

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 693/12-13

**Paper for the House Committee meeting
of 21 June 2013**

**Questions scheduled for the
Legislative Council meeting of 26 June 2013**

Questions by:

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|------|--|--------------------------------|
| (1) | Hon CHAN Kam-lam | (Oral reply) |
| (2) | Hon Charles Peter MOK
<i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | (Oral reply) (New question) |
| (3) | Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
<i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | (Oral reply) (New question) |
| (4) | Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung | (Oral reply) |
| (5) | Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che | (Oral reply) |
| (6) | Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun | (Oral reply) |
| (7) | Hon Vincent FANG Kang
<i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | (Written reply) (New question) |
| (8) | Hon YIU Si-wing
<i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | (Written reply) (New question) |
| (9) | Hon WONG Kwok-kin | (Written reply) |
| (10) | Hon Steven HO Chun-yin | (Written reply) |
| (11) | Hon CHAN Yuen-han | (Written reply) |
| (12) | Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung | (Written reply) |
| (13) | Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun | (Written reply) |
| (14) | Hon WONG Kwok-hing | (Written reply) |
| (15) | Hon NG Leung-sing | (Written reply) |
| (16) | Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him | (Written reply) |
| (17) | Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen | (Written reply) |
| (18) | Hon James TIEN Pei-chun | (Written reply) |
| (19) | Hon SIN Chung-kai | (Written reply) |
| (20) | Hon CHAN Kin-por | (Written reply) |
| (21) | Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long | (Written reply) |
| (22) | Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
<i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | (Written reply) (New question) |

註 :

NOTE :

議員將採用這種語言提出質詢

Member will ask the question in this language

Information security in Hong Kong

(2) Hon Charles Peter MOK (Oral reply)

It has been reported that the National Security Agency of the United States (“US”) has been hacking into a number of computer network backbones on the Mainland and in Hong Kong since 2009. Some people of Hong Kong have expressed worries that their communication information may have been acquired by the US Government as they have used the services of such computer networks. Regarding information security in Hong Kong, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) whether it has assessed if there is sufficient professional expertise or capability within the Hong Kong Government to detect any activities of the governments and organizations of foreign countries (e.g. the US) attempting to hack into the Government’s or personal computer systems in Hong Kong; if the assessment outcome is in the affirmative, of the details; if it is in the negative, whether the authorities concerned will conduct a review of the level of information security in Hong Kong; given that a large number of Hong Kong people have been using Internet services (e.g. social networking web sites) the servers of which are located in the US, whether the authorities concerned will follow up if the US Government has acquired the information of such users;
- (b) whether government departments have previously requested any local or foreign Internet service providers to allow them to get hold of information directly from the servers, systems or network of such service providers, and whether those departments have ever obtained Hong Kong people’s information on the Internet (e.g. photos, audio and visual messages, e-mails, voice, files, login accounts, etc.) on their own or through cooperation with

the governments or organizations outside Hong Kong (e.g. those of the US); if they have, of the reasons for that and the details; if not, whether the Government can guarantee that it will not collect such information in any form in future; and

- (c) as some members of the public have pointed out that the existing Interception of Communications and Surveillance Ordinance has never been amended and is fraught with loopholes (e.g. the definition of public security being too wide, the absence of penalty for illegal interception of communications by public officers, etc.), which have caused worries about personal privacy, of the timetable set by the Government for introducing legislative amendments to this Ordinance; if a timetable is not available, of the reasons for that; whether the Government has assessed if the existing legislation is adequate for regulating acts of interception of communications (e.g. industrial espionage, etc.) by non-governmental organizations or individuals; if the assessment outcome is in the negative, whether the Government has any plan to amend the existing legislation or enact new law to regulate such acts; if it has, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Timing for delivering Policy Address and the Budget

- (3) Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Oral reply)

In her earlier letter to the President of the Legislative Council, the Chief Secretary for Administration has indicated that the Chief Executive will deliver his next Policy Address in January next year, which will be followed by the Financial Secretary's Budget in late February or early March. Such an arrangement will be adhered to for the rest of this term of the Government. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) given that due to the close proximity of the dates for delivering the Policy Address and the Budget this year, the Government had jointly conducted the public consultation exercises for these two important policy papers last year, whether the Government will continue to adopt the same arrangement next year; if it will, of the justifications for that; whether the Government will take measures to ensure that the relevant consultation exercises will not place emphasis only on one of the two documents, and whether it will consider conducting separate consultation exercises for the two documents; if it will consider doing so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (b) as the dates for delivering the next Policy Address and the next Budget will be quite close, whether the Government has assessed, when the Government decides to make relatively substantial amendments to certain policies or measures in the light of the public's responses to the Policy Address, if the Financial Secretary will have sufficient time to revise the draft Budget in order to allocate public resources in tandem with the relevant amendments; if the assessment outcome is in the negative, how the Government can respond to the aspirations of the public in the Budget, and whether it will, for

such reason, refuse to respond to the views or suggestions from the public on the Policy Address; and

- (c) whether the Government will consider consulting the public and this Council on the dates for delivering the Policy Address and the Budget, so as to avoid jeopardizing the relationship between the Executive Authorities and the Legislature; if it will, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Home Ownership Scheme Secondary Market

(7) Hon Vincent FANG Kang (Written Reply)

The Government launched this year a scheme with a quota of 5 000 under which eligible White Form applicants for the Home Ownership Scheme (“HOS”) may purchase, without paying premium, flats on the HOS Secondary Market (“Secondary Market”) within a specified period. It has been reported that the first batch of 2 500 successful applicants are anxious to purchase HOS flats, but the per-square-foot prices of HOS flats have risen rapidly due to an insufficient supply of such flats. The per-square-foot prices of certain flats have risen more than 20% since the announcement of the scheme in last July. The per-square-foot prices of some flats, after reckoning the premium payment, have even surpassed those of private residential flats. For example, the per-square-foot price of an HOS flat in Tseung Kwan O in the Secondary Market based on its saleable area is some \$6,400, meaning its per-square-foot price at the market value is over \$10,000. There are comments that a bubble is forming in the Secondary Market and this has driven the prices of some private residential flats to go up, which is detrimental to the healthy development of Hong Kong’s property market and may make successful applicants bear a higher risk in purchasing HOS flats. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) whether it had, before launching the aforesaid scheme, assessed if the supply of flats in the Secondary Market was adequate to meet the demand of both Green Form and White Form HOS applicants; if it had assessed, of a detailed breakdown of the estimated supply of HOS flats by district; if not, the reasons for that;
- (b) whether it will review the implementation of the aforesaid scheme, including its relationship with the rapid rise in the prices of HOS flats in the Secondary Market, the rate of increase in the

prices of such flats over the past six months, the affordability of the successful applicants, the impact on the market of private residential flats, etc.; if it will, of the timetable and plan of the review; if not, the reasons for that; and

- (c) whether the Government will temporarily shelve the aforesaid scheme after allocation of the second batch of 2 500 of this year's quota, so as to avoid the development of a bubble in the Secondary Market intensifying, and successful applicants bearing unnecessary risks of a property bubble; if it will, of the specific timetable and plan; if not, the reasons for that?

Business promotion of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal

(8) Hon YIU Si-wing (Written Reply)

It is learnt that there have been a number of negative press reports in recent days about the Cruise Terminal (“the Terminal”) located in the Kai Tak Development Area, which was built at a cost of over \$8 billion. Such reports include serious water seepage at the terminal building prior to its opening, chaotic transport arrangements on the day of its official opening, as well as rodent infestation at the terminal building occurred in recent days. On the other hand, some members of the community worry that the Terminal may turn into a “white elephant” project due to insufficient patronage and that Hong Kong’s international image will be tarnished if the aforesaid problems are not rectified expeditiously. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the improvement measures taken by the authorities to tackle the aforesaid problems of the facilities, such as rodent infestation and water seepage, so as to bring the software and hardware of the Terminal in line with international standards;
- (b) as it has been reported that the Terminal, after receiving the first cruise liner on the 12th of this month, will not receive the second cruise liner until October, and there will only be a total of 20-odd cruise liners berthing at the Terminal in the coming year, i.e. the usage time for the whole year will be merely one month or so, of the measures taken by the authorities to boost the usage rate of the Terminal; and
- (c) as the Central Government announced in June last year the measure that mainland tour groups taking cruises from Hong Kong to Taiwan would be permitted to continue to take the same cruise to Japan or South Korea before returning to the Mainland, of the progress of the authorities’ discussion with the mainland

authorities in respect of the implementation of the relevant measures (including the visa arrangements and timetable)?

Supply of residential flats

(22) Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Written Reply)

The Chief Executive (“CE”) pointed out in this year’s Policy Address that the Government would take a number of strong measures to increase housing land supply in the short to medium term. He estimated that a total of 67 000 first-hand units should come on the market in the next three to four years. However, according to the land sales records of the Lands Department, only about 9 200 units were involved in the private residential developments for which Pre-sale Consents were issued between the third quarter of 2012 and the first quarter of 2013. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (a) of the target numbers of Pre-sale Consents and Certificates of Compliance to be issued in each quarter of the next four years, as well as the number of units involved; how the Government ensures that a total of 67 000 first-hand units will come on the market in the next three to four years as mentioned by CE; whether, according to the latest estimate, such target can be achieved; if it cannot, of the reasons for that, whether any remedial measures have been taken, and whether it has assessed the impact of such situation on property prices; if such an assessment has been made, of the details;
- (b) how the Government monitors the trend of residential property prices in Hong Kong; whether it has regularly reviewed the effectiveness of the monitoring measures; if it has, of the review outcome; of the respective changes in the sale price indexes of first-hand and second-hand residential units in each quarter between 1 July 2012 and 31 May 2013;
- (c) as CE announced in August last year that 36 sites originally designated for “government, institution or community facilities”, measuring 27 hectares in total, as well as other government

sites, would be rezoned for housing development, of the latest development in this respect;

- (d) as it has been stated in the Policy Address that 13 sites in Green Belt areas, measuring 57 hectares in total, which are devegetated, deserted or formed, are suitable for rezoning for residential use, of the latest development in this respect;
- (e) as it has been stated in the Policy Address that 16 industrial sites, measuring 30 hectares in total, are suitable for rezoning for residential use, of the latest development in this respect;
- (f) of the number of residential sites sold by the Government each year from 2009 to 31 May of this year, together with a breakdown in table form by the class of residential sites (i.e. Residential Site Class A, B, C and D);
- (g) of the number of residential sites, as estimated by the Government, which will be sold each year from this year to 2017, together with a breakdown in table form by the class of residential sites;
- (h) of the number of applications for Pre-sale Consents being vetted for approval as at 31 May 2013, and the number of residential units involved; and
- (i) of the numbers of Certificates of Compliance and Consents to Assign issued by the Government during the period between 2009 and 31 May this year, as well as the respective numbers of residential units involved (set out in the table below)?

		Certificate of Compliance	Consent to Assign
2009	Number issued		
	Number of residential units		

	involved		
2010	Number issued		
	Number of residential units involved		
2011	Number issued		
	Number of residential units involved		
2012	Number issued		
	Number of residential units involved		
2013 (As at 31 May)	Number issued		
	Number of residential units involved		