

Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members

in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

Controlling Officer : Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Session No. : 7

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ICAC002	0703	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
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ICAC004	0705	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
ICAC005	0706	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
ICAC006	0707	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
ICAC007	0708	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
ICAC008	0709	TO Kun-sun, James	72	(2) Operations
ICAC009	1117	NG Margaret	72	(1) Corruption Prevention
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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC001

Question Serial No.

513

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: In the last three years, did ICAC conduct any surprise inspection on the expenditure under Subhead 103 'Rewards and Special Services' to ensure its use was reasonable and in compliance with the procedures? If affirmative, what were the ranks of the inspecting officers and how many inspections were conducted? If not, what are the justifications and is there any plan to conduct surprise inspections in the future?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: The ICAC exercises strict control over the expenditure under Subhead 103 'Rewards and Special Services'. All claims under the Subhead are scrutinized by senior officers. Apart from the inspections carried out by the Director of Audit, the Commissioner, the Director of Operations and the Assistant Director (Administration) also conduct surprise inspections on the accounts under this Subhead. In the last three years, nine, eight and seven surprise inspections were respectively conducted, with no anomalies found.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 11.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC002

Question Serial No.

703

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: What are the respective number of persons who received rewards/special services fee in 2007-08 and the number of cases involved? Please state the number of occasions on which rewards/special services fee were provided and the actual amount of such expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: As at 11 March 2008, the total expenditure under Subhead 103 (Rewards and Special Services) for 2007-08 was \$13.8M. There were 154 occasions on which reward / special services fee was provided.

Subhead 103 caters for expenditure on rewards and procurement of special services and equipment of a confidential nature. Since this subhead provides an essential source of funding for covert operational activities and intelligence gathering, disclosure of such expenditure details is not appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 11.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC003

Question Serial No.

704

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: Please list out the cases attracting wanted persons rewards, the amount of rewards offered, the number of occasions where payments were made, the actual expenditure and the number of rewards recipients in 2007-08.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: As at 11 March 2008, there was no case involving reward on wanted persons under the expenditure of Subhead 103 (Rewards and Special Services).

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 11.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC004

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

Question Serial No.

705

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: What was the expenditure for procurement and maintenance of equipment in 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: Subhead 103 caters for expenditure on rewards and procurement of special services and equipment of a confidential nature. Since this subhead provides an essential source of funding for covert operational activities and intelligence gathering, disclosure of such expenditure details is not appropriate.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 11.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC005

Question Serial No.

706

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

- Question:
- a) Please provide the amount of expenditure in 2007-08 in respect of information obtained from abroad in connection with investigations as well as the overseas places involved.
 - b) Please provide the amount of expenditure in 2007-08 in respect of information obtained locally in connection with investigations.
 - c) Of the proposed provision for 2008-09, what is the estimated percentage to be spent in respect of information obtained from abroad in connection with investigations?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: Subhead 103 caters for expenditure on rewards and procurement of special services and equipment of a confidential nature. Since this subhead provides an essential source of funding for covert operational activities and intelligence gathering, disclosure of such expenditure details is not appropriate.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 11.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC006

Question Serial No.

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title): 103 – Rewards and
Special Services

707

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

- Question:
- a) In 2007-08, had the ICAC allocated provision to finance the Technical Services Division under this Subhead? If positive, what are the number of occasions and the amounts involved?
 - b) For 2008-09, what is the estimated provision for allocation to the Technical Services Division? Is the Technical Services Division subject to any expenditure approval limit in the use of the allocated provision? If positive, what is the limit and how is it compared with that for the revised estimate for 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: Subhead 103 caters for expenditure on rewards and procurement of special services and equipment of a confidential nature, including expenditure incurred by the Technical Services Division for supporting the work of the ICAC. The expenditure is based on actual requirement. As this subhead provides an essential source of funding for covert operational activities and intelligence gathering, disclosure of such expenditure details is not appropriate.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 12.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC007

Question Serial No.

708

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: Please set out the establishment of the Technical Services Division by rank and the resources allocated to the Division for 2007-08 and the estimated figures for the same items for 2008-09.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

<u>Establishment</u>	<u>2007-08</u> (Actual)	<u>2008-09</u> (Estimate)
Senior Commission Against Corruption Officer	2	2
Commission Against Corruption Officer (Upper)	6	6
Commission Against Corruption Officer (Middle/Lower)	24	24
Assistant Commission Against Corruption Officer	21	21
Senior Personal Secretary/Personal Secretary II	2	2
Clerical Assistant/Workman II	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	57	57
<u>Resources (\$M)</u>		
Personal Emoluments	27.323	27.762
General operational equipment, consumables, maintenance services, etc.	<u>3.287</u>	<u>3.136</u>
	30.610	30.898

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 17.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC008

Question Serial No.

709

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: Please provide a detailed list of the work undertaken by the Technical Services Division in 2007-08, including the types of support services it has provided.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: The main role of the Technical Services Division is to provide technical support to the Operations Department of the ICAC in the investigation of corruption. To disclose details of its work will inevitably compromise the efficiency and effectiveness of the ICAC investigative work. It is hence not in the public interest to disclose such details.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 12.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC009

Question Serial No.

1117

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Corruption Prevention

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: The Corruption Prevention Department has reduced its target of completed assignment reports from 95 to 88 as resources will be re-deployed for strengthening assistance to clients in implementing recommendations made in assignment reports. Please advise the number and names of companies that require its assistance in implementing the corruption prevention recommendations and the resources required in this respect (including the number of staff and provisions).

Asked by: Hon. NG Margaret

Reply: Corruption Prevention Department (CPD) follows up with client organizations after completion of assignment reports to help them implement recommendations contained in the reports. In view of the trend that many of the recommendations have become more complex and carried greater impact in the coming years, CPD plans to step up its assistance provided to client organizations in the implementation of recommendations. CPD would strengthen its discussions and negotiations with departmental management on issues related to the implementation of recommendations, conduct more departmental training workshops to enhance frontline staff's awareness on corruption prevention and to promulgate best practice, and organize civil service-wide workshops or seminars.

CPD will undertake this initiative through internal redeployment and the number of assignment reports to be completed in 2008 has been slightly adjusted downward.

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Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 26.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ICAC010

Question Serial No.

1118

Head: 72 – Independent
Commission Against
Corruption

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Corruption Prevention

Controlling Officer: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Director of Bureau: Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Question: Has the Corruption Prevention Department reserved any resources for the 2008 LegCo Election to organise seminars or other activities for the candidates and their election agents to heighten their corruption prevention awareness and their understanding of the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance?

Asked by: Hon. NG Margaret

Reply: Raising public awareness of and enlisting community support for clean elections come under the ambit of ICAC's Community Relations Department. We have already planned for a comprehensive education and publicity campaign targeting mainly at the candidates, election agents, helpers and voters for the 2008 LegCo Election, which embraces the following –

- (i) Producing an information folder to help candidates and election agents understand the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance (ECICO);
- (ii) Fielding speakers for briefings organised by the Electoral Affairs Commission to explain to candidates and election agents the ECICO;
- (iii) Liaising with major political parties and groups to offer election-related corruption preventive services to their members;
- (iv) Approaching relevant professional bodies, business organisations and related organisations of the functional constituencies to offer election-related corruption preventive services and explain the ECICO;
- (v) Conducting briefings for residents' associations, including owners' corporations and mutual aid committees, to remind them of the points-to-note in organising and participating in election activities;
- (vi) Producing a "dos and don'ts" leaflet for voters;
- (vii) Promoting the "Support Clean Elections" message through different media (such as bus advertisement, television and radio API, posters and a dedicated website), roving exhibitions and quizzes; and
- (viii) Operating an election hotline starting from 1 April 2008 to facilitate public enquiries.

The estimated expenditure is about \$2 million and it will be met by the Administration.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Timothy H M TONG

Post Title Commissioner, ICAC

Date 19.3.2008