

LC Paper No. CB(3) 493/13-14

Paper for the House Committee meeting of 21 March 2014

Questions scheduled for the Legislative Council meeting of 26 March 2014

Questions by:

(1)	Hon MA Fung-kwok	(Oral reply) (New question)
	(Replacing his previous question)	
(2)	Hon Albert CHAN	(Oral reply)
(3)	Hon IP Kin-yuen	(Oral reply)
(4)	Hon Frankie YICK	(Oral reply)
(5)	Hon WONG Yuk-man	(Oral reply)
(6)	Hon James TO	(Oral reply)
(7)	Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG	(Written reply)
(8)	Hon Tommy CHEUNG	(Written reply)
(9)	Hon Albert HO	(Written reply)
(10)	Hon LEUNG Che-cheung	(Written reply)
(11)	Prof Hon Joseph LEE	(Written reply)
(12)	Dr Hon Helena WONG	(Written reply)
(13)	Hon Dennis KWOK	(Written reply)
(14)	Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai	(Written reply) (New question)
	(Replacing his previous question)	
(15)	Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che	(Written reply)
(16)	Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT	(Written reply) (New question)
	(Replacing her previous question)	
(17)	Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN	(Written reply)
(18)	Hon Charles Peter MOK	(Written reply)
(19)	Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung	(Written reply)
(20)	Hon Frederick FUNG	(Written reply)
(21)	Hon Kenneth LEUNG	(Written reply)
(22)	Hon WU Chi-wai	(Written reply)

註:

<u>NOTE</u> :

- # 議員將採用這種語言提出質詢
- # Member will ask the question in this language

Provision of land for the development of the cultural and creative industries

(1) <u>Hon MA Fung-kwok</u>(Oral reply)

The economic contribution of the cultural and creative industries ("CCIs") in terms of percentage share in gross domestic product increased from 3.8% in 2005 to 4.9% in 2012, and the employment in such industries as a percentage in the total employment during the same period increased from 5.1% to 5.5%. Some members of the industries have pointed out that although CCIs are emerging pillar industries of Hong Kong, the room for survival of such industries has been severely compressed and their development has been seriously constrained due to tight supply of land. In reply to my question in October last year, the Chief Executive indicated that the development of creative industries at the Lok Ma Chau Loop ("the Loop") would be considered. Regarding the provision of land for the development of CCIs, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the current progress of the planning work for the Loop; how CCIs are expected to benefit from the development of such area; whether the authorities have conducted any assessment on the land required for the development of such industries; if so, how such demand for land will be met; if not, of the reasons for that;
- (2) whether it has considered strengthening cooperation with the mainland departments and, on the premise of comprehensive infrastructure, renting sites on the Mainland for establishing parks for emerging industries which will mainly be managed by the Hong Kong side, so as to take forward the development of CCIs of Hong Kong; and
- (3) whether the Consultative Committee on Economic and Trade Cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland has, since its establishment in October last year, discussed how to foster the development of CCIs; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; given that some members of the industries have proposed the construction of a film and television city in Nansha, whether the Committee has discussed this proposal; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

(14) <u>Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai</u> (Written reply)

As an international metropolis, Hong Kong is often bustling with various mega sports events as well as cultural, tourism and commercial activities, while members of the public enjoy the rights of procession, assembly and demonstration. There are views that the Government should stay more vigilant on matters relating to public safety, and strengthen its counter-terrorism capability and its ability to handle major security incidents that might be caused by large-scale assemblies or processions (including the "Occupy Central" movement), with a view to safeguarding the personal safety of members of the public and their properties, as well as maintaining social order. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the criteria adopted by the authorities for determining the risk level of terrorist attacks for Hong Kong; the current risk level; whether they will re-assess the risk level of terrorist attacks for Hong Kong in light of the recent international situation; if they will, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) whether the authorities have regularly assessed if they have sufficient capability, manpower, experience and equipment to cope with potential terrorist attacks (such as bomb explosions or violent incidents at the Central Government Offices, the Hong Kong International Airport, the MTR or other public transport modes); if they have, of the details;
- (3) of the number of drills on handling terrorist attacks and major public safety incidents conducted by the authorities in the past five years, the government departments involved, the number of participants and the effectiveness of such drills;
- (4) whether there were intelligence exchanges between the Police and the mainland public security authorities in the past five years, so as to safeguard Hong Kong from terrorist attacks; if not, of the reasons for that;
- (5) whether the Police exchanged views with the People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison in the past five years, on safeguarding Hong Kong's security and national security; if not, of the reasons for that;
- (6) as it was reported that a Hong Kong deputy to the National People's Congress ("NPC") had pointed out during a group discussion session at the 12th NPC that, in light of the terrorist attack that occurred recently in Kunming, it was necessary for Hong Kong to expeditiously enact legislation to implement Article 23 of the Basic Law for the purpose of maintaining the sovereignty and public safety, of the latest stance of the authorities on this issue, and whether they will conduct public consultation

in this regard; if they will, when they will do so; if not, of the reasons for that;

- (7) of the respective numbers of public assemblies, demonstrations and public processions held in each of the past five years, the number of participants in such activities, the number of relevant complaints received, the number of cases of assaults on police officers related to these activities and the respective numbers of people arrested, convicted and injured (including police officers, participants of processions and passers-by);
- (8) of the circumstances which the Police, in the course of handling the activities mentioned in (7), will take into account when deciding the police manpower required to be deployed and determining whether it is necessary to deploy off-duty police officers and police officers from other police districts; the respective numbers of police officers that can be deployed from various police districts;
- (9) whether it has assessed the possibility of the trunk roads in Central being blocked for a prolonged period as a result of one of the actions of the "Occupy Central" movement; if the assessment outcome is that such a situation is very likely, of the expected scale of the action concerned (including the number of people participating in the demonstrations), the police manpower required to be deployed during the course of the action, and whether the Police have already commenced the formulation of the corresponding security arrangements; whether the Police have assessed if they have sufficient capability, manpower, experience and equipment to cope with the emergencies that may occur during the course of the action; if the assessment outcome is in the negative, of the reasons for that; and
- (10) whether it has assessed the impact of the trunk roads in Central being blocked for a prolonged period on the economy, traffic, tourism, social order and public safety; if it has, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Business environment for small and medium enterprises

and promotion of starting businesses

(16) <u>Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT</u> (Written reply)

Some operators of small and medium enterprises ("SMEs") have relayed to me that the business environment in Hong Kong is deteriorating but Government's support for SMEs is insufficient, resulting in quite a number of start-up SMEs being unable to carry on their businesses for more than five years. These people have also pointed out that Government's policies and measures for encouraging the starting of businesses have no merit worth mentioning. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has compiled statistics on the respective numbers of start-up companies, those established for five to 10 years and those established for over 10 years, in each of the past 10 years (with a breakdown by industry), as well as the respective percentages of SMEs and other enterprises in such numbers; if it has, of the detailed figures; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) whether it has compiled statistics on the reasons for closure of local companies in the past 10 years; if it has, of the major reasons for closure (with a breakdown by industry) and for each reason, the percentage of companies the closure of which was related to it; if not, the reasons for that;
- (3) whether it has any policy and measure to improve the business environment for SMEs and help such companies sustain their businesses; if it does, set out in detail in a table the policies formulated and measures implemented for SMEs of different industries; if not, of the reasons for that; and
- (4) whether it has examined the implementation of measures for encouraging the starting of businesses, targeting at people of different age groups (in particular those who have reached retirement age but are rich in experience and still able to work) and at different industries, so as to promote economic development; if it has, of a breakdown of the relevant measures by age group and industry; if not, the reasons for that?