost in the department	Around 20% (-)
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	No information
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	No information
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	No information
Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	No information
The number of employees with paid meal break The number of employees without paid meal break	No information
The number of employees working 5 days a week The number of employees working 6 days a week	The contracts require 6-day or 7-day service a week. Information on the work arrangement of individual employees is unavailable.

() increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)125****(Question Serial No. 4123)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Please provide information regarding the hiring of "agency staff" as follows:

	2015-16 (the latest position)
The number of contracts on agencies	()
Total contract value with each agency	()
The contract period of the service provided by each agency	()
Number of employees from the agencies	()
Distribution of agency staff's positions	
Monthly salary distribution of agency employees	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● Between \$16,001 and \$30,000	()
● Between \$8,001 and \$16,000	()
● Between \$6,501 and \$8,000	()
● Between \$6,240 and \$6,500	()
● Below \$6,240	()
The agency staff's length of employment	
● More than 15 years	()
● From 10 to 15 years	()
● From 5 to 10 years	()
● From 3 to 5 years	()
● From 1 to 3 years	()
● Less than 1 year	()
The number of agency staff against the total number of employees in the department (in percentage)	()
The total sum paid to agencies against the total staff cost in the department (in percentage)	()
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()

Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
The number of employees with paid meal break	()
The number of employees without paid meal break	()
The number of employees working 5 days a week	()
The number of employees working 6 days a week	()

() increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 104)

Reply:

	2015-16 (As at March 2016)
The number of contracts on agencies	None (0%)
Total contract value with each agency	N.A.
The contract period of the service provided by each agency	N.A.
Number of employees from the agencies	N.A.
Distribution of agency staff's positions	
Monthly salary distribution of agency employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • Between \$16,001 and \$30,000 • Between \$8,001 and \$16,000 • Between \$6,501 and \$8,000 • Between \$6,240 and \$6,500 • Below \$6,240 	N.A.
The agency staff's length of employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 15 years • From 10 to 15 years • From 5 to 10 years • From 3 to 5 years • From 1 to 3 years • Less than 1 year 	N.A.
The number of agency staff against the total number of employees in the department (in percentage)	N.A.
The total sum paid to agencies against the total staff cost in the department (in percentage)	N.A.
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	N.A.
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	N.A.
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	N.A.
Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	N.A.
The number of employees with paid meal break	N.A.
The number of employees without paid meal break	N.A.

The number of employees working 5 days a week	N.A.
The number of employees working 6 days a week	N.A.

() *increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15*

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)126****(Question Serial No. 4124)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Please provide the following information on the employment of “non-civil service contract” (NCSC) staff:

	2015-16 (the latest position)
Total number of NCSC staff	()
Distribution of NCSC staff's posts	
Total amount of expenditure on the salaries for NCSC staff	()
Monthly salary distribution of NCSC staff	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• Between \$16,001 and \$30,000	()
• Between \$8,001 and \$16,000	()
• Between \$6,501 and \$8,000	()
• Between \$6,240 and \$6,500	()
• Below \$6,240	()
The NCSC staff's length of employment	
• More than 15 years	()
• From 10 to 15 years	()
• From 5 to 10 years	()
• From 3 to 5 years	()
• From 1 to 3 years	()
• Less than 1 year	()
The number of NCSC staff successfully converted to civil servants	()
The percentage of NCSC staff against the total number of employees in the department	()
The percentage of the total sum paid to NCSC staff against the total staff cost in the department	()
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()

Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	()
The number of employees with paid meal break	()
The number of employees without paid meal break	()
The number of employees working 5 days a week	()
The number of employees working 6 days a week	()

() increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 105)

Reply:

As the number of NCSC staff is always changing to meet operational needs, we are only able to provide the information as at 31 December 2015 in 2015-16 and compare it with that in 2014-15 as follows:

	2015-16 (As at 31 December 2015)
Total number of NCSC staff	245 (-5%)
Distribution of NCSC staff's posts	Various posts
Total amount of expenditure on the salaries for NCSC staff	Around \$70m (-4.1%)
Monthly salary distribution of NCSC staff	
• \$30,001 or above	71 (+31.5%)
• Between \$16,001 and \$30,000	124 (-4.6%)
• Between \$8,001 and \$16,000	50 (-32.4%)
• Between \$6,501 and \$8,000	0(-)
• Between \$6,240 and \$6,500	0(-)
• Below \$6,240	0(-)
The NCSC staff's length of employment	
• More than 15 years	16 (+166.7%)
• From 10 to 15 years	23 (-36.1%)
• From 5 to 10 years	37 (-21.3%)
• From 3 to 5 years	29 (+16.0%)
• From 1 to 3 years	83 (+16.9%)
• Less than 1 year	57 (-21.9%)
The number of NCSC staff successfully converted to civil servants	24 ^{Note} (-38.5%)
The percentage of NCSC staff against the total number of employees in the department	27.5% (-2.5%)
The percentage of the total sum paid to NCSC staff against the total staff cost in the department	20% (-5%)
Number of staff having received severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	187 (-16.5%)
Total sum paid as severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	Around \$6m (-10.4%)
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme were used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	5 (-)
Total sum of accrued benefits derived from employer's contributions to the MPF Scheme which was used to offset the severance payment/long service payment/end-of-contract gratuities	Around \$0.31m (-)
The number of employees with paid meal break	234 (-2.9%)
The number of employees without paid meal break	11 (-35.3%)
The number of employees working 5 days a week	218 (-0.5%)
The number of employees working 6 days a week	27 (-30.8%)

*Note : These former Radio Television Hong Kong's NCSC staff have been appointed as Radio Television Hong Kong's civil servants through open recruitment.
() increase and decrease in percentage as compared with the same period in 2014-15*

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)127****(Question Serial No. 4544)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Please list the posts, salaries and number of staff of the non-civil service contract staff.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 55)Reply:

As at 31 December 2015, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) had a total of 245 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff. The salaries of NCSC staff are as follows:

NCSC Positions' Comparable Civil Service Ranks		Salaries	Number of Staff
Programme Officer Grade:	Principal Programme Officer	\$88,125	2
	Senior Programme Officer	\$52,180-\$64,745	7
	Programme Officer	\$32,560-\$51,805	22
	Assistant Programme Officer	\$10,500-\$31,020	123
	Programme Assistant	\$11,575-\$17,995	10
Ranks in Other Grades:		\$10,885-\$74,210	81
Total			245

When determining the pay level of NCSC staff, RTHK would follow the guidelines of the Civil Service Bureau and take into consideration the prevailing employment market, recruitment situation of relevant job categories and pay level of newly recruited civil servants of comparable civil service ranks. These factors may change from time to time, and the experiences as well as qualifications required for individual NCSC positions may differ. Hence, the salaries of serving and newly recruited NCSC staff may not be the same. However, RTHK would take into account the principle of internal parity when considering the offer of higher pay level to new NCSC staff of the same rank.

Furthermore, RTHK would regularly review the pay of serving NCSC staff under the established mechanism. As some of the serving NCSC staff have longer service in RTHK, their salaries will be higher than the newly recruited NCSC staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)128

(Question Serial No. 4545)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Radio Television Hong Kong will increase the scale of its television broadcasting services. Please list the establishment, rank, number of staff and the total estimates of expenditure of the programme production for this year.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 56)

Reply:

In 2016-17, the total provision of the TV Division of Radio Television Hong Kong is \$523.7 million, including the provision for the 3 digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels and the transmission of the transitional analogue television service. \$464.3 million of the provision will be used for the programme production of the 3 DTT channels and all the related operating costs.

The staff establishment of Public Affairs and General Television Programme consists of a total of 383 non-directorate staff, including 204 programme production staff and 179 production supporting staff.

Production staff and some production supporting staff are under the Programme Officer grade. The Programme Officer grades under non-directorate grade include Chief Programme Officer, Principal Programme Officer, Senior Programme Officer, Programme Officer, Assistant Programme Officer and Programme Assistant. Other supporting staff are from different grades such as Executive Officer, Clerical Officer and Personal Secretary, Official Languages Officer, Treasury Accountant, Accounting Officer, Transport Officer, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)129

(Question Serial No. 3866)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) In 2015-16, what were the details and expenditure involved in the Office's maintaining a panel of advisers to allow public participation in the film classification process?
- (b) In 2016-17, what are the work plan details and estimated expenditure in this regard?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 352)

Reply:

Under the Film Censorship Ordinance, the Film Censorship Authority (i.e. the Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration) shall appoint members of the public as members of the panel of advisers on film censorship (Panel) to participate in the film classification process. The Panel now consists of about 300 members who regularly come to the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) to tender their advice on the appropriate classifications of films which are intended to be exhibited shortly. Any members of the public who are over the age of 18 and interested in joining the Panel may submit applications to OFNAA. Application forms may be downloaded from OFNAA's website. In 2015-16, the administrative expenditure involved in maintaining the Panel was about \$3,000.

In 2016-17, OFNAA will continue to arrange members of the Panel to participate in the film classification process in accordance with the Film Censorship Ordinance. The estimated administrative expenditure is about \$8,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)130

(Question Serial No. 3867)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What were the details of the work and activities relating to “promoting the three-tier film classification system to the public” in the past 3 years? What was the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 353)

Reply:

To enhance public's understanding of the three-tier film classification system, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) organises talks on the film classification system and standards from time to time. In the past 3 years, OFNAA has organised 22 talks. The related expenditure for organising these talks was absorbed within OFNAA's existing resources and no additional manpower or expenditure was required.

In addition, OFNAA produced souvenirs to promote the three-tier film classification system, mainly for distribution during school talks and visits to organisations concerned, in 2015 and 2016. The expenditures involved were \$15,200 and \$19,600 in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)131

(Question Serial No. 3870)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

How many cinema inspections were conducted in each of the past 3 years to enforce the age restriction for audience admission and other provisions under the Film Censorship Ordinance? What was the number of prosecution cases?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 356)

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) conducted around 1 300 inspections each year on cinemas and related screening venues to check whether cinemas and related screening venues had complied with the age restriction for audience admission and other relevant provisions under the Film Censorship Ordinance. OFNAA did not find any cases of non-compliance with the relevant provisions in the past 3 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)132

(Question Serial No. 3871)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What was the number of inspections conducted on video shops and other retail outlets to regulate the publication of films in the form of videotape and videodisc in the past 3 years? What were the number of prosecution cases and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 357)

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) conducted around 72 600 inspections each year on newspaper stalls, video and computer shops and other retail outlets to examine whether the distribution and publication of articles (including the publication of films in the form of videodisc) had been in compliance with the provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO) and the Film Censorship Ordinance. OFNAA issued 43, 43 and 144 summonses with regard to cases in violation of the COIAO in 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively. As conducting inspections and instituting prosecutions only form part of the concerned officers' duties, we do not have a breakdown of the expenditure involved in carrying out these duties.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)133

(Question Serial No. 4336)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In the past 5 years, how many local films were required to be retitled for failing to meet the requirements of the Film Censorship Ordinance? What were the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Member Question No. 117)

Reply:

Section 13(4B) of the Film Censorship Ordinance (Cap 392) (the Ordinance) provides that the Film Censorship Authority (the Authority) may refuse to issue a certificate of approval if he is of the opinion that the proposed title of a film is unsuitable for exhibition, publication or display to the public. The Film Censorship Guidelines for Censors (the Guidelines) issued under section 30 of the Ordinance also stipulate that in determining whether a film title is suitable for exhibition, publication or public display, the Authority shall have regard to standards of morality, decency or propriety that are generally accepted by reasonable members of the community; and its likely effect on the viewers, especially children and young persons. A film title may be rejected if it:

- (a) is likely to cause deep shock or disgust;
- (b) is likely to corrupt morals;
- (c) is likely to promote, incite or encourage crime, violence and drug use;
- (d) contains insulting or sexually suggestive wording or symbols;
- (e) contains coarse language, expressions with sexual connotations or sexual references;
- (f) contains triad expressions or signs; or
- (g) is likely to incite hatred or denigration on grounds of racial, religious, national or sexual differences.

In the past 5 years, 2 films for local exhibition were required to be retitled as the proposed film titles contained coarse language and triad expressions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)134

(Question Serial No. 2878)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 148 of the 2015-16 Budget Speech that he had “asked all policy bureaux... to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising” and “launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of 2 per cent over the next 3 financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services.” Please inform this Committee of the implementation of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration in 2015-16 and 2016-17, the services affected by the programme and details of the expenditure involved.

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

Reply:

In 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration would reduce operating expenditure through re-prioritisation, such as work in relation to information technology systems, with a view to achieving the target of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)135

(Question Serial No. 0794)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Administration has indicated that it will inspect cinemas to enforce the age restriction for public admission and other provisions under the Film Censorship Ordinance. How many cinema inspections in total were conducted in the past 3 years? How many non-compliance cases were found in total? What were the follow-up actions on the cases? What are the details of the related work arrangement in 2016-17? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 13)

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) conducted around 1 300 inspections each year on cinemas and related screening venues to check whether cinemas had complied with the age restriction for audience admission and other relevant provisions under the Film Censorship Ordinance. OFNAA did not find any cases of non-compliance with the relevant provisions in the past 3 years.

OFNAA will continue to conduct around 1 300 inspections on cinemas and related screening venues in 2016-17. As inspection work is only part of the concerned officers' duties, we do not have a breakdown of the expenditure involved in conducting the related inspections.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)136

(Question Serial No. 0796)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of prosecution cases instituted for violations of the Ordinance in the past 3 years;
- (b) the penalties thus imposed; and
- (c) the estimated expenditure of the Administration on the promotion of the Ordinance to the public in 2016-17?

Asked by: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing (Member Question No. 15)

Reply:

- (a) The Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) issued 43, 43 and 144 summonses with regard to cases in violation of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (the Ordinance) in 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively;
- (b) in the past 3 years, fines ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 and/or imprisonments for 4 weeks to 2 months were imposed by the court on persons convicted of violating the Ordinance; and
- (c) the estimated expenditure of OFNAA on the promotion of the Ordinance to the public in 2016-17 is about \$6.7 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)137

(Question Serial No. 2183)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please give a breakdown of the estimated number of staff, annual emoluments, housing allowances and allowances for the expenses on overseas visits and entertainment pertaining to the following posts in the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration in 2016-17.

- Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration
- Assistant Director
- Chief Executive Officer
- Senior Executive Officer
- Executive Officer
- Principal Entertainment Standards Control Officer
- Chief Entertainment Standards Control Officer
- Entertainment Standards Control Officer
- Clerical Officer
- Project Officer
- Executive Assistant

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 2040)

Reply:

The post of the Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration is concurrently held by the Director-General of Communications. The emolument involved is apportioned between the Office of the Communications Authority Trading Fund and the Head of the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) in accordance with the proportion of the related duties.

In 2016-17, the number of staff for the concerned posts in OFNAA is as follows:

Post	Number
Assistant Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration	1
Chief Executive Officer	1
Senior Executive Officer	2
Executive Officer I and Executive Officer II	5
Principal Entertainment Standards Control Officer	1
Entertainment Standards Control Officer	6
Clerical Officer	3
Project Officer	5
Executive Assistant	3

In the estimate of OFNAA for 2016-17, the emolument of all staff (including the non-civil service contract staff) will be \$36.09 million, and the expenses on entertainment will be \$10,000. There will be no expenses on overseas visits, and the housing allowances will not be met by the Head of OFNAA.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)138

(Question Serial No. 5062)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operating Expenses

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Eliza LEE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 148 of the 2015-16 Budget Speech that he had “asked all policy bureaux... to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising” and “launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of 2 per cent over the next 3 financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services.” Please inform this Committee of the implementation of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration in 2015-16 and 2016-17, the services affected by the programme and details of the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon SIN Chung-kai (Member Question No. 92)

Reply:

In 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration would reduce operating expenditure through re-prioritisation, such as work in relation to information technology systems, with a view to achieving the target of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme.

- End -