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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Session No. : 12

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)001

(Question Serial No. 3168)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

A paragraph of the Policy Address mentioned the idea of “promoting design thinking”, but did not mention policies on “promoting the animation and comics (ani-com) sector”. The operating difficulties now facing the ani-com sector have not been taken seriously. Earlier, the Comix Home Base (CHB) in Wan Chai ceased its operation at 7 Mallory Street suddenly. The CHB issued a notice on its website, stating that the 5-year contract for the Main Operator was terminated in end-July and that it would return to the Hong Kong Arts Centre in the future. It is reported that since the CHB has encountered operating difficulties and suffered losses over the past 5 years, it decided to withdraw from Wan Chai. Does the Government learn the above situation? Has the Government taken measures to support the future development of the ani-com sector, such as nurturing talent, providing funding support or establishing a platform for development?

The industry players indicated that the Administration has given limited support to the ani-com sector over the past years. Please list, in tabular form, the projects and activities to which the Government has given support over the past 3 years. Please also give an account of the time spent, venues, manpower and expenditure involved.

How will the Administration continue to support the development of the ani-com sector in the coming year? How much resources and manpower will be invested to help the sector to organise different kinds of activities?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

Create Hong Kong (CreateHK), through the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI), subsidises and encourages the animation and comics (ani-com) sector of the digital entertainment industry to organise different kinds of promotional activities in Hong Kong and overseas, with a view to nurturing young talent and exploring markets for the sector and setting up ani-com landmarks in the community.

In the past 3 financial years, the Government subsidised a total of 21 projects initiated by the ani-com sector through the CSI. The projects are tabulated below -

Project		Amount of funding (\$ million)
2016-17		
(1)	The 4 th Animation Support Program	2.66
(2)	The 5 th Hong Kong Comic Camp	0.54
(3)	Grasping Vibrancy@Comix Home Base	1.42
(4)	Hong Kong Animation and Digital Entertainment Pavilion 2017	0.35
(5)	The Pitch of Tension - Hong Kong Comics Power (Held in France and Hong Kong)	1.46
(6)	Promoting Hong Kong Comics by decorating Comix Home Base	1.57
2017-18		
(7)	Japanese Animation Masterclass	0.43
(8)	Comixstream in the City - Wan Chai	2.46
(9)	PLAY! Hong Kong Comix Touring Exhibition (Held in Finland, Belgium, Japan and Hong Kong)	2.88
(10)	The 5 th Animation Support Program	2.66
(11)	Hong Kong Ani-Com & Games Intellectual Property Development Program	0.79
(12)	Hong Kong Animation and Digital Entertainment Pavilion 2018	0.33
(13)	The 3 rd Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme	3.05
(14)	Hong Kong Avenue of Comic Stars Enhancement Programme	1.32
2018-19 (Up to end-February 2019)		
(15)	The 6 th Animation Support Program	6.42
(16)	Hong Kong Licensing Awards 2018	1.08
(17)	Organising 1 st Cross-Matching Showcase in HK International Licensing Show 2019	2.13
(18)	The Story! Hong Kong Comics Touring Exhibition @ Angoulême International Comics Festival, France and Hong Kong	2.06

Project		Amount of funding (\$ million)
(19)	Promoting Hong Kong comics by establishing the Ani-Com Park@Harbour “FUN” Phase 2	7.89
(20)	Promoting Hong Kong Animation and Movie Creative Talents via organising 21 st DigiCon6 Asia Awards Ceremony and Asian Master Summit in Hong Kong	1.92
(21)	The 7 th Animation Support Program	8.82
Total		52.24

Promoting the development of Hong Kong’s creative industries is an on-going task of CreateHK. The manpower and expenditure involved are included in the overall establishment and expenditure of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau.

In 2019-20, we will continue to collaborate closely with the ani-com sector, and actively consider funding applications submitted by the sector under the CSI for organisation of projects conducive to the development of the sector.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)002

(Question Serial No. 3741)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Currently, there are still 480 000 households which have not switched to digital terrestrial television (DTT) services. If analogue television (TV) broadcast is switched off in 2020, 480 000 traditional TV sets will become rubbish and there will be a sudden increase in the volume of electronic waste. The Administration's earlier recommendation focusing only on seeking funding from the Community Care Fund (CCF) is obviously insufficient, as the disposal of traditional TV sets has not been considered. In this connection, in order to reduce waste, will the Administration co-operate with social welfare organisations and seek funding from the CCF to subsidise these organisations to recycle and redistribute second-hand TV sets to needy households?

The amount of spectrum vacated after analogue switch-off will be very large. As telecommunications spectrum is a valuable resource, the spectrum allocated for DTT has not been fully utilised at present, and the free TV market may not fully utilise the DTT spectrum in the foreseeable future, accordingly, the spectrum vacated from analogue TV broadcast may be used by other telecommunications developments instead of TV broadcast. Given that 5G technology will become mature in the future, and since 5G requires base stations of higher density because of its short wavelength characteristic, a large amount of dense and highly utilised available spectrum will be required. Will the Secretary assign the said spectrum to support the future 5G technology? If yes, is there any corresponding timetable for the auction of the spectrum?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

According to a survey conducted in late 2017, about 180 000 households in Hong Kong were still receiving analogue television (TV) services. Households that prefer to receive digital terrestrial television (DTT) services may retain their analogue TV set and add a set-top box, or they may switch to digital TV sets. If they choose the latter, the current "Producer Responsibility Scheme on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment" has

specific arrangements for the recycling and disposal of TV sets. As for the DTT assistance programme proposed to be implemented through funding from the Community Care Fund, we are still studying the options for implementation. If households express their preference for recycled second-hand TV sets, we can refer them to organisations that run donation programmes for recycled electrical appliances for appropriate assistance.

Upon analogue switch-off on 30 November 2020, the 160 MHz of spectrum in the 600/700 MHz bands thus vacated will be mainly used to improve indoor mobile services, so as to relieve the currently congested indoor mobile hotspots, such as MTR stations. The Communications Authority plans to hold a public consultation on the assignment arrangement for the spectrum in the 600/700 MHz bands for the provision of public mobile services. The relevant spectrum is preliminarily expected to be available for use in the second half of 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)003

(Question Serial No. 3751)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Earlier, "Killing Commendatore", a novel written by a Japanese writer Haruki Murakami, was classified by the Obscene Articles Tribunal of Hong Kong as Class II (indecent). This has come as a shock to the whole town. There are comments that such classification would affect freedom of creativity in Hong Kong. Has the Administration taken any remedial measures for this?

The Government conducted a review of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance in 2015 and has released a report on the review. What is the progress of the follow-up work?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 96)

Reply:

The Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (Cap. 390) (COIAO) establishes the Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT). The OAT is a specialised tribunal under the Judiciary, comprising a presiding magistrate and adjudicators drawn from a panel of adjudicators. Adjudicators are members of the public appointed by the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal so as to reflect the standards of morality, decency and propriety generally accepted by the community. Articles are classified by the OAT in accordance with relevant statutory requirements. When studying improvements to the regulatory framework under the COIAO, the Bureau will consider the views from different sectors of the community carefully.

Over the past 4 years, we have been liaising with relevant government departments and the Judiciary on the proposed legislative amendments to the COIAO with a view to resolving the relevant legal issues. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting on the work progress as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)004****(Question Serial No. 3755)**

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please tabulate the distribution of cinemas in 18 districts and locations of new cinemas (including the number of seats and screens) in future.

The distribution of existing cinemas in Hong Kong is lopsided. The developers are only willing to develop cinemas in shopping centres which are easily accessible by public transport. Members of the public have to go to the cinema in other districts. This has hindered people from watching films. Has the Government taken into account population density and geographical locations in identifying locations for cinema development, and invited investors to set up cinemas close to residential areas? What action will the Administration take to address such phenomenon?

Will the Administration consider amending the planning standards so that cinemas can be regarded as essential entertainment facilities in a community?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 100)

Reply:

The distribution of cinemas in Hong Kong as at end-December 2018 is set out below -

District	No. of cinemas	No. of screens	No. of seats
Central and Western	3	16	1 344
Wan Chai	6	18	2 733
Eastern	5	21	3 554
Southern	2	7	1 382
Yau Tsim Mong	11	54	10 342
Sham Shui Po	2	12	1 668
Kowloon City	2	5	1 587
Wong Tai Sin	2	8	1 817

District	No. of cinemas	No. of screens	No. of seats
Kwun Tong	5	31	4 143
Kwai Tsing	2	11	1 279
Tsuen Wan	3	14	1 853
Tuen Mun	4	15	2 595
Yuen Long	3	15	2 174
North	2	5	511
Sha Tin	2	11	2 205
Sai Kung	2	13	1 576
Islands	1	1	350
Total	57	257	41 113

Source of information: Hong Kong Theatres Association

According to information provided by the industry, with the opening of a cinema in Tai Po District in the first half of 2019, there will be cinemas in all the 18 districts of Hong Kong.

The provisions and locations of cinemas involve commercial considerations and should be market-driven. Through the Film Development Fund and related measures, the Government will, having regard to market development, continue to build audience, in particular to cultivate cinema-going interest among young people and students. Regarding measures to increase the number of cinemas, the Government will closely monitor the supply of cinemas and play the role of “facilitator” as appropriate if circumstances warrant.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)005

(Question Serial No. 3760)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Over the past year, how many reports on disruption to 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 Administration on the service providers for service disruption?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

In 2018-19 (up to 12 March 2019), the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) received a total of 5 reports on disruption to telecommunications services, which were all minor in nature and involved the malfunctioning of network equipment (3 incidents) and power supply systems (2 incidents).

In October 2018, the Communications Authority (CA) imposed a financial penalty of a total of HK\$160,000 on China Unicom (Hong Kong) Operations Limited (China Unicom) for 2 cases of disruption to its telecommunications services which occurred on 27 February and 31 March 2018 respectively. In order to prevent recurrence of similar incidents, China Unicom has taken improvement measures upon the request of the CA. The CA's investigations into and decisions on these 2 cases have been uploaded onto its website.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)006

(Question Serial No. 3761)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) What are the details of support services provided by the Administration to facilitate film productions, in particular location filming, in Hong Kong?
- (b) Over 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 tabular form the film projects, locations, production companies, manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

- (a) The Film Services Office of Create Hong Kong (FSO) is responsible for assisting local and overseas film production companies to conduct location filming in Hong Kong. The FSO, which serves as a bridge between the film industry and relevant Government departments, co-ordinates relevant application procedures by for instance, providing production crews with information and recommendations in respect of filming locations, arranging filming location scouting for production crews, assisting production crews in applying for necessary approvals or permits, and liaising with relevant Government departments on matters relating to lane/road closure and parking of filming vehicles, with a view to facilitating film shooting and minimising inconvenience to the public.

The FSO has also set up a resource centre and a website to provide information on Government and private properties available for location filming, reference materials for location filming in Hong Kong and information which facilitates film production. The FSO also issues relevant publications and promotes Hong Kong films abroad and publicises Hong Kong as an ideal city for location filming.

- (b) In 2018, the FSO has successfully processed 602 applications for location filming, of which 539 cases were from local production crews while 63 from overseas production crews. Among those cases of local productions, 290 cases were film productions, 175 were television productions, 64 were productions of advertisement and promotional videos and 10 were student productions. For cases of overseas productions, 17 cases were film productions, 33 were television productions and 13 were productions of advertisement and promotional videos. The locations involved in the aforementioned applications generally included venues under the purview of the Government and public organisations, public roads, vacant school premises and private properties (e.g. holiday centres and housing estates), etc.

The establishment in the FSO responsible for handling applications for location shooting comprises 1 Chief Entertainment Standards Control Officer and 4 Entertainment Standards Control Officers. The expenditure, which mainly concerns the emoluments of the aforementioned staff, is included in the overall expenditure of the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)007

(Question Serial No. 3763)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) Please provide a list of the film productions funded by the Film Development Fund (FDF) in tabular form, showing the film title, the name of the production company, the amount of funding, the percentage of the funding vis-à-vis the production cost 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 3 years?
- (b) The First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI) was launched to provide funding to budding film directors. Please list in tabular form the production progress and the achievements of the winning works since the launch of the FFFI. What changes to the implementation of the FFFI are expected in the coming year?
- (c) The Administration proposes to enhance the sixth edition of the FFFI by increasing the total number of winning teams to a maximum of 6 (by 100%). Please list the estimated expenditure involved in the FFFI, and the details of and the timetable for the implementation of the FFFI in the coming year?
- (d) At present, the Administration plans to sponsor local films to participate in film festivals overseas. Will the Administration step up efforts to assist and sponsor local films, especially those participating in the FFFI, to be released overseas in order to support budding directors specifically?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 108)

Reply:

(a) and (b)

	Film title	Production company	Amount of sponsorship (HK\$)	Percentage of sponsorship vis-à-vis production cost	Date of release in Hong Kong
Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS)					
1.	McDull Kungfu Ding Ding Dong	Famous Now Investments Ltd	3,598,800	30%	13.8.2009
2.	Claustrophobia	Mega Profit Creation Ltd	1,618,255	30%	12.2.2009
3.	Coweb	Kind Legend Investment Ltd	2,993,179	30%	14.6.2012
4.	Give Love	Total Big Ltd	2,419,674	30%	19.2.2009
5.	Strawberry Cliff	Mega Ascent Ltd	3,017,435	30%	1.12.2011
6.	Lover's Discourse	ET Movie Production Limited	1,855,297	30%	6.1.2011
7.	Echoes of the Rainbow	Sky Cosmos Development Ltd	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.	MicroSex Office	MicroSex Office Production Limited	1,723,750	35%	9.6.2011
13.	Lost in Wrestling	Golden Express Corporation Limited	3,748,788	25%	10.9.2015
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.	Love Expert	Love Smart Production Limited	2,995,500	30%	2.9.2015
17.	The Way We Dance	The Way We Dance Film Production Limited	2,119,519	40%	8.8.2013

	Film title	Production company	Amount of sponsorship (HK\$)	Percentage of sponsorship vis-à-vis production cost	Date of release in Hong Kong
18.	A Complicated Story	Big Star Production Company Limited	3,014,859	40%	16.1.2014
19.	Bends	Bends Limited	4,000,000	40%	21.11.2013
20.	Doomsday Party	Film Plus Plus Productions Limited	3,384,000	40%	28.11.2013
21.	The Seventh Lie	Nineteen Eighty Six Films Limited	1,840,000	40%	30.10.2014
22.	The True Love	Man Hong Films Limited	1,597,100	20%	17.10.2016
23.	Kick Ass Girls	Kick Ass Girls Production Limited	2,251,147	25%	14.11.2013
24.	The Midnight After	The Midnight After Film Production Limited	5,250,000	35%	10.4.2014
25.	Twilight Online	Grant Success Inc Limited	1,500,000	30%	4.9.2014
26.	Wonder Mama	Ko Chi Sum Film Group Limited	1,590,180	20%	4.6.2015
27.	The Merger	Jade Dragon Saga Media Entertainment Limited	1,951,632	20%	17.9.2015
28.	The Moment	The Moment Film Production Company Limited	2,760,000	30%	15.9.2015
29.	Love Revolution	Tin Lok Movies Limited	2,997,300	20%	6.12.2018
30.	Tomorrow is Another Day	Tomorrow Is Another Day Film Production Limited	3,397,668	40%	12.4.2018
31.	Men on the Dragon	Filmmaking Limited	4,492,800	27%	2.8.2018
32.	Ciao, UFO	And The Sky is Blue Pictures Limited	5,400,000	30%	Not yet released
33.	I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change	I Love You You Are Perfect Now Change Production Limited	5,200,000	26%	31.1.2019
Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS)¹					

¹ The FPGS was launched on a pilot basis in November 2015 and ceased operation in February 2018.

	Film title	Production company	Amount of sponsorship (HK\$)	Percentage of sponsorship vis-à-vis production cost	Date of release in Hong Kong
34.	Lucid Dreams	Star Pictures Entertainment (Hong Kong) Limited	1,958,000	20%	25.10.2018
35.	Napping Kid	Dot 2 Dot Production Limited	1,379,750	20%	8.11.2018
36.	Zombiology: Enjoy Yourself Tonight	Entertaining Power Co Ltd	1,979,000	20%	29.6.2017
37.	Ann Hui's Doc	A.M. Associates Limited	1,959,200	20%	Not yet released
38.	Forget Me Knot	Photon Films (HK) Limited	1,200,000	20%	Not yet released
39.	Impossible Split	To The Moon Pictures Limited	2,000,000	20%	Not yet released
40.	The Lady Improper	River Vision Company Limited	2,000,000	About 18%	Expected to be released in April 2019
41.	Today	HK Entertainment Corporation Limited	1,064,000	20%	Not yet released
42.	Lost in Home, Found in Family	Mo Production Company Limited	2,000,000	About 19%	Not yet released
43.	Fool that I am	Mei Ah Film Production Company Limited	1,418,000	20%	Not yet released
44.	Just 1 Day	Asia Premium Investment Limited	2,000,000	16%	Not yet released
45.	Take Two	Ideas Workshop Limited	1,700,000	20%	Not yet released
46.	The Way We Dance 3	Golden Scene Company Limited	2,000,000	19%	Not yet released
First Feature Film Initiative (FFFI)					
First edition					
47.	Somewhere Beyond the Mist	Opus 1 Limited	5,000,000	100%	18.1.2018
48.	Mad World	Mad World Limited	2,000,000	100%	30.3.2017
49.	Weeds on Fire	Flash Glory Limited	2,000,000	100%	25.8.2016
Second edition					

	Film title	Production company	Amount of sponsorship (HK\$)	Percentage of sponsorship vis-à-vis production cost	Date of release in Hong Kong
50.	Love@ TheSquare	Plazza Production Limited	5,500,000	100%	Not yet released
51.	In Your Dreams	In Your Dream Film Production Limited	3,250,000	100%	11.1.2018
Third edition					
52.	The Assassination of G	G-Class Films Limited	5,500,000	100%	14.3.2019
53.	Still Human	No Ceiling Film Production Limited	3,250,000	100%	11.4.2019 (Tentative)
Fourth edition					
54.	Elisa's Day	Amour Film Limited	5,500,000	100%	Not yet released
55.	Hand-rolled Cigarette	Hand-Roll Cigarette Film Production Company Limited	3,250,000	100%	Not yet released
56.	My Prince Edward	My Prince Edward Film Production Limited	3,250,000	100%	Not yet released
Fifth edition					
57.	A Light Never Goes Out	A Light Never Goes Out Limited	5,500,000	100%	Not yet released
58.	Time Still Turns the Pages	(The production team has not established a production company)	3,250,000	100%	Not yet released
59.	The Dinner	Tales of Honey Limited	3,250,000	100%	Not yet released

Note: Excluding applications withdrawn subsequent to funding approval. In addition, 3 films granted financing support had terminated the financing agreements with the Government. Financing offer for another approved film had expired and lapsed.

As at end-February 2019, "Mad World", "Weeds on Fire" and "Still Human" have won a total of 18 awards (including Best Film, Best New Director, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best New Performer, etc.) in a number of film shows/festivals in and outside of Hong Kong.

As at end-February 2019, the position of processing of applications under the FPFs, the FPGs and the Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects (which includes the FFFI) since 2016 is tabulated below -

Scheme	Year	No. of applications received	Applications approved/Assessment of applications completed (Percentage of approval)[#]	Remarks
FPFS	2016	1	1/1 (100%)	
	2017	2	2/2 (100%)	
	2018	4	1/2 (50%)	2 out of the 4 applications are being processed.
	2019 (As at end-February)	4	Not applicable	The 4 applications are being processed.
FPGS (Pilot period ended in February 2018)	2016	12	4/12 (33.33%)	1 out of the 4 approved applications was withdrawn subsequently by the applicant.
	2017	16	6/15 (40.00%)	Out of the 16 applications, 1 was withdrawn by the applicant before completion of assessment.
	2018	13	3/13 (23.08%)	-
Scheme for Financing Other Film-related Projects	2016	27	24/25 (96%)	Out of the 27 applications, 2 were withdrawn by the applicants before completion of assessment. Out of the 24 approved applications, 1 was withdrawn subsequently by the applicant.
	2017	18	15/17 (88.24%)	Out of the 18 applications, 1 was withdrawn by the applicant before completion of assessment.
	2018	21	19/21 (90.48%)	-
	2019 (As at end-February)	4	Not applicable	The 4 applications are being processed.

Only applications having gone through full assessment procedures are included in the calculation of the percentage of approval. Applications withdrawn by applicants before completion of assessment and applications being processed are excluded.

(c) and (d)

With the proposed new injection of \$1 billion into the Film Development Fund, we plan to enhance the FFFI, which identifies novices with potential through a competition on scripts and production proposals, by increasing the total number of winning teams each year from 3 to a maximum of 6, and raising the sponsorship amount for the Higher Education Institution Group from \$3.25 million to \$5 million and that for the Professional Group from \$5.5 million to \$8 million, thereby giving emerging talent more opportunities to showcase their abilities. The estimated expenditure involved is \$39 million per year. The FFFI will be open for application after the passage of the Appropriation Bill 2019.

We will continue to encourage the local industry to participate in other film shows/festivals through the “Sponsorship for Local Films Nominated to Participate in Film Festivals Overseas”, and to sponsor distribution of Hong Kong films (including those funded by the FFFI and the FPFS) in the Mainland to expand markets through the “Sponsorship for the Sale and Distribution of Hong Kong Films (Cantonese Version) in the Mainland”. In addition, we will, together with the Film Development Council and the industry, explore ways to distribute Hong Kong films in more overseas cities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)008

(Question Serial No. 5217)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Currently, films are screened at the North District Town Hall and the Film Archive on Hong Kong Island East regularly by the Hong Kong Film Archive. The number of audience for each screening is, however, limited. As the collections of the Hong Kong Film Archive are rich and valuable, it will be a waste of resources if they are not put to optimal use for enhanced promotion.

The current function of the Film Development Fund is mainly to provide assistance and support to industry practitioners. To promote public appreciation of films is ignored, however. Will the Government encourage the Hong Kong Film Archive to promote Hong Kong films more proactively among locals and overseas tourists? For example, can filming locations become tourist attractions to make Hong Kong more attractive, as in Taiwan and South Korea?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 366)

Reply:

The Hong Kong Film Archive is managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). According to the LCSD, in order to expand audience base, the Hong Kong Film Archive has been actively reaching out to local residents and tourists from abroad through staging regular film screenings at its premises, and partnering with cinemas and organising various large-scale indoor and outdoor screenings at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

On promotion of Hong Kong films, we have put in place the "Sponsorship for Local Films Nominated to Participate in Film Festivals Overseas" and the "Sponsorship for the Sale and Distribution of Hong Kong Films (Cantonese Version) in the Mainland" under the Film Development Fund, and have so far sponsored around 100 Hong Kong films in total with these 2 schemes. We will also continue to subsidise the industry to participate in various international film festivals to help Hong Kong films raise their profile overseas.

As for audience building, we have been sponsoring the “Hong Kong International Film Festival” and the “Audience Development Programme” which are being organised to promote popularisation of film art by screening films of various genres and offering student discount tickets. In addition, Create Hong Kong has, in collaboration with the LCSD, installed screening facilities in the North District Town Hall. Since 2017, around 90 film screenings have been held there, attracting the participation of students and residents.

Regarding the promotion of filming locations as tourist attractions, the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) joins hands with the local travel trade to promote brand new film-inspired travel products under the “New Tour Product Development Scheme”, such as arranging experienced film critics and local film-goers as tour guides to take visitors to sites featured in various Cantonese films. The Government will continue to support the HKTB in carrying out promotion work in this regard.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)009

(Question Serial No. 5574)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Creative industries are a value chain. It is necessary to first foster a creative atmosphere so that more people are willing to engage in creative industries on a full-time basis, make a living through writing and become writers. When the publishing industry flourishes, more topics will become available for scripts of television drama, films, stage drama and radio drama. If there are more great works, there would be more investments which could support the entire front-stage and back-stage operation and the livelihood of many practitioners in the cultural and creative industries. I learn that the Government plans to assist local publishers to participate in book fairs in the Mainland. In addition to the Mainland, there are also markets for Chinese books in Taiwan and Southeast Asian regions. How much resources will be allocated by the Government to assist our publishing industry in developing new markets in these places?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 405)

Reply:

In 2018, the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) provided funding of around \$8.4 million for the trade to set up Hong Kong pavilions at various major book fairs, including Taipei International Book Exhibition, Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy, Beijing International Book Fair, Frankfurt Book Fair in Germany and the China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair. In the first half of 2019, the CSI has also provided \$3.05 million for the trade to set up Hong Kong pavilions again at the Taipei International Book Exhibition and Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy in February and April respectively. If the trade applies for CSI funding for projects to develop other markets (including Southeast Asian countries), we will proactively consider the applications in accordance with the established mechanism.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)010****(Question Serial No. 5576)**

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) According to the programme, the Administration will continue to support the organisation of signature events through the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) to promote Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital. In this regard, please list, in tabular form, the signature events and projects organised through the CSI in the past year, showing the dates, venues, manpower and expenditure involved and the organisations which joined and held the events and projects.
- (b) According to the programme, the Administration will work with relevant departments to include design thinking in civil service training programmes and to promote application of design thinking in public service delivery. In this regard, please advise, in tabular form, how many civil servants have received training on application of design thinking over the past year and how many and what public services delivered have incorporated design thinking.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 407)

Reply:

- (a) Signature events funded by the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) in the past year (2018-19) are tabulated below -

Signature event	Date	Venue	Funding amount⁽¹⁾	Organiser(s) and participating organisation(s)
Business of Design Week 2018 and City Programme	3-8 December 2018	Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC)	\$12.9 million	Organiser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC)⁽²⁾ Participating organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMQ • Hong Kong Design Institute • The Hong Kong

Signature event	Date	Venue	Funding amount ⁽¹⁾	Organiser(s) and participating organisation(s)
				Polytechnic University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hong Kong Federation of Design Associations Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)
DFA Awards 2018	4 December 2018 (award presentation ceremony); 6-8 December 2018 (exhibition)	HKCEC	\$4.53 million	Organiser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKDC
JUXTAPOSED Fashion x Music 2018	8 December 2018	Tai Kwun	\$8.84 million	Organiser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hong Kong Fashion Designers Association
Hong Kong-Asian Pop Music Festival 2019	22 March 2019	HKCEC	\$8.45 million	Organiser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (Hong Kong Group) Limited Participating organisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKTDC

Note (1): Funding support covers staff costs and relevant expenditure involved in the organisation of the signature event by the organiser(s).

Note (2): The Government also provided funding to support the HKDC's basic operation.

(b) In 2018-19, around 2 400 civil servants in total of different bureaux/departments participated in relevant training programmes (including lectures, workshops, experience-sharing sessions, etc.) to enhance their awareness and application of design thinking.

Examples of public services/projects having applied design thinking to enhance efficiency and service quality are tabulated below -

	Policy bureau/department	Project
(1)	Hongkong Post	Mong Kok Post Office
(2)	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Crematoria built in recent years
(3)	Labour Department	"Employment in One-stop" – a one-stop employment and training centre
(4)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	"Park Déco Cornwall Street Park"
(5)	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	Hong Kong Exhibition Area at the China International Import Expo

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)011

(Question Serial No. 2561)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

A total of 17 applications were received under the Film Development Fund in 2018 with as many as 13 applications refused. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of the reasons for refusing these applications? What specific measures will the Administration take in future to help the applicants and enhance publicity so that more companies can obtain assistance?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

Applications under the "Film Production Financing Scheme" (FPFS) and "Film Production Grant Scheme" (FPGS)¹ of the Film Development Fund (FDF) are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include "creativity and quality of the film screenplay", "production budget", "estimated income" and "local film production elements and talent nurturing". Applications were not approved normally due to inadequacies in the aforementioned aspects.

The Government has proposed to inject \$1 billion into the FDF in 2019-20. The proposed measures include enhancing the FPFS by raising the production budget limit on a film project from the current \$25 million to \$60 million to cover also mid-budget productions. The maximum government financing amount for each approved project will be raised from the current \$6 million to \$9 million. We hope that this will attract film investors to increase their investment, and in turn upgrade local productions in terms of quality and quantity, and enhance their competitiveness in local and overseas markets. Information on applications under the FPFS can be downloaded from the website of the Film Development Council (FDC). We also publicise the FDF through the FDC and various film activities to encourage active participation of the industry.

- End -

¹ The FPGS was launched on a pilot basis in November 2015 and ceased operation in February 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)012

(Question Serial No. 2562)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20* that the Government will inject \$1 billion into the Film Development Fund, administered by Create Hong Kong, to strengthen the Government's support for the development of the local film industry in pursuit of the 4 strategic directions including nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience. Regarding nurturing talent, what are the details of the future work plan? Will overseas experience be considered when the design and contents of training are drawn up? If yes, what are the amount of funding and manpower to be involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

Regarding talent nurturing, we plan to enhance the "First Feature Film Initiative", which identifies novices with potential through a competition on scripts and production proposals, by increasing the total number of winning teams each year from 3 to a maximum of 6, and raising the sponsorship amount for Higher Education Institution Group from \$3.25 million to \$5 million and that for the Professional Group from \$5.5 to \$8 million, thereby giving emerging talent more opportunities to showcase their abilities.

The Government also proposes to invite different professional film bodies to organise skill enhancement courses or master classes for their professional segments in order to enhance the professional and technical capabilities of local film practitioners. We will continue to subsidise film bodies to organise training programmes covering different professional segments, such as "Film Professional Training Programme", "Hong Kong Film Professionals Overseas Training Program" and "Master Class in Film Directing", with a view to providing comprehensive training opportunities to young people who want to pursue a career in the film industry. During the process, we will consult professional advisors and experienced industry players, and make reference to overseas experiences.

The actual amount of funding for the above measures would depend on the number of applications submitted and eventually approved. Work on strengthening training programmes will be met by existing manpower.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)013****(Question Serial No. 5089)**

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding its work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following -

- (a) As to the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) which were only met in part, please state in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests which were only met in part; (ii) the reasons for meeting the request in part; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests which were only met in part	(ii) Reasons for meeting the request in part	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

- (b) As to the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) which was refused, please state in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 124)

Reply:

(a) and (b)

Among the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) from January to September 2018 and the processing of which has been completed, there were no requests which were only met in part nor refusal cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)014

(Question Serial No. 6292)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please list the following information on the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee (CSIVC) -

- (a) The number of meetings held and the attendance rate of each member in the past year;
- (b) The number of visits, local and overseas meetings, seminars and consultative meetings attended or organised by members in the capacity of CSIVC representatives, and the related expenditure items in the past year;
- (c) The number and contents of recommendations made by the CSIVC to the Government in the past year;
- (d) The number of applications approved and the related expenditure in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 341)

Reply:

- (a) According to the established mechanism, each meeting of the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee (CSIVC) is chaired by the Chairman or 1 of the Vice Chairpersons, and attended by at least 3 members from among the whole CSIVC. A total of 12 assessment meetings were held in 2018-19. With the exception of 1 member who was absent from 1 meeting at short notice due to unforeseen circumstances (leading to an attendance rate of 83.3% for that meeting), attendance rate of all other meetings was 100%.
- (b) In 2018-19, no CSIVC members attended or organised visits, local and overseas meetings, seminars and consultative meetings in the capacity of CSIVC representatives.

- (c) In 2018-19, the number of recommendations made by the CSIVC to the Government was 150, mainly on assessment results of applications, progress reports and completion reports of approved projects.
- (d) The number of approved cases and the amount of funding under the CSI in the past 3 financial years are tabulated below -

Financial year	Number of approved cases	Amount of funding (\$ million)
2016-17 ^(Note)	53	249.1
2017-18	42	117.0
2018-19 (As at end-February 2019)	60	251.6
Total	155	617.7

Note: Including projects under the Design-Business Collaboration Scheme which has ceased accepting application since 1 January 2016.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)015

(Question Serial No. 5643)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the records management work of your Bureau and the departments under your purview over the past 5 years: (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 metres of records, retention period approved by the GRS, whether they are confidential documents and reasons for not having been transferred; (c) Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to the GRS for retention: category of records, years covered by the records, number and linear metres of records, years that the records were transferred to the GRS, retention period approved by the GRS and whether they are confidential documents; (d) Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by the GRS: category of records, years covered by the records, number and linear metres of records, years that the records were transferred to the GRS, retention period approved by the GRS and whether they are confidential documents.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2060)

Reply:

Relevant information in respect of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) and its departments (including Radio Television Hong Kong and the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration) is provided as follows -

(a) In accordance with the Government's records management policy, the following staff of different ranks, apart from their daily schedule of work, also 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 (SEO) and 3 Executive Officer I/II (EOI/EOII) are appointed to serve as Assistant Departmental Records Managers to assist the DRMs in the execution of the duties concerned; and
- (iii) 25 SEO/EOI/EOII or officers of equivalent rank are responsible for supervising records management in different divisions/sections.

In addition, 4 Senior Clerical Officers, 11 Clerical Officers, 30 Assistant Clerical Officers, 19 Clerical Assistants, 3 Confidential Assistants, 3 Supplies Supervisors I/II and 3 Personal Secretaries I/II assist the aforementioned officers in the execution of certain records management duties.

(b) Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the GRS for appraisal in the past 5 years (2014 - 2018) is as follows -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by the GRS	Number of confidential records	Reasons for not having been transferred
Administrative records	1971 - 2018	2 766 records, 131.288 linear metres	1 year to 7 years after the end of the financial year	150	The retention period approved by the GRS has not yet expired.
Programme records	1996 - 2018	3 900 records, 184.95 linear metres	7 to 25 years	1 829	The retention period approved by the GRS has not yet expired.

(c) Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to the GRS for retention in the past 5 years (2014 - 2018) is as follows -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to the GRS	Retention period approved by the GRS	Number of confidential records
Administrative records	1958 - 2008	58 records, 1.53 linear metres	2014 - 2016	3 years to permanent retention	15
Programme records	1945 - 2009	2 453 records, 57.55 linear metres	2014 - 2018	3 to 25 years	370

(d) Information on records which have been approved for destruction by the GRS in the past 5 years (2014 - 2018) is as follows -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to the GRS	Retention period approved by the GRS	Number of confidential records
Administrative records	1949 - 2015	35 987 records, 356.076 linear metres	Not required to be transferred to the GRS	The retention period of records is - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 to 7 years ● 1 to 5 years after the officer has left the service 	217
Programme records	1973 - 2013	28 247 records, 62.99 linear metres	Not required to be transferred to the GRS	6 months to 25 years	14

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)016

(Question Serial No. 5644)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

- (a) Regarding the expenditure on entertainment and gifts of your Bureau and the departments under your purview in the past 5 years, please provide details using the table below: bureau/branch/department and year, estimated expenditure on entertainment and gifts in the year, actual expenditure on entertainment and gifts in the year, expenditure limit for entertainment (including beverages) per head for the year, expenditure limit for gift per guest for the year, and number of receptions held and total number of guests entertained in the year;
- (b) Regarding the expenditure on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the departments under your purview for this year, 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 and gift expenses incurred in the reception, and venue of the reception (department office/restaurant in government facilities/private restaurant/others (please specify));
- (c) Please provide the estimated expenditure on entertainment and gifts for the coming year using the table below: bureau/branch/department, estimated expenditure on entertainment and gifts, expenditure limit for entertainment per guest and expenditure limit for gift per guest.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2061)

Reply:

The consolidated reply to (a) to (c) is as follows -

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 the departments under its purview* from 2014-15 to 2018-19 (as at 12 March 2019), and the estimated expenditure on official entertainment for 2019-20 are as follows -

Bureau/ Department	Expenditure					Estimated expenditure for 2019-20
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 12 March 2019)	
CEDB (CCIB)	Approx. \$22,000	Approx. \$51,000	Approx. \$42,000	Approx. \$40,000	Approx. \$51,000	\$49,000
Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK)	Approx. \$127,000	Approx. \$41,000	Approx. \$27,000	Approx. \$19,000	Approx. \$20,000	\$35,000
Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA)	Approx. \$10,000	Approx. \$9,000	Approx. \$10,000	Approx. \$9,000	Approx. \$9,000	Approx. \$12,000

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 the OFNAA

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)017

(Question Serial No. 5645)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding consultancy studies (if any) commissioned by your Bureau and the departments under your purview for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Please provide information on the studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds have been allocated over the past 5 financial years in terms of the following: name of consultant; mode of award (public bidding/tender/others (please specify)); title, content and objective of project; consultancy fee (\$); start date; progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed); follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any); for completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If not, why?
- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting internal studies this year? If yes, please provide the following information: title, content and objectives of project; start date; progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed); follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any); for the projects 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? If yes, please provide the following information: name of consultant; mode of award (public bidding/tender/others (please specify)); title, content and objectives of project; consultancy fee (\$); start date; progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed); follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any); for the projects 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 CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2062)

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 (including Radio Television Hong Kong and the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration) :

(a) Relevant information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds have been allocated from 2014-15 to 2018-19 is as follows:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (public bidding/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports 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 Limited	Quotation	Mapping Study of Creative Clusters in Hong Kong 2014 Aiming at collecting information on the profiles and development of local creative clusters.	600,000	The study commenced in December 2013.	Completed	The consultancy report and executive summary were submitted to CEDB(CCIB) and Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) thereunder for reference.	The executive summary of the consultancy report has been made public through CreateHK's website.
Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited	Quotation	Survey on Person-to-Person Telemarketing Calls (P2P calls) in Hong Kong To better understand the latest situation of P2P calls through, e.g. collating of views of the public, the business sector and the trade on regulation of P2P calls, collecting information on employment and business situations of the relevant industries, and researching on the measures regulating P2P calls in other jurisdictions.	829,000	The study commenced in June 2015.	Completed	We made reference to the survey findings and completed the public consultation on how to strengthen regulation of P2P calls in mid-2017. We reported the public consultation outcomes to the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the ITB Panel), and will take follow-up action as appropriate.	We briefed the ITB Panel on the major findings of the survey on 11 April 2016.
Analysys Mason Limited	Quotation	Consultancy Study on Spectrum Trading Studying the latest situation in respect of implementing spectrum trading overseas and analysing the	2,500,000	The study commenced in March 2017.	Completed	Having made reference to the findings of the survey, we reported the policy position of the CEDB on spectrum trading to the ITB Panel on 11 June 2018.	The consultancy report has been uploaded onto the website of the CEDB(CCIB).

Name of consultant	Mode of award (public bidding/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		pros and cons of implementing spectrum trading in Hong Kong.					
Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited	Quotation	Mapping Study of Creative Clusters in Hong Kong 2017 Aiming at collecting and updating the profiles of local creative clusters.	599,000	The study commenced in late-March 2017.	Completed	CreateHK under the CEDB(CCIB) is examining the consultancy report submitted by the consultant.	The executive summary of the consultancy report will be made public through CreateHK's website.
MOV Data Collection Center Limited	Quotation	Household Survey on Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Take-up Compiling statistics on DTT take-up and analysing the reasons of households for not switching to DTT services.	1,400,000	The study commenced in June 2017.	Completed	The consultancy report and executive summary have been submitted to the CEDB(CCIB) for reference.	We briefed the ITB Panel on the major findings of the survey on 11 December 2017.
Plum Consulting London LLP	Quotation	Consultancy Study on Telecommunications Infrastructure Capacity in Hong Kong Projecting and assessing the future supply of and demand for telecommunications infrastructure capacity in Hong Kong.	4,034,000	The study commenced in August 2017.	Completed	The consultancy report and executive summary have been submitted to the CEDB(CCIB) for reference.	The executive summary of the consultancy report has been uploaded onto the website of the CEDB(CCIB).
Olsberg●SPI	Quotation	Review of the Film Development Fund Conducting a study on the operation of the Film Development Fund (FDF) and the effectiveness of the various funding schemes thereunder, examining the latest market development trends and recommending measures and options, with a view to enhancing the operation of the FDF and	1,208,000	The study commenced in October 2017.	Completed	The findings of the consultancy study were submitted to the Film Development Council and the CEDB(CCIB) for reference. Taking account of the consultancy report and views of the industry, the Government has proposed to inject \$1 billion into the FDF and set out various measures to enhance	We briefed the ITB Panel on the findings of the study on 10 December 2018.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (public bidding/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objective of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up action taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed studies, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		assisting the industry in responding to market needs more effectively.				the operation of the FDF.	
Social Sciences Research Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Quotation	<p>Consultancy Study on Opinions of Employers on Performance of Creative Industries-related Programmes Graduates</p> <p>Aiming at collecting opinions of employers on work performance of graduates of local creative industries-related programmes.</p>	600,000	The study commenced in late-March 2019.	In progress	---	The executive summary of the consultancy report will be made public after completion through CreateHK's website.

- (b) No provision is earmarked for conducting internal studies this year (2019-20).
- (c) No provision is earmarked for conducting new consultancy studies this year (2019-20).
- (d) The criteria to be considered in awarding a consultancy project to a research institute or a consultant include research methods, work plans and schedules proposed by the consultant, the consultant's understanding of, expertise and experience in the subject matter and the quotations for the project.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)018

(Question Serial No. 5646)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

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 over the past 5 years and set out in chronological order the following information for each visit:

- (a) purpose and place of visit;
- (b) post titles of the Mainland officials met;
- (c) number and post titles of Hong Kong officials in entourage;
- (d) days of visit;
- (e) total expenses involved;
- (i) transportation (air tickets and local transportation);
- (ii) accommodation;
- (iii) meals;
- (iv) banquets or entertainment;
- (v) gift expenses.

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

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2063)

Reply:

Year^{Note 1} (Number of visits)	Content/Purpose	Total number of officers in entourage	Expenditure^{Note} (\$) (Rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars)
2014-15 (36)	Promoting co-operation in areas of telecommunications, broadcasting, information and technology (IT) and creative industries with the Mainland in places including Guangzhou, Kunming, Inner Mongolia, Shanghai, Chongqing, Beijing, Shenzhen, Fuzhou, Zhuhai, Huizhou, Zhejiang, etc.	98	250,000
2015-16 (10)	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.	18	83,000
2016-17 (7)	Promoting co-operation in areas of telecommunications, broadcasting and creative industries with the Mainland in places including Shanghai, Guangzhou, Liuyang City, Suzhou, Kunming, etc.	10	52,000
2017-18 (11)	Promoting co-operation in areas of telecommunications, broadcasting and creative industries with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Kunming, Sanya, Guangxi, Shenzhen, Foshan, etc.	16	89,000
2018-19 (24)	Promoting co-operation in areas of telecommunications, broadcasting and creative industries with the Mainland including Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Chengdu, Shenzhen, etc.	50	222,000

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

Note:

- (1) Information on the visits made and expenditure incurred by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) in 2014-15 has been included. With the transfer of OGCIO from the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau to the Innovation and Technology Bureau on 20 November 2015, information on the visits made and expenditure incurred by OGCIO from 2015-16 to 2018-19 is not provided here.
- (2) The above expenses include charges for passage and hotel accommodation, subsistence allowances for duty outside Hong Kong and sundry expenses.
- (3) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided for officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (4) Proper class of air passage 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.

This 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 circumstances and factors such as nature of the meeting and subject matter, consensus reached by both sides, development of the subject matter, etc. In addition, we will decide whether and how the visits and the agreements concluded should be made public in the light of the circumstances and needs.

All politically appointed officials and civil servants should observe the same principles in the provision of official meals. They are required to exercise prudent judgment 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)019

(Question Serial No. 5647)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In regard to the growing cross-boundary 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 your bureau and the departments under your purview have been involved.

- (a) Please provide information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes over the past 2 years as per following table: title of the project/programme; details and objective of the project/programme and whether it was related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement) or the National 13th Five-year Plan; the expenditure involved; Mainland official(s) and department(s)/organisation(s) involved; whether any agreement has been signed and made public; if no, what were the reasons? Progress (percentage completed, commencement date, target completion date; whether the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology have been released to the public; if yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons? Whether any public consultation on the cross-boundary project has been conducted in Hong Kong; details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme.
- (b) Have provisions been earmarked for Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes for this year (2019-20)? If yes, please provide information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes for 2019-20 as per following table: title of the project/programme; details and objective of the project/programme and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement or the National 13th Five-year Plan; the expenditure involved; Mainland official(s) and department(s)/organisation(s) involved; whether any agreement has been signed and made public; if no, what are the reasons? Progress (percentage completed, commencement date, target completion

date); whether the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology have been released to the public? If yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons? Whether any public consultation on the cross-boundary project has been conducted in Hong Kong; details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme.

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes mentioned above, are there any other modes of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary co-operation? If yes, in what modes are they taken forward? What were the manpower and expenditure involved over the past year? How much financial and manpower resources have been earmarked in the Estimates in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2064)

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 (including Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration/Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA)) -

(a) The Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes carried out in 2017-18 to 2018-19 are as follows -

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the 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	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	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 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 contents of the	Both sides signed and implemented the contingency notification mechanism on 23 August 2011. In July and December 2018, the Guangdong side updated the list of designated contact persons according to the Co-operation Arrangement.	The contents of the document were made public by the CMAB. No additional expenditure was involved.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>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 was in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>			document were made public by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB).				
Cross-Strait Architectural Design Symposium & Awards (CADSA) 2017 (2017-18)	Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) provided funding support to the organiser (the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA)) to stage the CADSA to show recognition for the innovation and excellence of architectural projects in the Mainland, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, and to establish	Around \$2.45 million	Shenzhen Registered Architects Association	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	<p>The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.</p> <p>Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing</p>	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	a platform for exchanges in architectural culture.					resources and staff.		
Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture 2017 (2017-18)	CreateHK provided funding to the organiser (the Hong Kong Institute of Architects Biennale Foundation) to exhibit a wide range of architectural projects and urban designs at the Hong Kong Exhibition of the Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture held in 2017-18 with the aim of enriching cultural life in Hong Kong and fostering public interests in art, design, architecture and city development of Hong Kong. The project was in line with the Framework	Around \$5.32 million	Shenzhen Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture Organising Committee	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website	Completed	The organiser has been responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	Agreement.							
SmartHK (Fuzhou) 2017 (2017-18)	CreateHK provided funding support to local creative bodies to participate in the SmartHK in Fuzhou which was held by the organiser (the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)) to promote the capability of Hong Kong's creative sectors in product and service upgrading and enhance the Mainland corporations' understanding of the creative sectors in Hong Kong through a series of exhibitions, seminars and networking events.	Around \$410,000	Departments/ organisations such as the Department of Commerce of Fujian Province, the Economic and Information Technology Committee of Fujian Province, the Development and Reform Commission of Fujian Province, the Hong Kong & Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Fujian Province, the Fujian Sub-council of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the Finance Office of Fujian Province, the Federation of Industry and Commerce of Fujian Province and the Fuzhou Municipal	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
			People's Government					
EcoChic Design Award 2017 (2017-18)	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (ReDress Limited) to stage the event in the form of a fashion design contest focusing on design skills in respect of up-cycling, reconstruction and zero waste design. Participating regions included the Mainland. The project was in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$3.79 million	Nine fashion design institutes in the Mainland	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
20....43 Business of Hong Kong Design Exhibition (2017-18)	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (the Hong Kong Federation of Design Associations (FHKDA)) to hold exhibitions in Shenzhen, Suzhou, Shanghai, Hangzhou	Around \$9.18 million	N.A.	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>and Wuhan to showcase collaboration projects between Hong Kong's design and business sectors and different sectors in the Mainland so as to promote co-operation.</p> <p>The project was in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>					The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Exchange and Visit Programme in Guangdong (2017-18)	<p>The event was organised by CreateHK to facilitate film co-operation projects among the three places and explore the Guangdong market.</p> <p>The project was in line with the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) and the Framework Agreement.</p>	Around \$11,000	The former Film Administration Office of the Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of Guangdong Province (APPRFTGD) (now the Guangdong Film Bureau), and the Guangdong Motion Picture Industry Association (GMPIA)	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Completed	The programme was a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers did not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
The 5th Hong Kong Films Exhibition and Hong Kong Retrospective Film Show for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)'s 20 th Anniversary held in Guangzhou (2017-18)	The event was co-organised by the Hong Kong Film Development Council (HKFDC), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) in Guangdong, the APPRFTGD and the GMPIA, featuring four classic Hong Kong films to promote Hong Kong Cantonese films to the Guangdong audience and celebrate the 20 th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The project was in line with the CEPA and the Framework Agreement.	Around \$96,000 (paid by the HKETO)	The former Film Administration Office of the APPRFTGD (now the Guangdong Film Bureau), and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Completed	CreateHK released information to the public through press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair	The HKFDC, the APPRFTGD, the GMPIA and the Department for Promoting Cultural and	N.A. Transport fees to and from Macao	The former Film Administration Office of the APPRFTGD (now the Guangdong Film Bureau), and the	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Completed	The programme was a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers did not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
(2017-18)	Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) co-organised the event to facilitate co-operation and exchanges of film projects among the three places through lectures, luncheon exchange sessions, film production investment forums, seminars, etc. The project was in line with the Framework Agreement.	were paid by the participants. Local transport and subsistence fees were paid by the Macao side.	GMPIA					
Hong Kong Creativity in Business (2017-18)	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (the HKTDC) to stage the Hong Kong Creativity in Business to allow small and medium-sized	Around \$340,000	N.A.	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>enterprises of Hong Kong's creative industries to have first-hand knowledge of the Mainland market and enterprises, and to establish business networks through study tours/briefing sessions, exchange activities and small-scale exhibitions.</p> <p>The event was held in Nanjing in the Jiangsu Province and Xi'an in the Shaanxi Province.</p>					<p>uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.</p>		
<p>Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Exchange and Visit Programme in Guangdong (2018-19)</p>	<p>The event was organised by CreateHK to facilitate film co-operation projects among the three places and explore the Guangdong market.</p> <p>The project was in line with the CEPA and the Framework Agreement.</p>	<p>\$6,000</p>	<p>The former Film Administration Office of the APPRFTGD (now the Guangdong Film Bureau) and the GMPIA</p>	<p>No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>The programme was a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers did not conduct publicity.</p>	<p>N.A.</p>	<p>N.A.</p>

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
The 6th Hong Kong Films Exhibition held in Guangzhou (2018-19)	The event was co-organised by the HKFDC, the APPRFTGD and the GMPIA, featuring several Hong Kong films, to promote Hong Kong Cantonese films in Guangdong and facilitate distribution and screening in Guangdong, thereby expanding the Guangdong market for Hong Kong films. The project was in line with the CEPA and the Framework Agreement.	\$106,000	The former Film Administration Office of the APPRFTGD (now the Guangdong Film Bureau), and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Completed	CreateHK released information to the public through press release. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Greater Bay Area Film Screenplay Production and Fund-raising Workshop 2018 (2018-19)	The HKFDC, the APPRFTGD, the GMPIA and the Department for Promoting Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the	\$295,000	The former Film Administration Office of the APPRFTGD (now the Guangdong Film Bureau), and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Completed	The programme was a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers did not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>Government of the MSAR co-organised the event to polish the strategies and skills of film crews in pitching their film projects to investors.</p> <p>The project was in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>							
<p>Redress Design Award (formerly known as EcoChic Design Award 2018)</p> <p>(2018-19)</p>	<p>CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (ReDress Limited) to stage the event in the form of a fashion design contest focusing on design skills in respect of up-cycling, reconstruction and zero waste design. Participating regions include the Mainland.</p> <p>The project was in line with the Framework</p>	<p>Around \$4.08 million</p>	<p>11 fashion design institutes in the Mainland</p>	<p>The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.</p> <p>Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.</p>	<p>N.A.</p>	<p>N.A.</p>

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	Agreement.							
Hong Kong - Mainland Creative Initiatives 2018 (2018-19)	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (the FHKDA) to organise exhibitions, pop-up stores, design markets, business exchange and matching meetings, creative industry forums, etc., in Shenzhen, and led local designers to visit Wuhan and Chengdu to facilitate exchange between local and Mainland design sectors, and to help familiarise local design sector with the Mainland market. The project was in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$8.53 million	The Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association, the Design Society, the Zetta Bridge and the Hubei Institute of Fine Arts	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Chengdu Creativity and Design Week - Hong Kong Pavilion	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (the FHKDA) to organise design	Around \$4.48 million	Chengdu Media Group	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the	Completed	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the	N.A.	N.A.

Title of Project/Programme	Details, objective and whether it was 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what were the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what were the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
(2018-19)	exhibitions and forums to promote Hong Kong's design and to strengthen exchanges with the Mainland design sector during the "Chengdu Creativity and Design Week 2018".			agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.		public. Event details were uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Ear Up Tour – Mainland 2019 (2018-19)	CreateHK provided funding support to the organiser (Renaissance Foundation Limited) to organise the project to promote indie original music talent in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, in order to improve the competitiveness of Hong Kong music sector in the Greater Bay Area.	Around \$7.2 million	N.A.	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template was uploaded to CreateHK's website.	January to December 2019	The organiser was responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details were/ would be uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload was/would be absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

(b) At present, provision has been earmarked for the following Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes for this year (2019-20) -

Title of 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 official(s) and department/organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
CADSA 2019 (2019-20)	CreateHK provides funding support to the organiser (the HKIA) to stage the CADSA to show recognition for the innovation and excellence of architectural projects in the Mainland, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, and to establish a platform for exchanges in architectural culture.	Around \$3.47 million	Shenzhen Registered Architects Association	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	June 2019	The organiser is responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload is absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture 2019 (2019-20)	CreateHK provides funding support to the organiser (the Hong Kong Institute of Architects Biennale Foundation) to exhibit a wide range of architectural projects and urban designs at	Around \$5.27 million	Shenzhen Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture Organising Committee	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	December 2019 to March 2020	The organiser is responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>the Hong Kong exhibition of the Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture held in 2019-20 with the aim of enriching cultural life in Hong Kong and fostering public interests in art, design, architecture and city development of Hong Kong.</p> <p>The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>					The workload is absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Redress Design Award (formerly known as EcoChic Design Award 2019) (2019-20)	CreateHK provides funding support to the organiser (ReDress Limited) to stage the event in the form of a fashion design contest focusing on design skills in respect of up-cycling, reconstruction and zero	Around \$4.22 million	Around 14 fashion design institutes in the Mainland	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	November 2018 to November 2019	<p>The organiser is responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public.</p> <p>Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload is</p>	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	waste design. Participating regions include the Mainland. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.					absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Greater Bay Area - Fashion Express (2019-20)	CreateHK provides funding support to the organiser (the Fashion Farm Foundation) to organise a series of events featuring fashion (e.g. fashion shows, music shows, talks/forums and exhibitions) in four Greater Bay Area cities to promote development of the fashion sector in the Greater Bay Area. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	Around \$5.4 million	The Shenzhen City of Design Promotion Association, the Shenzhen Garment Industry Association, the College of Design of Shenzhen University, Shenzhen Polytechnic, the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, the Hengqin Free Trade Zone (Hong Kong) Representative Office, etc.	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	January 2019 to September 2019	The organiser is responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload is absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.
Creative Initiatives	CreateHK provides	Around \$7.98	Nil	The project	February 2019	The organiser is	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
2019 – from Twin Cities in Design to Industry Development in the Greater Bay Area (2019-20)	funding support to the organiser (the FHKDA) to organise visits to the Greater Bay Area, design exhibitions, roundtables and forums to facilitate exchange and to explore market. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.	million		agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	to January 2020	responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload is absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.		
Greater Bay Area's Business Incubation Programme 2019 (2019-20)	CreateHK provides funding support to the organiser (the FHKDA) to assist local creative industries start-ups to operate in the creative industrial parks in Shenzhen to explore the Greater Bay Area market. The project is in line with the Framework	Around \$9.96 million	The Zetta Bridge	The project agreement was signed with the organiser and the agreement template has been uploaded to CreateHK's website.	April 2019 to September 2020	The organiser is responsible for event publicity and release of information to the public. Event details have been uploaded to CreateHK's website. The workload is absorbed by CreateHK's existing resources and staff.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	Agreement.							
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Exchange and Visit Programme (2019-20)	The event will be organised in Guangdong by CreateHK to facilitate film co-operation projects among the three places and explore the Guangdong market. The project is in line with the CEPA and the Framework Agreement.	Around \$15,000	The Guangdong Film Bureau and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Details under discussion	The programme is a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers do not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.
Greater Bay Area Film Production and Business Pitching Workshop 2019 (2019-20)	The HKFDC, the APPRFTGD, the GMPIA and the Department for Promoting Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Government of the MSAR will co-organise the event to polish the strategies	Estimated to be around \$350,000	The Guangdong Film Bureau and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Details under discussion	The programme is a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers do not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	<p>and skills of film crews in pitching their film projects to investors.</p> <p>The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.</p>							
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair (2019-20)	The HKFDC, the APPRFTGD, the GMPIA and the Department for Promoting Cultural and Creative Industries of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Government of the MSAR will co-organise the event to facilitate co-operation and exchanges of film projects among the three places through lectures, luncheon exchange sessions, film production	N.A. Transport fees to and from Macao are to be paid by the participants. Local transport and subsistence fees are to be paid by the Macao side.	The Guangdong Film Bureau and the GMPIA	No agreement was signed with the co-organisers.	Tentatively September 2019	The programme is a small-scale event for industry players and the co-organisers do not conduct publicity.	N.A.	N.A.

Title of 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 official(s) and department/ organisation involved	Has any agreement been signed and whether it has been made public? If no, what are the reasons?	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 yes, through what channel(s) and what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Has any public consultation on the cross-boundary project been conducted in Hong Kong?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the programme
	investment forums, seminars, etc. The project is in line with the Framework Agreement.							

- (c) Apart from the Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects listed in (a) and (b), the CEDB of the HKSAR and the City of Design Promotion Office of Shenzhen signed on 29 February 2016 an “Agreement between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government on Promoting Co-operation in Creative Industries” (Agreement) to further deepen exchanges between and collaboration of the 2 places in creative industries. Both sides agreed to strengthen co-operation of the 2 places in organising large-scale creative exchange programmes, and to explore the strengthening of co-operation in talent-nurturing, with a view to furthering co-operation of both cities in creative sectors such as design and architecture. The CCIB of the CEDB has been taking forward and implementing the above Agreement and the workload is absorbed by existing resources and manpower.

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)020

(Question Serial No. 0719)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Paragraph 120 of the Budget Speech mentions that the Government will inject another \$1 billion into the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2019-20 to help the local film industry thrive further; will make optimal use of the funding to enhance talent grooming and support for novices, promote start-ups, tap new markets for the industries, and build local branding for relevant sectors to facilitate long-term development of the film industry; and will allocate \$20 million to employ additional technicians and acquire specialist equipment for the digital conversion of sole copies of films and celluloid films in urgent need of archiving. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the criteria for assessing applications for the FDF? What is the number of applications which have low box office receipts (less than \$5 million) and have never received any awards?
- (b) How will the Government build “local brands” for relevant sectors?
- (c) How to define “local brands”?
- (d) Regarding the allocation of \$20 million for the digital conversion of sole copies of films and celluloid films in urgent need of archiving, how to collect and select such sole copies of films and celluloid films?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

- (a) Applications under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include “creativity and quality of the film screenplay”, “production budget”, “estimated income” and “local film production elements and talent nurturing”.

The box office receipts of film projects financed by the FPFS are at **Annex**, whereas the list of awards received by these film projects can be found at https://www.fdc.gov.hk/en/projects/film_financing.htm.

(b) and (c)

The film sector is an important soft strength of Hong Kong. Over the past decades, our film industry has groomed a host of talent on stage as well as behind the scene including artistes, directors, producers, etc. Their productions and performances have won numerous film awards and accolades, gathered a loyal following of audiences around the world and have created the branding of “Hong Kong Films” in which we take pride.

To help the local film industry respond to market competitions and needs more effectively, we will make use of the Film Development Fund to enhance support for novices and encourage more local productions along 4 strategic directions, namely, nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience. We hope that with active participation of the industry, Hong Kong films will thrive further.

- (d) The Hong Kong Film Archive is under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). According to LCSD, sole copies of films and celluloid films are acquired by the Hong Kong Film Archive through donations from the film industry. In the coming 5 years, the Film Archive plans to digitise these collected films which are in urgent need of archiving or are in unsatisfactory condition, such as films made in the 1950s and 1960s. The Hong Kong Film Archive will keep the priority list of films to be digitised under review according to the prevailing condition of its film collection.

**Film Production Projects Funded under the Film Development Fund's
Film Production Financing Scheme**

Film project	Box office receipt (\$ million)
McDull Kungfu Ding Ding Dong	2.5
Claustrophobia	0.8
Coweb	Less than \$50,000
Strawberry Cliff	0.7
Give Love	0.2
Lover's Discourse	2.0
Echoes of the Rainbow	23.1
Break Up Club	10.3
La Comédie humaine	7.5
37	Less than \$50,000
Beach Spike	1.7
Lost in Wrestling	Less than \$50,000
MicroSex Office	3.4
The Killer Who Never Kills	0.5
Love Lifting	1.3
Love Expert	Less than \$50,000
The Way We Dance	13.6
A Complicated Story	0.3
Bends	0.4
Doomsday Party	0.3
The True Love	Less than \$50,000
The Seventh Lie	0.6
Kick Ass Girls	1.5
The Midnight After	21.3
Twilight Online	4.5
Wonder Mama	0.4
The Merger	0.5
The Moment	0.2
Tomorrow is Another Day	6.0
Men On The Dragon	15.7
Love Revolution	Less than \$50,000
Ciao, UFO#	Not applicable
I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change	8.9
Total	128.2

Remarks:

Hong Kong box office figures as at end-February 2019.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding-off.

Films with # have not been commercially released.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)021

(Question Serial No. 4366)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 156 of the Budget Speech that “the Government will assign and auction spectrums in different frequency bands in batches to prepare for the development of 5G networks and services”. What is the relevant work in the past year and in the coming year? When will the industry expect to launch 5G services at the earliest?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

In 2018, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and the Communications Authority jointly conducted 3 separate public consultations on the assignment arrangements of different 5G frequency bands and the related spectrum utilisation fees. In 2019, the Government will make available a total of about 4 500 MHz of spectrum to the market in batches for 5G services. The details of the assignment arrangements, including the assignment methods, and indicative timetables, etc. are tabulated below –

Band	26 GHz and 28 GHz		3.3 GHz	3.5 GHz	4.9 GHz
	<i>Large scale public mobile services</i>	<i>Localised wireless broadband services</i>			
Amount of spectrum	3 700 MHz	400 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	80 MHz
Assignment method	Administrative assignment	Administrative assignment	Auction	Auction	Auction
Expected date to invite application	21 December 2018	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected date for assignment / auction	First half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected start date of use	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	April 2020	Same as above

In addition, the pilot scheme for opening up suitable government premises for the installation of radio base stations by mobile service operators has just been launched in March this year. The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), with the support of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Government Property Agency, has identified around 1 000 government premises for operators' selection, and together with streamlined application processes, provides facilitation to operators in establishing public mobile services networks. OFCA would inform operators of the application procedures to facilitate them submit applications.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)022

(Question Serial No. 4367)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding a subsidy scheme to encourage the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas, please advise of the following -

- (a) What is the progress of the subsidy scheme? What is the expected time of the issue of tender documents, the award of tender and the commencement of works?
- (b) What is the finalised list of villages benefited? What is the expected number of persons benefited?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

- (a) We expect that the tender documents on the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas under the subsidy scheme will be issued in the second quarter of this year. The assessment of tender documents and the award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected fixed network operators (FNOs) can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.
- (b) Taking into account comments received during the consultation with the Legislative Council (LegCo), the relevant District Councils and Rural Committees and after verification of the latest network coverage information with FNOs, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) takes note that fibre-based networks of FNOs have already reached the vicinity of the entrances of some of the villages that were initially proposed to be covered under the subsidy scheme, and confirms for some other

initially proposed villages, there are no residents normally residing. Hence, according to currently available information, the subsidy scheme will cover 235 villages and about 110 000 villagers are estimated to be benefited, a breakdown of which by District Council district is tabulated as follows -

District	Number of villages proposed to be covered	Estimated number of villagers to be benefited
North	60	About 18 000
Islands	67	About 51 000
Sai Kung	44	About 10 000
Tai Po	26	About 11 000
Sha Tin	12	About 5 000
Yuen Long	12	About 5 000
Tuen Mun	7	About 5 000
Tsuen Wan	6	About 4 000
Kwai Tsing	1	Less than 1 000
Total	235	About 110 000

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)023

(Question Serial No. 4369)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding “continue with the development of the legislative framework to strengthen the regulation of P2P calls”, please inform of the following -

- (a) What are the manpower, expenditure and ranks of the officers involved in the aforementioned work?
- (b) Although the findings of the consultation exercise were submitted by the Government to the relevant Panel of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in April last year, the Government has yet to introduce the Bill. Are there any changes to the legislative proposals at present? When is the Bill expected to be introduced into LegCo?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

- (a) A dedicated team, comprising 1 supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B, 1 supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and 5 non-directorate supporting staff, has been established in the Communications and Creative Industries Branch. The major duties of the team are to review and amend the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106), and to formulate legislative proposals to regulate person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls). The entire dedicated team will involve an expenditure of \$10.54 million in 2019-20, of which the total staff cost is \$8.5 million while other operating expenditure \$2.04 million. We do not have a breakdown of the estimates for handling the regulation of P2P calls.
- (b) We conducted a three-month public consultation in mid-2017, and consulted the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in April 2018. In view of the growing demand from the public for

strengthening the regulation of P2P calls, we are drafting the legislative proposal, and planning to report the work progress and introduce the framework of the Bill to the Panel in mid-April 2019. We will complete the legislative drafting work as soon as possible and introduce the Bill into LegCo for scrutiny.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)024

(Question Serial No. 4370)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2017, the Communications Authority embarked on a review of the number and distribution of kiosk type (Kiosk) public payphones in Hong Kong.

- (a) Please list by district the number of Kiosk public payphones in the 18 districts of Hong Kong in the past 3 years.
- (b) Regarding the removal of Kiosk public payphones in the past 3 years, please list the details, including the locations, reasons, etc;
- (c) When is the review expected to be completed? Are there any preliminary results as to the use of Kiosk public payphones?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

- (a) In June 2017, the Communications Authority (CA) embarked on a review of the number and distribution of public payphones under the universal service obligation (USO) in accordance with the Telecommunications Ordinance. The number of kiosk type (Kiosk) public payphones in the 18 districts of Hong Kong in the past 3 years is tabulated below -

District	As at 31 December 2016	As at 31 December 2017	As at 31 December 2018
Central and Western	92	91	90
Eastern	95	92	92
Southern	47	46	46
Wan Chai	82	82	80
Kowloon City	73	72	71
Kwun Tong	78	78	73
Sham Shui Po	85	84	84
Wong Tai Sin	60	59	56
Yau Tsim Mong	133	133	132
Kwai Tsing	99	97	96
North	93	90	88
Sai Kung	74	73	72
Sha Tin	142	142	134
Tai Po	91	90	88
Tsuen Wan	76	76	76
Tuen Mun	100	100	100
Yuen Long	119	116	116
Islands	22	22	22
Total	1 561	1 543	1 516

- (b) During the past 3 years, the number of Kiosk public payphones under USO has reduced by 45 in total. The reasons for such removal include public opinion that certain Kiosk public payphones obstructed pavements or caused sightline obstruction to drivers, and the need to free up space on the streets for construction of new district facilities. Besides, some Kiosk public payphones were removed in response to the exclusion decisions made by the CA in the process of the review of the number of public payphones.
- (c) The entire review is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has just completed its consultation with all the 18 District Councils (DCs) in March this year and has made decisions on 11 districts. As for those 11 districts, OFCA has decided to exclude about 520 Kiosk public payphones from USO (representing about 51% of Kiosk public payphones in those 11 districts).

During the consultations with the DCs, there were suggestions for adding new functions to telephone booths (e.g. providing free charging service, traffic and tourist

information, etc. in telephone booths). The Government keeps an open mind and will listen to the views of different sectors of the community.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)025

(Question Serial No. 0914)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government has indicated in the Policy Address that it will make use of a subsidy scheme to extend fibre-based networks to villages in remote locations in the New Territories and on outlying islands to provide the backbone for the extension of 5G coverage. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) What are the timetable and financial implications to be involved in the extension of 5G coverage to villages in remote locations in the New Territories and on outlying islands?
- (b) Does the Government have any other subsidy scheme to make the applications of 5G services popular in Hong Kong? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

- (a) We expect that the tender documents on the subsidy scheme for extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas will be issued in the second quarter of this year. The assessment of tender documents and award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected fixed network operators can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.

The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved a commitment of \$774.4 million on 13 July 2018 for the implementation of the subsidy scheme. The Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has also earmarked a total of \$69.8 million in 5 years from

2018-19 onwards for the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) to co-ordinate the implementation of the subsidy scheme, including the creation of 10 time-limited civil service posts and non-civil service contract posts.

- (b) Widespread commercial applications of the fifth generation communications (5G) are not yet available. To prepare for the development and wide application of 5G in Hong Kong, we are mainly making use of a pilot scheme to open up suitable government premises for the installation of base stations by mobile service operators. The pilot scheme has just been launched in March this year. OFCA, with the support from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Government Property Agency, has identified around 1 000 government premises for operators' selection, and together with application processes streamlined, provides facilitation to operators in establishing public mobile services networks.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)026

(Question Serial No. 4455)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

According to the programme, the Bureau will work with the Communications Authority to implement the decisions on the reassignment of a total of around 4 500 MHz of spectrum in various frequency bands, and prepare for the rollout of the fifth generation (5G) infrastructure. Please inform this Committee of the following:

1. Regarding 5G spectrum, please tabulate (a) the bands, (b) the amounts of spectrum, (c) the assignment methods, (d) the specific dates for applying for administrative assignment or auction, (e) the expected dates for assignment or auction, and (f) the expected starting dates of use.
2. In view of the overall social benefits and the need for the development of telecommunications networks, will the Administration consider a consolidated auction of the spectrum in 3.3 GHz, 3.5 GHz and 4.9 GHz bands to facilitate more effective planning?
3. The Government announced that analogue television services will be switched off at 23:59 on 30 November 2020. The 700 MHz band will be vacated and used by high value-added mobile telecommunications services. At this stage, will the Administration consider allocating this band to mobile telecommunications services as soon as possible to solve the network congestion problem in confined areas? Further to the above question, what are (i) the amount of spectrum, (ii) the use, (iii) the assignment method, and (iv) the starting date?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

1. The details of the assignment arrangements for a total of around 4 500 MHz of spectrum in the relevant frequency bands, including the assignment methods, indicative timetables, etc. are tabulated below –

Band	26 GHz and 28 GHz		3.3 GHz	3.5 GHz	4.9 GHz
	<i>Large scale public mobile services</i>	<i>Localised wireless broadband services</i>			
Amount of spectrum	3 700 MHz	400 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	80 MHz
Assignment method	Administrative assignment	Administrative assignment	Auction	Auction	Auction
Expected date to invite application	21 December 2018	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected date for assignment / auction	First half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected start date of use	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	April 2020	Same as above

2. As the amounts of spectrum, spectrum caps, usage characteristics and limitations of the 3.3 GHz, 3.5 GHz and 4.9 GHz bands are different from one another, it is not feasible to conduct a single auction for the above 3 bands. After carefully considering the views and comments of the industry, the Communications Authority (CA) will arrange for successive auctions of these bands to facilitate bidders' participation in the auctions and their planning for network rollout.

3. After the switching off of analogue television broadcast on 30 November 2020, the 160 MHz of spectrum in the 600/700 MHz bands thus vacated will be mainly used to improve indoor mobile services, so as to relieve the currently congested indoor mobile hotspots, such as MTR stations.

The CA plans to hold a public consultation on the assignment arrangement for the spectrum in the 600/700 MHz bands for the provision of public mobile services. The relevant spectrum is preliminarily expected to be available for use in the second half of 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)027

(Question Serial No. 7241)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the use of social media, will the Administration inform this Committee of

- (a) the expenditure incurred by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) (CEDB (CCIB)) on publicity on social media and staffing involved in the past 3 years; and
- (b) the criteria to be adopted by the CEDB (CCIB) for assessing the effectiveness and value for money of the above publicity?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 91)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure incurred by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) on publicity on social media from 2016-17 to 2018-19 (as at end-February 2019) was around \$2.5 million. The relevant work was absorbed by existing manpower.
- (b) The criteria being adopted for assessing the effectiveness of the above publicity include the hit rates of various platforms; the number of impressions of the publicity materials; and for advertisements, the click rates, number of impressions and reach.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)028

(Question Serial No. 0762)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding a subsidy scheme to extend fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas, please inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) The actual number of villages to be covered and the villagers benefited in consultation with all rural committees; when the first batch of villages is expected to enjoy the high speed broadband services at the earliest.
- (b) The manpower and expenditure to be involved in the subsidy scheme; the specific timetable and the performance indicators.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

Taking into account comments received during the consultation with the Legislative Council (LegCo), the relevant District Councils and Rural Committees, and after verification of the latest network coverage information with fixed network operators (FNOs), the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) takes note that fibre-based networks of FNOs have already reached the vicinity of the entrances of some of the villages which were initially proposed to be covered under the subsidy scheme, and confirms for some other initially proposed villages, there are no residents normally residing. Hence, according to currently available information, the subsidy scheme will cover 235 villages and about 110 000 villagers are estimated to be benefited, a breakdown of which by District Council district is tabulated as follows -

District	Number of villages proposed to be covered	Estimated number of villagers to be benefited
North	60	About 18 000
Islands	67	About 51 000
Sai Kung	44	About 10 000
Tai Po	26	About 11 000
Sha Tin	12	About 5 000
Yuen Long	12	About 5 000
Tuen Mun	7	About 5 000
Tsuen Wan	6	About 4 000
Kwai Tsing	1	Less than 1 000
Total	235	About 110 000

We expect that the tender documents will be issued in the second quarter of this year. The assessment of tender documents and award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected FNOs can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.

The subsidy scheme will enhance the coverage of fibre-based networks in rural and remote areas and provide the infrastructure necessary for the deployment of other types of telecommunication services (including mobile and Wi-Fi services). In respect of mobile services, through leasing the fibre-based networks newly built under the subsidy scheme in the future, mobile network operators will be able to provide mobile services with better network coverage and higher speed to remote villages and the neighbourhood areas. This will benefit villagers and visitors to the countryside. The subsidy scheme also provides the telecommunications infrastructure necessary for the conservation and revitalisation of rural and remote areas in future. Meanwhile, selected FNOs are required to open up at least half of the capacity of the underground duct systems for fibre-based networks and submarine fibre-based cable systems subsidised under the subsidy scheme for use by other FNOs for free. Such a requirement will allow other FNOs to also provide broadband services to the villages concerned by sharing the use of the subsidised facilities, thereby offering more choices to the villagers and the service charges may also be adjusted to a competitive level.

The Finance Committee of LegCo approved a commitment of \$774.4 million on 13 July 2018 for the implementation of the subsidy scheme. The Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has also earmarked a total of \$69.8 million in the 5 years from 2018-19 onwards for OFCA to co-ordinate the implementation of the subsidy scheme, including the creation of 10 time-limited civil service posts and non-civil service contract posts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)029

(Question Serial No. 0673)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Fifth generation mobile technologies (5G) are commonly regarded as the key to promoting Internet of Things and the development of smart cities, and are expected to be launched commercially in some cities within this region this year at the earliest. In this connection, in addition to preparing for a pilot scheme in co-operation with the Communications Authority to facilitate mobile network operators to apply for installation of radio base stations in suitable government premises with a view to supporting the rollout of the 5G infrastructure, please inform this Committee whether the Communications and Creative Industries Branch listens to the criticisms and opinions of the industry to accelerate the promotion of 5G development in Hong Kong, including speeding up the allocation and auction of relevant spectrum? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

The Government actively promotes Hong Kong's development in fifth generation mobile technologies (5G). A total of about 4 500 MHz of spectrum will be released to the market in batches for the deployment of 5G services, which represents an increase of more than 8 times the current amount of spectrum allocated for mobile services. The details of the assignment methods and the indicative timetable are tabulated below -

Band	26 GHz and 28 GHz		3.3 GHz	3.5 GHz	4.9 GHz
	<i>Large scale public mobile services</i>	<i>Localised wireless broadband services</i>			
Amount of spectrum	3 700 MHz	400 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	80 MHz
Assignment method	Administrative assignment	Administrative assignment	Auction	Auction	Auction
Expected date to invite application	21 December 2018	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected date for assignment / auction	First half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected start date of use	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	April 2020	Same as above

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)030

(Question Serial No. 1733)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

On fostering development in cultural and creative industries, please set out in tabular form:

- (a) specific measures that the Administration introduced last year to support sectors of 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 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.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

- (a) Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is responsible for promoting 8 creative industries, namely, film, advertising, architecture, design, digital entertainment, music, publishing and printing, and television.

In 2018-19, CreateHK spent around \$376.4 million on promoting creative industries. CreateHK, mainly through the Film Development Fund (FDF) and the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI), provided funding support to the industry for staging various large-scale events (e.g. the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong, the Hong Kong International Film Festival Cine Fan Programme, the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum, the Hong Kong Film Awards Presentation Ceremony, the Asian Film Awards, the Hong Kong Asian-Pop Music Festival, the Business of Design Week, the DFA Awards, the Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition (Hong Kong Exhibition and Response Exhibition), the Soaring Creativity - Hong Kong Pavilion, etc.). The expenses were also used to subsidise various projects to nurture talent and start-ups, e.g. the Design Incubation Programme (DIP), the Fashion Incubation Programme (FIP), the First

Feature Film Initiative (FFFI), the Film Professionals Training Programme, the Hong Kong Film Professionals Overseas Training Programme, the Hong Kong Film Lab Pilot Programme, the Nurturing Programme of Hong Kong Young Design Talents, the Support Programme for Advertising and Music Talents, the Animation Support Programme, and the graduate support schemes for the digital entertainment, digital advertising and design sectors respectively, and to subsidise the industry to lead young designers to participate in the Bangkok Design Week 2018 and set up an exhibition in Dubai to showcase the works of emerging Hong Kong fashion designers. The expenses were also used to support the industry to explore the local market and markets outside Hong Kong, including support for the publishing and printing sector to join various major book fairs worldwide, support for the fashion design sector to participate in major international fashion shows, and maintained operation of the Hong Kong Design Centre. Besides, the FDF has continued to provide part financing to small and medium film productions through the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS).

In addition, CreateHK held activities to encourage the industry to explore markets, including organising visits for local young architects and interior designers to the United Arab Emirates, a Hong Kong delegation of the film sector to Hungary for promoting our film action stunt and post-production services, a Hong Kong delegation of the printing sector to Belarus, a Hong Kong delegation of the digital entertainment sector to Malaysia for promoting the sector and a Hong Kong delegation of the design sector to Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

- (b) In 2019-20, CreateHK will continue to provide funding support to projects conducive to the development of creative industries. The estimated expenditure is close to \$570 million.

In 2019-20, we will seek to expand our collaboration with different cities of design and creative sectors, and to identify more exchange opportunities for tertiary students. We will continue to work with industry stakeholders to support students or young practitioners to undertake internships, exchange programmes, work placements or further studies in or outside of Hong Kong. We will also sponsor young practitioners' participation in local and international festivals and competitions to help broaden their exposure, enrich their experience, showcase their talent and explore business opportunities. Further, we will continue to offer start-ups (such as digital entertainment start-ups) coaching services, and sponsor the DIP and the FIP for nurturing young talent and start-ups.

The Government proposed to provide a one-off injection of \$1 billion into the FDF in 2019-20 to promote the development of our film industry through 4 strategic directions, namely, nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience. These measures include raising the funding limits of the FPFS and the FFFI by around 50%, providing more comprehensive and advanced training programmes, strengthening the promotion of the "Hong Kong Films" brand outside of Hong Kong, and introducing measures to cultivate interest among audiences (in particular young people) to watch local films in cinemas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)031

(Question Serial No. 1734)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

It is mentioned under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2018-19* that the Communications and Creative Industries Branch will administer, through Create Hong Kong, the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) to further promote the development of 7 non-film creative industries pursuant to the 3 strategic directions, namely, nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups (including providing incubation services through the Design Incubation Programme and Fashion Incubation Programme), exploring markets, and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community. 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 2 financial years by sectors of creative industries.

	Advertising	Architecture	Design	Digital Entertainment	Printing and publishing	Television	Music	Others	Total
Number of projects approved in 2017-18									
Amount of funding approved in 2017-18									
Number of projects approved in 2018-19									
Amount of funding approved in 2018-19									

- (b) Among the applications approved under the CSI over the past 2 years, how many of them were related to (i) nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups, (ii) exploring markets, and (iii) fostering a creative atmosphere in the community? What is the amount of funding approved for each aspect?
- (c) How many applications have been received under the CSI over the past 2 years and how many of them have been approved? For those unsuccessful applications, what are the major reasons for refusing them? Which sector of creative industries do they usually come from?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

- (a) The number of cases approved under the CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) and the amount of funding involved in 2017-18 and 2018-19 by the 7 non-film creative industries are tabulated below -

	Number of cases approved in 2017-18	Amount of funding approved in 2017-18 (\$million)	Number of cases approved in 2018-19 (As at end-February 2019)	Amount of funding approved in 2018-19 (As at end-February 2019) (\$million)
Advertising	3	3.7	4	12.2
Architecture	1	2.6	2	8.7
Design	21	78.7	29	136.2
Digital entertainment	9	14.4	9	39.7
Printing and publishing	1	2.4	3	11.3
Television	1	0.9	2	1.3
Music	3	11.1	4	24.1
Others	3	3.1	7	18.0
Total	42	117.0	60	251.6

- (b) The number of cases approved under the CSI and the amount of funding involved in 2017-18 and 2018-19 by (i) nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups, (ii) exploring markets and (iii) fostering a creative atmosphere in the community are tabulated below

	Number of cases approved in 2017-18	Amount of funding approved in 2017-18 (\$million)	Number of cases approved in 2018-19 (As at end-February 2019)	Amount of funding approved in 2018-19 (As at end-February 2019) (\$million)
(i) Nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups	17	46.1	25	104.4
(ii) Exploring markets	12	17.2	20	62.3
(iii) Fostering a creative atmosphere in the community	13	53.7	15	84.9
Total	42	117.0	60	251.6

- (c) The number of applications received under the CSI and the number of such applications approved and rejected in 2017-18 and 2018-19 (as at end-February 2019) are tabulated below –

Number of applications received	Number of cases approved	Number of cases rejected	Number of other cases (viz. withdrawn or under processing)
171	84	28	59

The main reasons for rejection for applications under the CSI include: (1) the objectives of the application projects are not in line with the CSI's strategic directions to drive the development of creative industries; (2) the deliverables of the projects serve only the interests of individual private companies or private institutions rather than the entire sectors concerned; (3) the applications duplicate the projects of other institutions; and (4) the applicants are too optimistic about the expected impacts of the projects, etc. Most of the rejected cases are applications from the design sector.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)032

(Question Serial No. 3648)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

(a) Will the Bureau please provide the date of incorporation, objectives and mode of operation of the following funds; and the balance, government injection amount, investment or other income and total expenditure of the funds in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18? If there are other funds within the purview of the Bureau not being listed below, please also provide information as per the items above.

1. Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund
2. Film Development Fund
3. Film Guarantee Fund
4. CreateSmart Initiative

(b) Regarding the funds overseen by the Bureau, how will the Government assess and monitor the situation of various funds? Is there any indicator for reviewing the effectiveness of the funds? If yes, what is the latest situation? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

(a)

1. Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund (CIBF)

The CIBF was set up in May 2012 with an injection of \$45 million to support and encourage community groups and individuals to participate in broadcasting through the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service (CIBS). Use of the CIBF in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 is as follows -

Year	Injection amount (\$million) ^{Note}	Total expenditure (\$million)	Cumulative expenditure (\$million)	Balance (\$million)
2015-16	-	6.56	11.2	33.80
2016-17	-	6.12	17.32	27.68
2017-18	-	6.4	23.72	21.28

Note: As the CIBF still has funding available, there was no injection in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18.

2. Film Development Fund (FDF)

The FDF aims to provide funding support for projects conducive to the long-term and sustainable development of the local film industry. Since the re-launch of the FDF in April 2005, the Government has injected \$540 million into the FDF. Use of the FDF in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 is as follows -

Year	Injection amount (\$million)	Total expenditure (\$million)	Cumulative expenditure (\$million)	Balance (\$million)
2015-16	200	25.82	307.49	212.51
2016-17	20	41.18	348.67	191.33
2017-18	-	46.06	394.73	145.27

3. Film Guarantee Fund (FGF)

There has been no application under the FGF since July 2007. It ceased operation on 1 July 2015.

4. CreateSmart Initiative (CSI)

The CSI was set up in June 2009 to support the development of local creative industries¹ (other than film) with a total injection of \$2 billion so far. Use of the CSI in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 is as follows -

¹ The local creative industries cover 8 sectors, namely, film, advertising, architecture, design, digital entertainment, music, publishing and printing, television (TV), etc. The dedicated fund for the film sector is the FDF, while that for the remaining 7 sectors is the CSI.

Year	Injection amount (\$million)	Total expenditure (\$million)	Cumulative expenditure (\$million)	Balance (\$million)
2015-16	-	98.07	461.49	138.51
2016-17	400	145.57	607.06	392.94
2017-18	-	138.96	746.02	253.98

(b)

CIBF

An independent Selection Committee, comprising scholars, experts from different fields drawn from the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) Programme Advisory Panel and individuals familiar with ethnic minority issues, is responsible for assessing applications for participating in the CIBS and making recommendations to the Director of Broadcasting (D of B). Upon the approval of D of B, applicants as community involvement broadcasting producers may commence procurement processes in accordance with Government's procurement guidelines in order to ensure proper use of public funds. Upon completion of the programme, applicants are required to submit an evaluation report and an audited financial report to the satisfaction of D of B before CIBF disbursement, subject to a cap of HK\$15,000 per one-hour programme. The CIBF has been in operation for 6 years, and a total of 22 seasons of programmes involving 4 153.5 hours have been broadcast. The number of applications for participating in the CIBS exceeded 1 244.

RTHK will continue to strengthen the promotion of the CIBS, including updates on the thematic website, so that the public may be further aware of, take part in and listen to CIBS programmes. RTHK plans to conduct a public survey in the form of focus groups in 2019-20 to better understand the views of various stakeholders on the CIBS, so as to further enhance the service performance.

FDF

Applications under the FDF for financing film productions and other film-related projects are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry and the Film Development Council in accordance with the established mechanism. Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) requires grantees to submit an audit report prepared by auditors after completion of projects. The Government also reserves at all times the right to inspect and make copies of such books and records, or engage independent auditors to audit the accounts separately.

Summary of the effectiveness of the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) and the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS) under the FDF since the establishment of CreateHK in June 2009 is tabulated below –

Performance Indicators (As at end-December 2018)			
		FPFS	FPGS
1.	Number of approved projects	24	13
2.	Approved amount (approx.)	\$73 million	\$23 million
3.	Number of created job opportunities (approx.)	1 560	845
4.	Number of film directors who directed a film for the first time	19	8
5.	Number of producers who produced a film for the first time	17	3

Note: The number of created job opportunities refers to full-time basic production crew and major casts.

Summary of the effectiveness of other film-related projects is tabulated below -

Performance Indicators (As at end-December 2018)		
1.	Number of approved projects	169
2.	Number of participants (approx.)	2.2 million
3.	Approved amount (approx.)	\$318 million
4.	Number of international awards attained (approx.)	30
5.	Number of job opportunities created (approx.)	3 650
6.	Number of small and medium-sized enterprise (SMEs) beneficiaries (approx.)	70
7.	Number of nurturing opportunities created for creative talent and start-ups (approx.)	1 800
8.	Number of TV audience reach in respect of awards presentation and musical programmes (approx.)	2.011 billion

In 2017, the Government engaged a consultant to review the operation of the FDF and the effectiveness of the various funding schemes thereunder. Taking account of the views of the consultant and the industry, the Government proposed to make a one-off injection of \$1 billion into the FDF in 2019-20, with a view to promoting the further development of the local film industry through measures under 4 broad strategic directions, namely, nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience.

CSI

The independent CSI Vetting Committee (CSIVC), comprising members of the industry, is responsible for assessing funding applications under the CSI, and reviewing the progress and completion reports of approved projects. The Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) decides, on the advice of the CSIVC, whether to approve the applications and the funds to be disbursed. Any individual CSI projects requiring funding of more than \$10 million each have to be separately submitted to the Legislative Council Finance Committee for approval, except for the Design Incubation Programme, Fashion Incubation Programme, Business of Design Week and DFA Awards held from 2016 to 2019, for which dedicated funding support had been earmarked.

Summary of the effectiveness of the CSI is tabulated below -

Performance Indicators (As at end-December 2018)		
1.	Number of approved projects	468
2.	Number of participants (approx.)	55.7 million
3.	Approved amount (approx.)	\$1.148 billion
4.	Number of international awards attained (approx.)	90
5.	Number of job opportunities created (approx.)	19 420
6.	Number of SMEs benefited (approx.)	1 910
7.	Number of business contacts or enquiries created (approx.)	19 100
8.	Number of nurturing opportunities created for creative talents and start-ups (approx.)	54 300
9.	Number of TV audience reach in respect of awards presentation and music programmes (approx.)	337 million

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)033

(Question Serial No. 3665)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Will the Administration advise of the following -

- (a) the progress of regulating person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls) by legislation; and
- (b) the measures to be taken to reduce nuisances caused by P2P calls to the general public before enactment of legislation to regulate P2P calls, and the budget involved in these measures.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

- (a) The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau conducted a three-month public consultation in mid-2017, and consulted the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in April 2018. In view of the growing demand from the public for strengthening the regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we are drafting legislative proposals, and plan to report the work progress and introduce the framework of the Bill to the Panel in mid-April 2019. We will complete the legislative drafting work as soon as possible and introduce the Bill into LegCo for scrutiny.
- (b) We are planning other non-legislative measures, with emphasis on publicity and education work. These measures aim to enhance public awareness of call-filtering applications (apps), remind the public of points to note in choosing and using these apps and in particular teaching elderly people how to choose and use these apps. The Government has earmarked around \$500,000 in 2019-20 to implement the aforementioned measures.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)034

(Question Serial No. 1781)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding a subsidy scheme to encourage the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas so as to enhance the higher speed fixed broadband network coverage. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the latest progress of the tender exercise for the 6 projects under the subsidy scheme, the number of tender documents received for each project, the Government's timetable for the assessment of tender documents and the expected time for awarding tender projects? If the tender exercise is behind the original schedule, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

We will, as planned, commence the tender exercise in the second quarter of this year for the subsidy scheme to encourage the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas. The assessment of tender documents and award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected fixed network operators can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)035****(Question Serial No. 4295)**

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the approval of funding applications by the Fund Vetting Committee (FVC) of the Film Development Fund, will the Government inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) (i) The total number of applications received and (ii) the number of applications rejected under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) in the past 5 years (with a breakdown by year); and
- (b) The criteria used or reasons for rejecting applications under the FPFS by the FVC in the past 5 years (with a breakdown by project under application).

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

- (a) Over the past five years, the number of applications received and not approved under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) each year is tabulated below -

Year	No. of Applications Received	No. of Applications Not Approved	Remarks
2014	4	3	
2015	4	1	
2016	1	0	
2017	2	0	
2018	4	1	2 applications are being processed.
2019 (as at end-February)	4	Not applicable	4 applications are being processed.

- (b) Applications under the FPFS are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include “creativity and quality of the film screenplay”, “production budget”, “estimated income” and “local film production elements and talent nurturing”. Applications were rejected normally due to inadequacies in the aforementioned aspects.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)036

(Question Serial No. 2236)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20*, the Administration has indicated that a subsidy scheme will be implemented to encourage the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas. What are the timetable, manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 169)

Reply:

We expect that the tender documents on the the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas under the subsidy scheme will be issued in the second quarter of this year. The assessment of tender documents and award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected fixed network operators can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.

The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved a commitment of \$774.4 million on 13 July 2018 for the implementation of the subsidy scheme. The Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has also earmarked a total of \$69.8 million in the 5 years from 2018-19 onwards for the Office of the Communications Authority to co-ordinate the implementation of the subsidy scheme, including the creation of 10 time-limited civil service posts and non-civil service contract posts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)037

(Question Serial No. 2250)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20*, the Administration has indicated that a pilot scheme will be implemented to support the rollout of 5G infrastructure. What are the specific measures and timetable involved? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 193)

Reply:

The pilot scheme to open up suitable government premises for the installation of base stations by mobile service operators has just been launched in March this year. The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), with the support of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Government Property Agency, has identified around 1 000 government premises for operators' selection, and with streamlined application processes, provides facilitation to operators in establishing public mobile services networks. OFCA would inform operators of the application procedures to facilitate them submit applications. The implementation work of this pilot scheme is undertaken by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)038

(Question Serial No. 4032)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Will the Administration refine the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance to avoid famous works, such as David, being classified as obscene articles again? If yes, what are the details and timetable? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 206)

Reply:

The Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (Cap. 390) (COIAO) establishes the Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT). The OAT is a specialised tribunal under the Judiciary, comprising a presiding magistrate and adjudicators drawn from a panel of adjudicators. Adjudicators are members of the public appointed by the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal so as to reflect the standards of morality, decency and propriety generally accepted by the community. Articles are classified by the OAT in accordance with relevant statutory requirements. When studying improvements to the regulatory framework under the COIAO, the Bureau will consider the views from different sectors of the community carefully.

Over the past 4 years, we have been liaising with relevant government departments and the Judiciary on the proposed legislative amendments to the COIAO with a view to resolving the relevant legal issues. We will brief the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting on the work progress as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)039

(Question Serial No. 4037)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In the past 3 years, what policy subjects did the SAR Government take forward to promote the development of 5G services in Hong Kong? What are the effectiveness of such subjects, and the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Government and the Communications Authority (CA) started a series of work to promote the development of 5G services in Hong Kong, including -

- (a) Regarding spectrum supply, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and the CA jointly conducted 3 separate public consultations on the arrangements for assignment of different 5G frequency bands and the related spectrum utilisation fees in 2018. The details of the assignment arrangements for a total of about 4 500 MHz of spectrum in the relevant frequency bands, including the assignment methods, and indicative timetables, etc. are tabulated below-

Band	26 GHz and 28 GHz		3.3 GHz	3.5 GHz	4.9 GHz
	<i>Large scale public mobile services</i>	<i>Localised wireless broadband services</i>			
Amount of spectrum	3 700 MHz	400 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	80 MHz
Assignment method	Administrative assignment	Administrative assignment	Auction	Auction	Auction
Expected date to invite application	21 December 2018	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected date for assignment / auction	First half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected start date of use	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	April 2020	Same as above

- (b) The pilot scheme to open up suitable government premises for the installation of radio base stations by mobile service operators has just been launched in March this year. The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), with the support of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Government Property Agency, has identified around 1 000 government premises for operators' selection, and together with streamlined application processes, provides facilitation to operators in establishing public mobile services networks. OFCA would inform the operators of the application procedures to facilitate them submit applications;
- (c) Since 2017, the CA has been actively encouraging and supporting the telecommunications industry to conduct trials of various 5G technological applications and radio propagation, and assigning the spectrum in different bands to applicants (including telecommunications equipment vendors and network operators) free of charge for testing purposes. As at 27 March 2019, the CA has issued 25 trial permits;
- (d) The CA created a new Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT) Licence in December 2017 to allow interested parties to provide WIoT services using the shared frequency band of 920-925 MHz; and
- (e) On 31 January 2019, the Government introduced a WIoT device fee under the Unified Carrier Licence, with the level of fee aligned with that of the WIoT Licence, to further facilitate the development of WIoT services in Hong Kong.

The manpower and resources involved in the work on items (a) to (d) above are met by the OFCA Trading Fund. Work on item (e) regarding the amendment of legislation is absorbed by Commerce and Economic Development Bureau's existing manpower and resources and there is no separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)040

(Question Serial No. 4234)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

During 2019-20, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch will continue to monitor the effectiveness of measures for safeguarding consumers' interests. Please elaborate on the highlights of various relevant work, the breakdown of the estimated expenditure, the work plan and the establishment involved in the aforesaid work (tabular the number of staff by post titles).

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)

Reply:

The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) has taken a series of measures to safeguard the interests of consumers using telecommunications services.

Handling of and Investigations into Complaints about Unfair Trade Practices in the Telecommunications and Broadcasting Sectors

The fair trading sections of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO) prohibit certain specified unfair trade practices by traders in the provision of goods and services to consumers, including false trade descriptions of goods and services, misleading omissions, aggressive commercial practices, bait advertising, bait-and-switch and wrongly accepting payment. While the Customs and Excise Department is responsible for enforcing the TDO, concurrent jurisdiction is conferred on the Communications Authority (CA) to enforce the fair trading sections of the TDO in relation to the commercial practices of licensees under the Telecommunications Ordinance and the Broadcasting Ordinance directly connected with the provision of telecommunications and broadcasting services. The Administration has issued a set of enforcement guidelines to provide guidance for traders and consumers as to the operation of the fair trading sections.

If a consumer suspects that a licensed telecommunications service provider or a broadcaster has contravened the TDO, he/she may lodge a complaint to OFCA, and OFCA will take follow-up action in accordance with the legislation.

Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme (CCSS)

The CCSS is set up by the telecommunications industry to help handle, by means of mediation, billing disputes in deadlock between telecommunications service providers and their customers. OFCA supports the CCSS by contributing the necessary funding, screening the CCSS applications against the acceptance criteria, and monitoring the performance and the governance of the scheme. The CCSS was launched on a trial basis on 1 November 2012, and was implemented on a long-term basis from 1 May 2015. The Communications Association of Hong Kong, an industry association representing the communications sector in Hong Kong, has set up an independent service centre to provide the mediation service. All major telecommunications service providers in Hong Kong voluntarily participate in the Scheme.

Other Measures for Safeguarding Consumers' Interests

OFCA has implemented a series of other measures to safeguard consumers' interests, including encouraging the industry to draw up and implement self-regulatory measures, namely the "Industry Code of Practice for Telecommunications Service Contracts" and the "Code for the Provision of Chargeable Mobile Content Services", encouraging the industry to continue to implement the "mobile bill shock" preventive measures and publishing service termination arrangements of residential broadband service providers. In addition, the CA has issued the "Guidelines for the Implementation of Fair Usage Policy for the Provision of Mobile and Fixed Broadband Services" setting out guiding principles for operators on how they may implement their fair usage policy. To enhance the transparency of pricing in respect of chargeable items in the provision of telecommunications services, the CA has also issued a voluntary "Code of Practice in Relation to Billing Information and Payment Collection for Telecommunications Services", providing guidelines on the information to be included in bills and the arrangements for payment collection.

OFCA will continue with the aforesaid work and enhance existing measures or introduce new measures where necessary to further protect consumers' interests in the light of experience and consumers' views. The manpower and expenditure involved in the aforesaid work are met by the OFCA Trading Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)041

(Question Serial No. 4235)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

During 2019-20, the Communications and Creative Industries Branch will continue with the development of the legislative framework to strengthen the regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls. Please describe the highlights of related work, a breakdown of the estimated expenditure, the schedule of work and the establishment for the aforementioned work (list the number of staff by post in tabular form).

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau conducted a three-month public consultation in mid-2017, and consulted the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in April 2018. In view of the growing demand from the public for strengthening the regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls (P2P calls), we are drafting the legislative proposal, and planning to report the work progress and introduce the framework of the Bill to the Panel in mid-April 2019. We will complete the legislative drafting work as soon as possible and introduce the Bill into LegCo for scrutiny.

A dedicated team, comprising 1 supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B, 1 supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and 5 non-directorate supporting staff, has been established in the Communications and Creative Industries Branch. The major duties of the team are to review and amend the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) and the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106), and to formulate legislative proposals to regulate P2P calls. The entire dedicated team will involve an expenditure of \$10.54 million in 2019-20, of which the total staff cost is \$8.5 million while other operating expenditure \$2.04 million. We do not have a breakdown of the estimates for handling the regulation of P2P calls.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)042

(Question Serial No. 7270)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the provision for the film industry in the 2019-20 Budget?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

In order to help the local film industry respond to market competitions and needs more effectively, it is proposed in the 2019-20 Budget to inject \$1 million into the Film Development Fund along 4 strategic directions, namely nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience with a view to enhancing support for novices and encouraging more local productions. We hope that with the foregoing, together with active participation of the industry, Hong Kong films will thrive further. In 2019-20, the expenditure incurred by the FDF is expected to be \$168.5 million. The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch) will reserve sufficient resources and manpower to take forward the relevant work on promotion of Hong Kong films, including organising or participating in film festivals held in the Mainland and overseas cities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)043

(Question Serial No. 0947)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

There are comments that using \$5.2 million to finance the Lunar New Year commercial film "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" by the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) under the Film Development Fund (FDF) is an abuse of public funds. They believe that whether commercial films are box office hits and should exist should be determined by the market and box office receipts, and such films should not be financed by public funds. They even point out that the appearance of the director of "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" together with the Financial Secretary in the media to promote the Budget casts suspicion about conflict of interest and repayment of favour.

Regarding the fresh injection of \$1 billion into the FDF, to avoid the reoccurrence of similar suspicions about repayment of favour, will the Financial Secretary inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What criteria did the FPFS initially adopt to determine/judge/assess that "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" should be financed?
- (b) What criteria did the FPFS adopt to determine the financing amount of \$5.2 million (about 25% of the production cost of \$20 million)?
- (c) Has the FPFS assessed whether it is suitable for directors of film projects financed by the Government to appear with officials in the media to promote controversial government policies?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

According to the current mechanism, applications under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include "creativity and quality of the film screenplay", "production budget", "estimated income" and "local film production elements and talent nurturing". The financing amount for each film financed by the FPFS is set according to an established mechanism which makes reference to the film's production budget and the score. All applications under the FPFS are assessed in accordance with the same criteria. In

assessing the applications, the panel of specialists would base their assessment solely on the factors listed in assessment criteria and their own independent professionalism in accordance with the established mechanism.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)044

(Question Serial No. 0948)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government will inject another \$1 billion into the Film Development Fund (FDF) in 2019-20 to help the local film industry thrive further. Will the Secretary inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) Does “to thrive further” mean “to make more films for the local film market” or “to make more box-office hits for overseas markets”?
- (b) What criteria are used for selecting films to be funded under the FDF?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

- (a) Film is an important soft strength of Hong Kong. Over the past decades, our film industry has groomed a host of talent on stage as well as behind the scene, including artistes, directors, producers, etc. Their productions and performances have won numerous film awards and accolades, gathered a loyal following of audiences around the world, and have created the branding of “Hong Kong Films” in which we take pride.

To help the local film industry respond to market competitions and needs more effectively, we will make use of the Film Development Fund to enhance support for novices and encourage more local productions along 4 strategic directions, namely, nurturing talent, enhancing local production, expanding markets and building audience. We hope that with active participation of the industry, Hong Kong films will thrive further.

The Government plans to enhance the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) by raising the current production budget limit on a film project from \$25 million to \$60 million to cover also mid-budget productions. The maximum government financing amount for each approved project will be raised from \$6 million to \$9 million. We hope that this will attract film investors to increase their investment, and in turn upgrade local productions in terms of quality and quantity, and enhance their competitiveness in local and overseas markets.

In addition, we will continue to organise or participate in film festivals in collaboration with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland and overseas. We will also organise other promotional activities (e.g. delegation visit, exchange programme, field visit, film festival, investment and trade fair, etc.) to promote the “Hong Kong Films” brand and Hong Kong’s production and post-production services in the Mainland (including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area) and overseas markets (including the Belt and Road countries and regions).

- (b) Applications under the FPFS are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include “creativity and quality of the film screenplay”, “production budget”, “estimated income” and “local film production elements and talent nurturing”.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)045

(Question Serial No. 0480)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The provision for 2019-20 is \$200.9 million (717.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2018-19. The only explanation given is that this is mainly due to the cash flow requirement for general non-recurrent item and increased requirement for general departmental expenses. Will the Administration explain the reasons for substantially increasing the provision of resources by 7 times the last year's, and the allocation of resources?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved a provision of \$774.4 million on 13 July 2018 for the implementation of a subsidy scheme to extend optical fibre networks to villages in rural and remote areas. The subsidy scheme will be implemented by open tender. As the relevant work will commence in 2019-20, it is necessary to earmark non-recurrent funding of \$193.6 million to meet the cash flow requirement. Therefore, the provision for 2019-20 is about \$200 million higher than the revised estimate for 2018-19.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)046

(Question Serial No. 0482)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What is the progress of work on strengthening the regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls by the Administration? When will the Bill be submitted formally?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau conducted a three-month public consultation in mid-2017, and consulted the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (the Panel) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in April 2018. With growing demand from the public for strengthening the regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls, we are drafting the legislative proposal, and plan to report the work progress and introduce the framework of the Bill to the Panel in mid-April 2019. We will complete the legislative drafting work as soon as possible and introduce the Bill into LegCo for scrutiny.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)047

(Question Serial No. 0564)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What is the Administration's specific work on promoting the rollout of 5G networks in the coming 3 years? What is the expenditure involved? What are the Administration's estimates for the date of the commercial launch of 5G networks, and for the coverage and service quality of 5G networks in the coming 3 years?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

The Government and the Communications Authority (CA) have started a series of work to promote the development of 5G services in Hong Kong, including the following-

- (a) Regarding spectrum supply, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and the CA jointly conducted 3 separate public consultations on the assignment arrangements for different 5G bands and the related spectrum utilisation fees in 2018. The details of the assignment arrangements for a total of about 4 500 MHz of spectrum in the relevant frequency bands, including the assignment methods and indicative timetables, etc. are tabulated below -

Band	26 GHz and 28 GHz		3.3 GHz	3.5 GHz	4.9 GHz
	<i>Large scale public mobile services</i>	<i>Localised wireless broadband services</i>			
Amount of spectrum	3 700 MHz	400 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	80 MHz
Assignment method	Administrative assignment	Administrative assignment	Auction	Auction	Auction
Expected date to invite application	21 December 2018	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected date for assignment / auction	First half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019	Second half of 2019
Expected start date of use	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	April 2020	Same as above

- (b) The pilot scheme to open up suitable government premises for the installation of base stations by mobile service operators has just been launched in March this year. The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), with the support of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Government Property Agency, has identified around 1 000 government premises for operators' selection, and together with streamlined application processes, provides facilitation to operators in establishing public mobile services networks. OFCA would inform operators of the application procedures to facilitate them submit applications;
- (c) Since 2017, the CA has been actively encouraging and supporting the telecommunications industry to conduct trials of various 5G technological applications and radio propagation, and assigning the spectrum in different bands to applicants (including telecommunications equipment vendors and network operators) free of charge for testing purposes. As at 27 March 2019, the CA has issued 25 trial permits;
- (d) The CA created a new Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT) Licence in December 2017 to allow interested parties to provide WIoT services using the shared frequency band of 920-925 MHz; and
- (e) On 31 January 2019, the Government introduced a WIoT device fee under the Unified Carrier Licences, with the level of fee aligned with that of the WIoT Licence, to further facilitate the development of WIoT services in Hong Kong.

The manpower and resources involved in the work on (a) to (d) above are met by the OFCA Trading Fund. Work on item (e) regarding the amendment of legislation is absorbed by Commerce and Economic Development Bureau's existing manpower and resources and there is no separate breakdown.

Extensive commercial applications of 5G are not yet available. Subject to the development of the telecommunications market and the commercial considerations of the mobile services operators, it is difficult at this stage to estimate the coverage and service quality of 5G networks in the coming 3 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)048

(Question Serial No. 3112)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Last year, a total of 104 applications were received under the CreateSmart Initiative with 53 applications (nearly 50%) approved, while a total of 17 applications were received under the Film Development Fund with 6 applications (less than 50%) approved. Did this have anything to do with over-stringent application requirements? Among these applications, how many of them were withdrawn by the applicants subsequently after submission? What are the main reasons for refusing the applications? What is the expenditure incurred by the Administration in the approved applications?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

CreateSmart Initiative (CSI)

The main reasons for rejection for applications under the CSI include: (1) the objectives of the application projects are not in line with the CSI's strategic directions to drive the development of creative industries; (2) the deliverables of the projects serve only the interests of individual private companies or private institutions rather than the entire sectors concerned; (3) the applications duplicate projects of other institutions; and (4) the applicants are too optimistic about the expected impacts of the projects, etc.

Among the 104 applications received in 2018, 16 were withdrawn after submission. Of the remaining applications, 53 were approved involving a total funding of \$222.4 million.

Film Development Fund (FDF)

Applications under the Film Production Financing Scheme (FPFS) and the Film Production Grant Scheme (FPGS)¹ of the FDF are assessed by a panel of specialists from the film industry. Key assessment criteria include “creativity and quality of the film screenplay”, “production budget”, “estimated income” and “local film production elements and talent nurturing”. Applications were rejected normally due to inadequacies in the aforementioned aspects.

Among the applications received in 2018, none of them were withdrawn after submission. The total amount of funding involved in the 6 approved applications was \$17.72 million.

- End -

¹ The FPGS was launched on a pilot basis in November 2015 and ceased operation in December 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)049

(Question Serial No. 2685)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The Government has launched a series of publicity for switching off analogue television broadcast. Will the Government inform this Committee of the expenditure involved in the production of announcements of public interest, and a list of areas in Hong Kong which cannot receive digital terrestrial television signals currently?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 97)

Reply:

In early 2019, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau produced a set of television and radio announcements of public interest on "Full Digital TV Broadcast". The production cost was about \$430,000.

At present, the digital terrestrial television (DTT) network coverage has reached more than 99% of the population in Hong Kong. As some areas are blocked by hilly terrain or located far away from transmitting stations, the TV signals being received are weak thereby affecting the quality of DTT reception. The affected areas are mainly remote and sparsely populated locations, including some remote areas in Sai Kung, North District, Lantau South and other outlying islands.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)050

(Question Serial No. 2687)

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) (Mr Clement LEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding a subsidy scheme to encourage the extension of fibre-based networks to villages in rural and remote areas, please inform this Committee of the list of villages currently with no fibre-based coverage, the form of subsidy, the implementation schedule, the manpower involved in handling the applications under the subsidy scheme and the details of expenditure.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 98)

Reply:

The Government, through the subsidy scheme, provides financial incentives to fixed network operators (FNOs) to encourage them to extend fibre-based networks to the entrances of villages in rural and remote areas. Upon extension of fibre-based networks to village entrances, FNOs can provide broadband services to villagers by connecting the fibre-based networks to existing copper-based networks within the villages. The speed and stability of broadband service will be improved at the same time. The subsidy scheme will be implemented through 6 tender projects.

Taking into account comments received during the consultation with the Legislative Council (LegCo), the relevant District Councils and Rural Committees, and after verification of the latest network coverage information with FNOs, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) takes note that fibre-based networks of FNOs have already reached the vicinity of the entrances of some of the villages which were initially proposed to be covered under the subsidy scheme, and confirms that for some other initially proposed villages, there are no residents normally residing. Hence, according to currently available information, the subsidy scheme will cover 235 villages and about 110 000 villagers are estimated to be benefited, a breakdown of which by District Council district is tabulated as follows -

District	Number of villages proposed to be covered	Estimated number of villagers to be benefited
North	60	About 18 000
Islands	67	About 51 000
Sai Kung	44	About 10 000
Tai Po	26	About 11 000
Sha Tin	12	About 5 000
Yuen Long	12	About 5 000
Tuen Mun	7	About 5 000
Tsuen Wan	6	About 4 000
Kwai Tsing	1	Less than 1 000
Total	235	About 110 000

We expect that the tender documents will be issued in the second quarter of this year. The assessment of tender documents and award of tender projects are expected to be completed in the second half of this year such that selected FNOs can apply for relevant permits from departments concerned in a timely manner in order to perform different works. Depending on the works progress and views of the villagers, it is expected that the subsidised lead-in connections can be extended to the villages concerned in phases from 2021 onwards.

The Finance Committee of LegCo approved a commitment of \$774.4 million on 13 July 2018 for the implementation of the subsidy scheme. The Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has also earmarked a total of \$69.8 million in the 5 years from 2018-19 onwards for OFCA to co-ordinate the implementation of the subsidy scheme, including the creation of 10 time-limited civil service posts and non-civil service contract posts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)051

(Question Serial No. 3155)

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 line with the development of digital terrestrial television (DTT) and audio broadcasting, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) provides the public with more hours of output of new programmes, with a special focus on the production of DTT. However, the 3 existing buildings of RTHK on the Broadcast Drive are no longer sufficient to meet the demand of staff. Therefore, it is necessary to seek more resources and space to develop the 24-hour digital broadcasting on television and radio in the future. Since the RTHK's proposal for the construction of the New Broadcasting House (New BH) in Tseung Kwan O was vetoed by the pro-establishment camp earlier, it would 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 to the Legislative Council the proposal for the construction of the New BH?

Despite an increase in the hours of output of new programmes by RTHK currently, the budget for RTHK this year is \$1.021 billion, which is \$19.5 million less than the revised budget of \$1.04 billion last year. Given that RTHK TV 31 will start providing 24-hour broadcasting service in April, and the DTT coverage of RTHK will also be increased to 99% of the Hong Kong population, can the Government explain the reasons for the decrease in RTHK's budget?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

With the assistance of the Architectural Services Department, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is currently in negotiation with several departments which have indicated their interest in the joint-user building on their respective requirements, as well as project design and planning. RTHK will push forward the New Broadcasting House project in accordance with the established mechanism, and there is no definite timetable at this stage.

In 2019-20, the estimated provision for RTHK is \$8.6 million (+0.8%) higher than the 2018-19 original estimate. In terms of civil service establishment, the net increase is 17 posts (+2.3%).

The estimated provision for RTHK for 2019-20 is slightly lower than the revised estimate for 2018-19 by \$19.4 million (-1.9%). It is mainly due to the decrease in the technical cost for the transmission of analogue TV service and the lapse of one-off additional provisions which included building improvement works and the equipment at transmitting stations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)052

(Question Serial No. 0111)

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:

In Programme (2): Public Affairs and General Television Programme, the estimated provision for 2019-20 is \$553.8 million. The Director of Audit's Report No. 71 (the Report), which was released in the end of last year, pointed out that there was a drop in the listenership of the radio channels of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) in 2017-18, while the TV ratings of RTHK's TV channels were low (0.1 on average). RTHK was required to conduct a comprehensive review and recommendations for improvement were also provided in the Report. As stated under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20" on P. 820 of the Controlling Officer's Report, RTHK will take forward relevant Audit recommendations.

- (a) What are the details of the expenditure required for the posts needed to carry out the improvement measures?
- (b) What are the relevant posts and their job nature?
- (c) Of the estimated provision of \$553.8 million, what is the proportion used on the above-mentioned work?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

RTHK will take forward the recommendations set out in Director of Audit's Report No. 71 with existing resources and manpower which is part of the regular work. There is no individual breakdown of expenditure.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)053****(Question Serial No. 6021)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Regarding its work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by Radio Television Hong Kong for which only some of the required information was provided, please state in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by Radio Television Hong Kong for which the required information was not provided, please state in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 265)Reply:

From January to September 2018, among the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by Radio Television Hong Kong, none of which was provided with only some of the required information or refused.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)054

(Question Serial No. 0720)

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:

It is stated in Head 160 of this year's Budget that as the public service broadcaster, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) aims to inform, educate and entertain the general public through the provision of high quality TV programmes that are not adequately provided by commercial broadcasters. Meanwhile, to arouse public's interest in local sports events, around 50 local sports matches were broadcast live on RTHK TV 32. The channel has also enhanced its services to broadcast major Mainland and international events. In this connection, would the Government give an account of the following:

- (a) Currently, there are quite a lot of sports events in which Hong Kong athletes are participating, including matches which are held locally or overseas, and the corresponding live broadcast of these matches are not covered by commercial broadcasters. In this regard, will RTHK TV 32 broadcast live these matches in which Hong Kong athletes are participating?
- (b) What are the reasons (e.g. manpower or expenditure) for RTHK to consider whether to relay sports events which Hong Kong athletes participate in?
- (c) RTHK broadcast around 50 local sports matches. What exactly were those events? And what was the viewership of those programmes?
- (d) How will RTHK arouse public's interest in local sports events?
- (e) How will RTHK cover the areas that are not adequately provided by commercial broadcasters?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

(a) & (b) Since 2017-18, RTHK has live and delay broadcast a number of local sports matches which Hong Kong athletes participated in. In striving to live or delay broadcast

local sports matches, RTHK will consider factors, including manpower, expenditure, technologies, broadcasting rights, and the internal guidelines on sponsorships (such as not involving commercial sponsorships), etc. RTHK continues to actively liaise with relevant local sports organisations on the possibility of broadcasting various competitions.

(c) In 2018-19, RTHK live and delay broadcast over 50 local sports matches, including inter-school badminton, basketball and table tennis competitions, the Hong Kong Annual Badminton Championships, the Jockey Club Youth Football Academy Summit, the 37th Hong Kong Marathon Volleyball Tournament, the World DanceSport Federation GrandSlam Hong Kong 2018 and the Chinese New Year Cup 2019. Regarding the ratings, owing to the rapid development of technology and online platforms, apart from watching TV programmes in real time on new media platforms, viewers can also catch up RTHK programmes via a variety of online platforms, resulting in a long tail effect. They can view the programmes through the mobile application “RTHK Screen”, RTHK’s webpage, YouTube channel and specific Facebook Fan Pages. In 2018, the total accumulated number of views of RTHK TV programmes in cross-media platforms was 153 million.

(d) & (e) According to the Charter of Radio Television Hong Kong, RTHK should provide TV services in areas not adequately provided by commercial broadcasters. To arouse public interest in local sports matches, RTHK will continue to live and delay broadcast different types of sports matches, including the 7th Hong Kong Games Final, and produce TV magazine programmes in order to provide the audience with local sports news and information on sports. In addition, RTHK TV 32 also broadcasts local and international sports events, as well as news highlights on sports.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)055

(Question Serial No. 0744)

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:

It is stated in Head 160 of this year's Budget that Radio Television Hong Kong will continue to improve the technical performance of "rthk.hk" for stable and faster access by local and overseas users, and the radio archive will be migrated to a cloud platform to increase the connection capacity and ease the traffic congestion problem on programme catchups.

- (a) In what form is the archive stored currently? What are the connection capacity and the annual expenditure?
- (b) Why was the radio archive not migrated to a cloud platform until now?
- (c) Which company is operating the cloud platform concerned? What are the considerations given in choosing the cloud platform?
- (d) After choosing to use a cloud platform, what are the annual expenditure and connection capacity?
- (e) In the process of migrating the archive to a cloud platform, what are the procedures and additional expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

(a) The TV archive of RTHK is stored on a cloud platform provided by a service provider. The calculation of data volume is based on the users' usage, which can be up to 155 Terabytes (TB) per month. As for radio, the archive is still stored in internal server. The connection capacity of which is 800 Megabytes (MB) per second. The annual total expenditure relating to the TV and radio archives is \$2.48 million.

(b) Since late 2017, the usage of the radio archive has been increasing significantly. When members of the public access RTHK's website for radio programme archive, traffic

congestion occurs occasionally, indicating that the capacity of the server is near saturation. As such, there is a need to migrate the radio archive to a cloud platform, in order to provide stable and fast access , thus enhancing the quality of services on the website.

(c) The company selected for providing the cloud platform service is an internationally reputable cloud platform service provider. RTHK adhered to the Government procurement procedures in selecting a suitable company. The main considerations in selecting a cloud platform are stability, security and reliability. The company concerned needs to meet all conditions of service listed by RTHK.

(d) After using cloud platform, the monthly data volumes provided for the TV and radio archives can reach 155 TB and 100 TB respectively, involving an expenditure of \$2.2 million per annum.

(e) A one-off additional expenditure of around \$600,000 is required in the migration of the radio archive to the cloud platform. It covers the parallel run of the server hosting service and cloud platform for 10 months during the migration of web contents and system in order to ensure that stable services could be provided to local and overseas users.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)056****(Question Serial No. 2747)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television ProgrammeControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

In recent years, since Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has implemented the digital terrestrial television (DTT) broadcasting service, its workload has been constantly on the rise, and yet the problem of having insufficient resources has been serious:

- (a) Since the implementation of DTT broadcasting service of RTHK, what are the annual changes in the provision, actual expenditure and number of staff for the TV broadcasting service?
- (b) Regarding the staff of the TV broadcasting service, what are the year-on-year number and percentage of civil servants and non-civil service contract staff involved?
- (c) Regarding the non-civil service contract staff, what is the manpower involved (broken down by contract duration and salary) every year?
- (d) Regarding RTHK's plan to strengthen its TV broadcasting service, what is the growth of manpower and expenditure involved in the TV broadcasting service in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)Reply:

(a) Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) launched its 3 digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels in January 2014. Since that financial year, the annual provision / actual expenditure and number of staff for the TV broadcasting service are as follows:

Year	Provision / Actual Expenditure (\$million)	Number of Civil Servants
2013-14	361.5	361
2014-15	372.5	382
2015-16	416.2	384

Year	Provision / Actual Expenditure (\$million)	Number of Civil Servants
2016-17	522.3	383
2017-18	541.4	389
2018-19	565.2	398

Note: The figure for 2018-19 is the revised estimate, and the remaining ones are all actual figures.

(b) The numbers of civil servants and non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff involved in RTHK's TV broadcasting service are as follows:

Year	Number of Civil Servants (Percentage in Total Staff)	Number of NCSC Staff (Percentage in Total Staff)
2013-14	361 (79.0%)	96 (21.0%)
2014-15	382 (84.3%)	71 (15.7%)
2015-16	384 (85.1%)	67 (14.9%)
2016-17	383 (82.0%)	84 (18.0%)
2017-18	389 (84.9%)	69 (15.1%)
2018-19	398 (83.8%)	77 (16.2%)

(c) In general, the contract duration for RTHK's NCSC staff is 1 year. The breakdown of salaries for the NCSC staff (referenced upon the Master Pay Scale for civil servants) is as follows:

Monthly Salary	Number of Staff					
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Equivalent to Point 28 or Above at the Master Pay Scale for Civil Servants	7	5	2	5	4	3
Equivalent to Point 19-27 at the Master Pay Scale for Civil Servants	8	8	7	10	6	8
Equivalent to Point 18 or Below at the Master Pay Scale for Civil Servants	81	58	58	69	59	66
	96	71	67	84	69	77

(d) In 2019-20, the budget for Programme (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme of RTHK is \$553.8 million, which is \$11.4 million lower than the revised estimate of \$565.2 million for 2018-19. The main reason is the less requirement for the analogue TV service. In 2019-20, the number of civil service posts involved in

Programme (2) is 407, representing an increase of 9 posts as compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)057

(Question Serial No. 2753)

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):

- (a) Currently, does RTHK or the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) have any manpower or section carrying out special studies on the New BH project? If so, what are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (b) In the past year, how many meetings had RTHK and CEDB convened on the construction of New BH? Has any consensus been reached or progress been made concerning the relevant work?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

- (a) The workload involved in the planning of the New Broadcasting House (BH) project will be absorbed by existing resources and manpower. There is no individual breakdown of expenditure.
- (b) In 2018, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) reported to the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) on the progress of the New BH project in 6 regular meetings. CEDB noted that, with the assistance of the Architectural Services Department, RTHK is currently in negotiation with several departments which have indicated their interest in the joint-user building on their respective requirements, as well as project design and planning, and RTHK would take forward the New BH project in accordance with the established mechanism.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)058

(Question Serial No. 4897)

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:

Why is the estimated expenditure for 2019-20 2.4% lower than the revised estimate for 2018-19? What are the staffing and details involved?

Asked by: Hon IP Kin-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 142)

Reply:

Regarding Programme (1) Radio, the estimated provision for 2019-20 is \$9.5 million (-2.4%) lower when compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19. This is mainly due to the completion of some improvement projects on radio studios and transmitting stations, resulting in a decrease in capital expenditure. In 2019-20, 307 civil service posts are involved in Programme (1) Radio, representing an increase of 8 posts when compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)059

(Question Serial No. 6133)

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 reply by providing the information in tabular form:

(1) In the past 5 years, regarding the Television Division and the Radio Division of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), (a) the section(s) which engaged people in the form of “service provider” (commonly known as “Cat II”); (b) the number of people engaged; (c) the posts concerned; (d) their average weekly and monthly working hours; (e) the weekly and monthly working hours of the “service provider” who have the longest weekly and monthly working hours; and (f) the average and longest numbers of years that they have been engaged by RTHK.

(2) RTHK engages the people concerned, including editorial and journalistic workers and programme hosts / hostesses in the form of “service provider” on a long-term basis. Are these “false self-employment”?

(3) Has RTHK reviewed the content of existing contracts and the form of engagement? If so, what were the plan and the expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

According to the demarcation approved by the Finance Committee of the former Legislative Council in 1982, Category II service providers should be engaged for a specific purpose in the production of particular programmes of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), such as artists, presenters and contributors. RTHK has all along followed the above principle in engaging Category II service providers in order to allow flexibility in meeting the operational needs as well as to tap the expertise in the market. With regards to the above enquiries, our reply is as follows –

(1) Both the Television Division and Radio Division of RTHK (including the Chinese / English News and Current Affairs Section, Public Affairs and Multimedia News Section,

Chinese / English Programme Service Section, Public and Current Affairs Section, Educational Television Section, General Programme Section, etc.) engage Category II service providers. As only 4 years' figures on Category II service providers are currently available, RTHK is unable to provide information of the past 5 years. In the past 4 years, RTHK engaged approximately 2 600 to 3 000 Category II service providers each year. As the fees for Category II service providers are mainly determined by the job output and outcome, RTHK is unable to provide statistics of their average weekly and monthly working hours; or years of engagement.

(2) Category II service providers are independent contractors or self-employed persons who are engaged for a specific purpose in the production of particular programmes of RTHK. They are not employees of RTHK. RTHK will negotiate with Category II service providers on job arrangements having regard to the needs of particular programmes. During the contract period, they can be employed by other companies / organisations, and / or provide any service to other companies / organisations without the need for RTHK's approval.

(3) As stated in the previous paragraph, RTHK engages Category II service providers in accordance with the demarcation approved by the Finance Committee of the former Legislative Council in 1982. RTHK will review the established mechanism if necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)060

(Question Serial No. 6134)

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:

What are the reasons why the estimate of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is decreased by 1.9%? According to Head 160, the hours of output of radio programmes remains unchanged (Page 816), while the total hours of output of public affairs and general TV programmes is increased (Page 819) in 2019-20.

- (a) In what ways will the Director of Broadcasting (DB) reduce the expenditure? Will the number of people engaged in the form of "service providers" (commonly known as "Cat II"), their working hours or wages be reduced?
- (b) How will DB ensure that the quality of the programmes and broadcasting services are not affected despite the reduced estimate?
- (c) Is the Government reducing the estimate of RTHK in response to the criticism of RTHK's programmes made by Mrs Carrie LAM, the Chief Executive?
- (d) Will the Government re-launch the project to build a new building for RTHK? If so, what is the work content? What are the target commencement and completion years?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 107)

Reply:

(a), (b) & (c) In 2019-20, the estimated provision for Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is \$8.6 million (+0.8%) higher than the 2018-19 original estimate. In terms of civil service establishment, the net increase is 17 posts (+2.3%).

The estimated provision for RTHK for 2019-20 is slightly lower than the revised estimate for 2018-19 by \$19.4 million (-1.9%), which is mainly due to the decrease in the technical cost for the transmission of analogue TV service. Meanwhile, part of the revised estimate

for 2018-19 was one-off provisions, which included additional provisions for departmental facilities and equipment at transmitting stations.

The Government attaches importance to public service broadcasting, and has all along been allocating ample resources to RTHK for its radio, TV and new media services, as well as the implementation of various new development initiatives. In 2019-20, the estimated expenditure of RTHK is \$1.0211 billion, which is more than double the actual expenditure of \$469.9 million (+117%) for 2010-11. Regarding the civil service establishment, there will be 755 posts in RTHK in 2019-20, representing an increase of 232 posts (+44%) when compared to the 523 posts in 2010-11.

(d) With the assistance of the Architectural Services Department, RTHK is currently in negotiation with several departments which have indicated their interest in the joint-user building on their respective requirements, as well as project design and planning. RTHK will take forward the New Broadcasting House project in accordance with the established mechanism, and there is no definite timetable at this stage.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)061

(Question Serial No. 2510)

Head: (160) Radio Television Hong Kong

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

The estimate of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) for the financial year 2019-20 is 1.9% lower than the revised estimate for 2018-19. Would the Government inform this Committee of the reasons? At the same time, would the Government explain the reasons for the decrease in the estimates of Radio and Public Affairs and General Television Programme respectively?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis (LegCo internal reference no.: 92)

Reply:

In 2019-20, the estimated provision for Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is \$8.6 million (+0.8%) higher than the 2018-19 original estimate. In terms of civil service establishment, the net increase is 17 posts (+2.3%).

The estimated provision for RTHK for 2019-20 is slightly lower than the revised estimate for 2018-19 by \$19.4 million (-1.9%). It is mainly due to the decrease in the technical cost for the transmission of analogue TV service and the lapse of one-off additional provisions which included building improvement works and the equipment at transmitting stations.

Regarding Programme (1) Radio, the estimated provision for 2019-20 is lower as compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19, which is mainly due to the decrease in capital expenditure. As for Programme (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme, the lower provision is mainly due to the less requirement for the analogue TV service.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)062

(Question Serial No. 3900)

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:

Please provide the production cost of each and every episode of "Police Magazine" for the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis (LegCo internal reference no.: 102)

Reply:

"Police Magazine" is produced by the Public and Current Affairs Section of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), and the expenditure involved was absorbed from within existing resources. There was no individual breakdown of expenditure. In 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, the costs per hour of the programmes produced by the Public and Current Affairs Section were \$331,900, \$362,300 and \$376,400 (revised estimate) respectively. The Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) also provides part of the funding for the production of drama special on crime prevention of "Police Magazine" as well as some of the post-production work and the subtitle translation of the English version of "Police Magazine". In the past 3 years, the total amount of funding received from HKPF for "Police Magazine" was around \$777,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)063****(Question Serial No. 1433)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Please provide the number of civil servants to be recruited in 2019-20 by grade and rank. How does it compare with the additional posts for the current year? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)Reply:

In 2019-20, Radio Television Hong Kong will have a net increase of 17 non-directorate civil service (CS) posts (create 20 new posts and delete 3 time-limited posts).

The 20 posts to be created in 2019-20 will include 4 additional posts and 16 posts for replacing corresponding non-civil service contract positions which have a long-term need. The expenditure for these posts, in terms of notional annual mid-point salary value, is about \$13.14 million. The breakdown of the 20 posts mentioned above by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Posts to be Created
Principal Programme Officer	1
Programme Officer	1
Assistant Programme Officer	5
Telecommunications Engineer / Assistant Telecommunications Engineer	3
Principal Technical Officer	3
Senior Technical Officer	6
Senior Artisan	1
Total	20

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)064

(Question Serial No. 2123)

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:

According to government figures, around 50 local sports matches were broadcast live on RTHK TV 32. Can the Government advise:

(a) What criteria did Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) adopt to decide whether to broadcast live a local sports match?

(b) What are the details of those 50 local sports matches? Please tabulate the details of those 50 matches, including the type of sports, name of events, period of the live relays, whether commentators were arranged, costs involved, and the viewership (and differences compared with the average viewership) of the matches, and other relevant information.

Meanwhile, the Chinese New Year Cup was broadcast live on RTHK TV 32 this year. Can the Government advise if there is any plan for RTHK to broadcast live more local football matches, for example, some or all of the matches of the Hong Kong Premier League, in order to foster the football development in Hong Kong? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

(a) In striving to live or delay broadcast local sports matches, RTHK will consider factors including manpower, expenditure, technologies, broadcasting rights, and the internal guidelines on sponsorships (such as not involving commercial sponsorships), etc.

(b) In 2018-19, RTHK TV 32 had broadcast over 50 local sports matches, involving 8 different types of matches. The details are set out in the Annex. As for the broadcast of local football matches, as mentioned in (a), whether to live or delay broadcast sport matches involves different considerations. RTHK continues to actively liaise with relevant local sports organisations on the possibility of broadcasting various competitions.

- End -

Details of the Local Sports Matches Broadcast on RTHK TV 32 in 2018-19

Name of Sports Matches	First-run Period
Hong Kong Inter-School Basketball Marathon	6 July 2018 (1030 - 1800)(Live) 7 July 2018 (1000 - 1700)(Live)
Hong Kong Annual Badminton Championships	12 August 2018 (1430 - 1900)(Live)
Jockey Club Youth Football Academy Summit	14 August 2018 (1945 - 2200)(Live) 17 August 2018 (1745 - 2215)(Live)
37th Hong Kong Marathon Volleyball Tournament	7 October 2018 (1130 - 2000)(Live) 14 October 2018 (1130 - 1830)(Live)
Inter-School Table Tennis Competition	27 October 2018 (1300 - 1630)(Live)
Inter-School Badminton Competition	8 December 2018 (0830 - 1400)(Live)
World DanceSport Federation GrandSlam Hong Kong 2018	23 December 2018 (1300 - 1930)(Live)
Chinese New Year Cup 2019	5 February 2019 (1830 - 2250)(Recorded) 7 February 2019 (1600 - 2045)(Live)

Note: Commentators were arranged for all of the matches. The expenditure involved in broadcasting live or recorded local sports matches was absorbed from within existing resources. There was no individual breakdown of expenditure. Regarding the ratings, owing to the rapid development of technology and online platforms, as well as the changes in lifestyle, apart from watching TV programmes in real time on new media platforms, viewers can also catch up RTHK programmes via a variety of online platforms, resulting in a long tail effect. They can view the programmes through the mobile application “RTHK Screen”, RTHK’s webpage, YouTube channel, and specific Facebook Fan Pages. In 2018, the total accumulated number of views of RTHK’s TV programmes in cross-media platforms was approximately 153 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)065

(Question Serial No. 4407)

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:

(a) With the rising trend of schools using the Internet, the use of social platforms has become particularly popular, showing that it is an effective means to reach the users. "eTVonline" was launched and accounts on social media platforms were set up for it. In this connection, please inform the number of followers of "eTVonline" on Facebook, Instagram and Weibo.

(b) The daily page view of "eTVonline" reached 52 000 last year, but its daily archive access were only around 2 100. Were there any indicators for Radio Television Hong Kong to measure the effectiveness of promotion of "eTVonline"? If so, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

(a) As at 11 March 2019, the total number of followers of "eTVonline" on all its social media platforms was over 26 000.

(b) "eTVonline" is a thematic website established by RTHK. The website provides multimedia services related to education, including setting up of the "Liberal Studies" website and other educational websites, organising school activities related to Liberal Studies, family, media and civic education, producing recorded programmes of educational events and uploading them to relevant webpages, as well as setting up of webpages for inter-school competitions and sports matches and providing live streaming of the events, etc. "eTVonline" provides an archive of programmes as one of its website's services. In 2019-20, the performance indicators in "eTVonline" are "daily visits", "daily archive access" and "live webcast hours".

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)066

(Question Serial No. 1731)

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 rating 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, what was the number of output hours of first-run TV programmes of RTHK? What is the estimated number of output hours this year?

(c) 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 expenditure and staff establishment involved?

(d) 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 expenditure and staff establishment involved?

(e) In the past year, how many local sports events has RTHK broadcast live or recorded? What are the details? What is the expenditure involved? What was the number of viewers?

(f) 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 expenditure and staff establishment involved?

(g) In the coming year, will RTHK consider live broadcasting or relaying local sports events? If so, what are the details? What is the expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

(h) In the past year, how many TV programmes were acquired by RTHK? How many hours of such programmes were involved? What was the expenditure involved? Among the acquired programmes, how many of them are produced locally? How many are

produced overseas or in the Mainland? What was the expenditure involved in the acquired programmes produced locally?

(i) In the past year, how many programmes have been commissioned to local producers through TV programme commissioning? What was the expenditure involved?

(j) In the past year, what was the expenditure of RTHK involved in the takeover of the analogue spectrum freed by Asia Television Limited upon the expiry of its domestic free television programme service licence? What is the estimated expenditure of RTHK in operating the analogue spectrum in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

(a) According to the Charter of Radio Television Hong Kong, as a public service broadcaster, RTHK should provide TV services in areas not adequately provided by commercial broadcasters. This differentiates RTHK from commercial broadcasters in terms of programming. RTHK's TV services need to cater for the interests and needs of a broad spectrum of audiences as well as minority interest groups, promote education and cultures, provide timely public affairs programmes, offer a platform for information and discussion, encourage creativity and local original contents, as well as produce diversified programmes and programmes that serve minority interest groups, the conventional TV ratings is therefore not a major indicator for RTHK's performance.

The TV Programme Appreciation Index (A.I.) survey conducted by RTHK reflects the quality and recognition of its TV programmes. According to the latest survey for 2018, RTHK's programmes scored an annual average of 70.29, which was the highest average amongst all local stations (average was 67.65). Of the programmes with the top 20 A.I. scores, 10 were RTHK's productions.

Owing to the rapid development of technology and online platforms, as well as the changes in lifestyle, apart from watching RTHK programmes in real time on new media platforms, viewers can also access RTHK's programme archive via a variety of online platforms, resulting in a long tail effect. They can view our programmes through the mobile application "RTHK Screen", RTHK's webpage, YouTube channel, and specific Facebook Fan Pages. In 2018, the total accumulated number of views of RTHK TV programmes in cross-media platform was approximately 153 million.

Regarding the promotion and publicity of the RTHK digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels, the overall DTT coverage will reach 99 per cent of the Hong Kong population upon completion of all the transmitting stations in the first quarter of 2019. From time to time, RTHK employs various publicity measures such as press conferences, radio, TV, social media and community-based campaigns to promote RTHK TV channels and service reception. In the past year, the promotion vehicle of the "RTHK Mobile TV Campaign" approached the public in different districts, so as to introduce RTHK TV programmes and service coverage to the public directly.

- (b) In 2018-19, RTHK produced 1 569.7 hours of TV programmes. In 2019-20, the hours of output is estimated to be 1 778.
- (c) In 2018-19, RTHK produced 259 hours of arts and culture programmes. The expenditure involved was absorbed from within existing resources. There was no individual breakdown of expenditure and manpower.
- (d) In 2018-19, RTHK produced a total of 17 hours of the magazine programme “830 Magazine – Sports & Exercises”, featuring the topic of sports and exercises. The expenditure involved was absorbed from within existing resources. There was no individual breakdown of expenditure and manpower.
- (e) In 2018-19, over 50 live and recorded local sports matches were broadcast on RTHK TV 32, including inter-school badminton, basketball and table tennis competitions, the Hong Kong Annual Badminton Championships, the Jockey Club Youth Football Academy Summit, the 37th Hong Kong Marathon Volleyball Tournament, the World DanceSport Federation GrandSlam Hong Kong 2018, and the Chinese New Year Cup 2019. The expenditure involved in live and delay broadcast of sports matches was absorbed from within existing resources. There was no individual breakdown of expenditure and manpower.
- (f) In 2019-20, on the arts and culture programmes, “Young Music Maker” enables young musicians to demonstrate their talent; commissioned programme “New Talent Drama” provides a platform for the first-time directors to create and have their works broadcast. RTHK will continue to produce “Arts On-air” and broadcast classical music, opera, stage drama and dance performances; “The Works”, “Chinese Works” and “Artspiration”, which have been produced for a long time, will continue to provide the audience with highlights of visual and performing arts, excerpts of literary and artistic creation, information and reviews, as well as the introduction of profiles of contemporary artists.
- As for sports programmes, RTHK will produce a one-hour programme every week to provide audience with local sports news of the week and information on sports, so as to familiarise the audience with local athletes and sports development. The expenditure involved in producing arts and culture as well as sports programmes will be absorbed from within existing resources. There is no individual breakdown of expenditure and manpower.
- (g) In 2019-20, RTHK will continue to broadcast various kinds of live and recorded sports matches, including the 7th Hong Kong Games Final. RTHK is now liaising with relevant sports organisations the possibility of broadcasting various competitions. No less than 60 live or recorded matches are planned to be broadcast. The expenditure involved will be absorbed from within existing resources. There is no individual breakdown of expenditure and manpower.
- (h) In 2018-19, RTHK acquired 519 episodes of programmes, which accounted for around 305 hours. The average expenditure of acquired programmes was around \$118,300 per hour. The percentages of acquired programmes produced overseas and in the Mainland were 94.2% and 3.2% respectively, while 2.6% were produced locally.

(i) In 2018-19, the output of commissioned programmes of RTHK accounted for 42.5 hours and the expenditure involved was around \$15.22 million.

(j) In 2018-19, as RTHK took over the analogue spectrum vacated by the Asia Television Limited after the expiry of its domestic free television programme service licence, the expenditure incurred was about \$57 million. The estimated expenditure on analogue broadcasting service is about \$45 million in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)067****(Question Serial No. 2348)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: ()Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has to fulfil its mission as a public service broadcaster. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) Up until now, the 3 existing RTHK buildings on the Broadcast Drive have been in service for nearly 40 years. In the past 5 years, how many maintenance works have been carried out? And what was the amount of public funds involved?

In 2018-19:

Details of Maintenance Works	Duration of Maintenance Works	Details of Services Affected / Damaged Equipment	Expenditure

(b) The New Broadcasting House project of RTHK was rejected by the Public Works Subcommittee of this Committee in 2014. What is the current progress of the project? In the past 4 years, how many departmental meetings had the Government convened on the project? Will the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) devise a timetable for the New Broadcasting House project of RTHK?

Earlier on, the Director of Audit's Report No. 71 stipulated the following issues concerning RTHK's provision of programmes after carrying out an audit review. The report mainly included the following problems of RTHK: low TV ratings and low listenership, too many re-run programmes and miscellaneous contents, and the higher percentage of non-civil service contract staff compared with other government departments. The RTHK Programme Staff Union reiterated in its reply that the programme staff had to deal with a heavy workload while the resources were insufficient. In this regard:

(c) The overall estimated expenditure of RTHK for 2019-20 has been reduced instead of being increased. Has CEDB turned a blind eye to the difficulties faced by RTHK?

(d) Will CEDB allocate more resources to RTHK for improving its public broadcasting services? If so, what are the timetable and scale? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

(a) In the past 5 years, a total of 246 maintenance works were carried out on the 3 buildings of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) on Broadcast Drive, involving a total expenditure of about \$31.97 million. The details are as follows –

Details of Maintenance Works (Building(s) Involved, Maintenance Item(s) and Number of Works)	Duration of Maintenance Works	Details of Services Affected / Damaged Equipment	Expenditure
2014-15			
<u>Broadcasting House (BH)</u> Electrical and mechanical (E&M) works: 13 Waterworks: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 19	Simple and urgent maintenance works could be completed within 1 day; Time required for normal to major maintenance works ranged from about 3 days to 3 months	None	\$2.84 million
<u>Television House (TVH)</u> E&M works: 8 Waterworks: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 4		None	\$1.81 million
<u>Educational Television Centre (ETC)</u> E&M works: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 2		None	\$230,000
<u>BH and TVH</u> E&M works: 1		None	\$240,000
<u>BH and ETC</u> E&M works: 1		None	\$200,000

Details of Maintenance Works (Building(s) Involved, Maintenance Item(s) and Number of Works)	Duration of Maintenance Works	Details of Services Affected / Damaged Equipment	Expenditure
2015-16			
<u>BH</u> E&M works: 12 Waterworks: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 5	Simple and urgent maintenance works could be completed within 1 day; Time required for normal to major maintenance works ranged from about 3 days to 3 months	None	\$1.7 million
<u>TVH</u> E&M works: 8 Waterworks: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 2		None	\$2.5 million
<u>ETC</u> E&M works: 5 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$460,000
2016-17			
<u>BH</u> E&M works: 20 Waterworks: 5 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 12	Simple and urgent maintenance works could be completed within 1 day; Time required for normal to major maintenance works ranged from about 3 days to 3 months	None	\$7.57 million
<u>TVH</u> E&M works: 9 Waterworks: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 5		None	\$1.7 million
<u>ETC</u> E&M works: 4 Waterworks: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$250,000
<u>BH, TVH and ETC</u> E&M works: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$960,000

Details of Maintenance Works (Building(s) Involved, Maintenance Item(s) and Number of Works)	Duration of Maintenance Works	Details of Services Affected / Damaged Equipment	Expenditure
2017-18			
<u>BH</u> E&M works: 12 Waterworks: 5 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 14	Simple and urgent maintenance works could be completed within 1 day; Time required for normal to major maintenance works ranged from about 3 days to 3 months	None	\$3.63 million
<u>TVH</u> E&M works: 9 Waterworks: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 6		None	\$3.04 million
<u>ETC</u> E&M works: 5		None	\$820,000
<u>BH and TVH</u> E&M works: 2 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$120,000
<u>BH and ETC</u> E&M works: 3		None	\$300,000
<u>TVH and ETC</u> E&M works: 1		None	\$30,000
<u>BH, TVH and ETC</u> E&M works: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 2		None	\$440,000
2018-19 (up to 31 December)			
<u>BH</u> E&M works: 4 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 12	Simple and urgent maintenance works could be completed within 1 day; Time required for normal to major maintenance works ranged from about 3 days to 3 months	None	\$1.81 million
<u>TVH</u> E&M works: 3 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 4		None	\$370,000

Details of Maintenance Works (Building(s) Involved, Maintenance Item(s) and Number of Works)	Duration of Maintenance Works	Details of Services Affected / Damaged Equipment	Expenditure
<u>ETC</u> Waterworks: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 2		None	\$580,000
<u>BH and TVH</u> E&M works: 1		None	\$50,000
<u>BH and ETC</u> Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$10,000
<u>TVH and ETC</u> E&M works: 3		None	\$220,000
<u>BH, TVH and ETC</u> E&M works: 1 Building maintenance works (involving the building itself, including painting, wall repair, etc.): 1		None	\$90,000
Total: 246		--	--

(b) With the assistance of the Architectural Services Department, RTHK is currently in negotiation with several departments which have indicated their interest in the joint-user building on their respective requirements, as well as project design and planning. RTHK will take forward the New Broadcasting House (New BH) project in accordance with the established mechanism, and there is no definite timetable at this stage.

In the past 4 years, RTHK had had 18 meetings with other departments regarding the review and planning on the New BH project.

(c) & (d) In 2019-20, the estimated provision for RTHK is \$8.6 million (+0.8%) higher than the 2018-19 original estimate. In terms of civil service establishment, the net increase is 17 posts (+2.3%).

The Government attaches importance to public service broadcasting, and has all along been allocating a lot of resources to RTHK for its radio, TV and new media services, as well as the implementation of various new development plans. In 2019-20, the estimated expenditure of RTHK is \$1.0211 billion, which is more than double the actual expenditure of \$469.9 million (+117%) for 2010-11. Regarding the civil service establishment, there will be 755 posts in RTHK in 2019-20, representing an increase of 232 posts (+44%) when compared to the 523 posts in 2010-11.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)068****(Question Serial No. 3539)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

(a) Please provide information in respect of the numbers of different kinds of equipment of Radio Television Hong Kong versus their used periods (below 5 years, 5-10 years, 11-20 years, over 20 years) and their respective proportion of the total number of equipment.

(b) In the past 5 years, what was the annual expenditure on maintenance?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)Reply:

(a) As at March 2019, the total number of equipment of Radio Television Hong Kong related to broadcasting service is 28 964. Distribution of the respective numbers of those equipment across different used periods is as follows:

Used Period	Number of Equipment	Percentage (%) of Total Number
Below 5 Years	8 687	30
5-10 Years	12 081	41.7
11-20 Years	4 222	14.6
Over 20 Years	3 974	13.7
Total	28 964	100

(b) In the past 5 years, the annual expenditure on the maintenance of the equipment is as follows:

Year	Expenditure on Maintenance (\$million)
2014-15	4.49
2015-16	7.15
2016-17	8.30
2017-18	10.77
2018-19 (Revised Estimate)	14.33

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)069

(Question Serial No. 1785)

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:

The budgets of radio and TV services of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) for 2019-20 are 2.4% and 2% lower than those for 2018-19 respectively. Would the Government please inform the following:

- (a) The Government stated that the main reasons for the decrease in budget for those 2 areas were decreases in operating expenditure and capital expenditure. What are the details?
- (b) In order to take forward the recommendations set out in Director of Audit's Report No. 71 regarding RTHK's provision of programmes, what are the adjustments in the budgets of RTHK's radio and TV services? What are the plans, contents and timetable for taking forward the relevant recommendations?
- (c) How is the progress of the study on constructing RTHK's New Broadcasting House? What are the next steps and timetable?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

(a) In 2019-20, the estimated provision for RTHK is \$8.6 million (+0.8%) higher than the 2018-19 original estimate. In terms of civil service establishment, the net increase is 17 posts (+2.3%).

Regarding Programme (1) Radio, the estimated provision for 2019-20 is lower as compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19, which is mainly due to the completion of some improvement projects on radio studios and transmitting stations, resulting in a decrease in capital expenditure. As for Programme (2) Public Affairs and General Television Programme, the reduction in provision is mainly due to the decrease in the technical cost for the transmission of analogue TV service.

(b) RTHK will take forward the recommendations set out in Director of Audit's Report No. 71 from within our existing resources and manpower. RTHK will implement the improvement measures in phases and report progress to the Public Accounts Committee at a regular interval.

(c) With the assistance of the Architectural Services Department, RTHK is currently in negotiation with several departments which have indicated their interest in the joint-user building on their respective requirements, as well as project design and planning. RTHK will take forward the New Broadcasting House project in accordance with the established mechanism, and there is no definite timetable at this stage.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)070****(Question Serial No. 2205)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Public Affairs and General Television ProgrammeControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

Regarding the TV programmes acquired by Radio Television Hong Kong, will the Government inform this Committee of the types of the programmes acquired in 2018-19 in the following table:

Types of Acquired Programmes	Number of Programmes	Hours of Programmes
Special Interests Group (including Elderly, Minorities and the Underprivileged)		
Youth and Children		
Arts and Culture		
Civic Education		
Continuing Education		
Mainland Affairs		

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)Reply:

The types of programmes acquired in 2018-2019 are as follows:

Types of Acquired Programmes	Number of Programmes	Hours of Programmes
Special interests groups (including elderly, minorities and the underprivileged)	-	-
Youth and children	265 episodes	55
Arts and culture	30 episodes	40
Civic education	21 episodes	21
Continuing education	159 episodes	157
Mainland affairs	44 episodes	32

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)071

(Question Serial No. 2255)

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:

As stated under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20" in the Controlling Officer's Report, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will take forward the relevant Audit recommendations set out in Director of Audit's Report No. 71. Please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) Has RTHK changed its practice and switched to acquiring programmes by tender? If so, when did the change start, and how many programmes have been acquired by tender so far? If not, when will the practice be changed?
- (b) Has RTHK improved on the issue of repetitive re-run programmes and reduced the amount of miscellaneous contents broadcast? If so, what is the result? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) What measures have been taken to improve low TV ratings? What are the details and timetable?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 203)

Reply:

(a) RTHK agrees with the recommendations of the Audit Report and will proactively take follow-up actions by reviewing the acquisition procedures of TV and radio programmes. RTHK is currently seeking the advice of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB) on whether the acquisition of programmes falls within the definition of procurement. Upon receiving FSTB's reply, RTHK will follow up accordingly.

(b) RTHK will increase its output of first-run TV programmes from 1 569.7 hours in 2018-19 to 1 778 hours in 2019-20. Starting from 1 April 2019, RTHK TV 31 will provide 24-hour broadcast. Specific contents of the programmes provided will correspond to the programming nature stipulated in the Controlling Officer's Report namely current affairs, special interests groups (including elderly, minorities and the underprivileged),

youth and children, arts and culture, civic education, continuing education and Mainland affairs. RTHK TV 32 will continue to broadcast more local sports matches, international news, as well as highlights on international sports matches, with a view to increasing first-run programme hours. RTHK will also devise a clearer and more systematic programming strategy for re-run programmes.

(c) Regarding the ratings of RTHK TV 31 / 31A, RTHK will conduct a survey in 2019-20 to ascertain the reasons for low TV ratings. On the basis of the survey's results, RTHK will explore ways to enhance the ratings and to take forward corresponding measures to improve the services. In addition, RTHK will make use of existing resources to enhance the promotion and publicity of the programmes, so as to attract more viewers to watch RTHK programmes.

According to the Charter of Radio Television Hong Kong, as a public service broadcaster, RTHK should provide TV services in areas not adequately provided by commercial broadcasters, and cater for the interests and needs of minority interest groups. Meanwhile, in light of the recommendations of the Audit Report, RTHK will review its production strategy according to the above-mentioned survey, so as to cater for the interests of a broad spectrum of audiences as well as minority interest groups.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)072

(Question Serial No. 0708)

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:

According to the estimate of Radio Television Hong Kong, the cost per hour per section (\$) will decrease in the new financial year, except for public and current affairs. What are the reasons for the decrease in production costs? How are the production costs calculated? In comparison with other commercial broadcasters, are the productions cost-effective?

As for the increase in cost per hour from \$376,400 to \$389,900 for public and current affairs programmes, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

In 2019-20, the estimated costs per hour for the acquisition section, educational (non-school) section and general section decrease by about 17%, 17% and 15% respectively as compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19. It is mainly due to the increase in the number of programme hours with similar financial provision.

The cost per hour is worked out on the basis of the total expenditure of each section, including the Operating Account and the Capital Account, and the number of programme hours produced in the year by the section. Since Radio Television Hong Kong does not have the cost information of other commercial broadcasters, we are unable to make a comparison in this regard.

The estimated cost per hour for programmes produced by the public and current affairs section in 2019-20 is about 4% higher than the revised estimate for 2018-19 as more overseas filming would be involved in the production of special programmes planned for 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)073

(Question Serial No. 0709)

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:

The daily broadcast on RTHK TV 31 will be extended from the existing 0630-2530 hours to 24 hours. What are the manpower and related expenditure required for this arrangement? What are the specific contents and categories of the programmes provided for the 24-hour broadcasting? And what is the ratio of the self-produced programmes to the acquired programmes?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

The specific contents of the programmes for 24-hour broadcasting on Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) TV 31 will correspond to the programming nature stipulated in the Controlling Officer's Report, namely current affairs, special interests groups (including elderly, minorities and the underprivileged), youth and children, arts and culture, civic education, continuing education and Mainland affairs. In 2019-20, RTHK's in-house produced programmes and acquired programmes account for about 80% and 20% of the total number of programmes respectively, and the ratio will be adjusted if required.

The expenditure involved in RTHK's extension of daily broadcast to 24 hours will be absorbed from within the existing resources. There is no individual breakdown of expenditure.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)074****(Question Serial No. 2669)**Head: (160) Radio Television Hong KongSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting (LEUNG Ka Wing)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

In respect of the staffing and equipment of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), please provide the following information –

- (a) The posts and number of additional staff recruited by RTHK in the previous financial year in tabular form;
- (b) The posts and number of staff who left RTHK in the previous financial year in tabular form;
- (c) The posts and number of staff RTHK plans to recruit in this financial year in tabular form;
- (d) The types, quantities and prices of equipment purchased by RTHK in the previous financial year in tabular form;
- (e) The types and quantities of equipment RTHK plans to purchase in this financial year and the budget involved in tabular form.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)Reply:

- (a) In 2018-19, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) had an increase of 7 civil service (CS) posts, including 3 additional posts and 4 posts for replacing corresponding non-civil service contract positions which have a long-term need. The breakdown by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Posts
Senior Programme Officer	1
Programme Officer	1
Assistant Programme Officer	3
Programme Assistant	1
Senior Technical Officer	1
Total:	7

(b) In 2018-19 (up to 28 February 2019), a total of 36 CS staff left RTHK. The breakdown by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Staff
Deputy Director of Broadcasting	1
Controller (Broadcasting Services)	1
Chief Programme Officer	1
Principal Programme Officer	2
Senior Programme Officer	4
Programme Officer	8
Assistant Programme Officer	7
Programme Assistant	1
Ranks in Other Grades	11
Total:	36

(c) In 2019-20, RTHK will have a net increase of 17 non-directorate CS posts (create 20 new posts and delete 3 time-limited posts).

The 20 posts to be created in 2019-20 will include 4 additional posts and 16 posts for replacing corresponding non-civil service contract positions which have a long-term need. The breakdown of the 20 posts mentioned above by rank is as follows:

Ranks	Number of Posts
Principal Programme Officer	1
Programme Officer	1
Assistant Programme Officer	5
Telecommunications Engineer / Assistant Telecommunications Engineer	3
Principal Technical Officer	3
Senior Technical Officer	6
Senior Artisan	1
Total:	20

(d) In 2018-19, the total expenditure on the acquisition of major equipment is approximately \$55 million, and the details are as follows:

- Refurbishment of the aged radio telephone booth to maintain its continued operation.
- Replacement of the aged satellite dish at the Broadcasting House to maintain the reception quality of satellite signals.
- Acquisition of video server for live subtitle with live edit feature and the second TV copies system to cope with the work flow of TV tapeless production, and to provide geographical backup for media files.

- Enhancement of the existing on-air operation system and its automated functions to improve the efficiency of programme scheduling.
- Establishment of fill-in stations for the digital terrestrial television (DTT) service to provide comprehensive coverage of DTT service.
- Enhancement of air-conditioning equipment and electrical facilities for TV transmitting stations to maintain continued and stable operation of the transmitting stations.
- Replacement and enhancement of equipment and facilities for AM radio transmitting stations to maintain continued and effective operation of the transmitting stations.
- Replacement of transmitters for FM radio transmitting stations at Mt Gough and Lamma Island to maintain continued and effective operation of the transmitting stations.
- Enhancement and refurbishment of video news production system and continuity studios to increase the efficiency of video news production and live broadcast.
- Enhancement and refurbishment of intercom system for broadcasting and production, video server network system, as well as production network security system to provide the necessary digital infrastructure for broadcasting and production.

(e) In 2019-20, the total provision reserved for the acquisition of major equipment is approximately \$44 million, and the details are as follows:

- Upgrading and enhancement of the backup system for transmitting equipment, network management and monitoring system, air-conditioning equipment, electrical facilities, and generator system of DTT transmitting stations, to provide continued and stable TV transmitting signals, and to ensure continued and stable operation of the transmitting stations.
- Enhancement of production equipment for DTT service and remote control system of video news, to increase the efficiency of programme production, playout and associated work flow systems.
- Improvement of building service facilities for AM radio transmitting station to maintain continued and effective operation of the transmitting station.
- Enhancement of the transmitting equipment of FM radio transmitting stations at Cloudy Hill and Kowloon Peak, to maintain continued and effective operation of the transmitters.
- Refurbishment of Television House Studio 2 and digital TV encoding system, to maintain the continued operation of the studio and signal transmission.

- Replacement of storage nodes of production storage and production server farm, to maintain the necessary digital infrastructure for broadcasting and production.
- Replacement and expansion of the news post-production system, archive system for news and public affairs, and the relevant uninterruptible power supply system, to provide a continued and stable operation environment and increase the production efficiency of radio news.
- Refurbishment of radio continuity studios to maintain their continued operation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)075

(Question Serial No. 0451)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

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

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

The aim of the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) is to enforce a system of film classification according to the Film Censorship Ordinance (Cap. 392) through a censorship scheme which meets the needs and reflects the moral standards of the community; to control, together with the Police and the Customs and Excise Department, the publication of obscene and indecent articles by enforcing the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (Cap. 390); and to register local newspapers under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance (Cap. 268). Would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Regarding the film classifications conducted by OFNAA last year, what were the respective numbers of films classified as Category I, Category II and Category III? Did the manpower resources required vary in each category of film?
- (b) Of the estimated financial provision of \$51.6 million, how much will be spent on the manpower resources arrangement?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- (a) In 2018, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) examined a total of 2 499 films which required classification, with breakdown by category as follows -

Category I: 871
Category IIA: 834
Category IIB: 620

Category III: 174

The Film Censorship Authority arranges staff to carry out examination, classification and related work for each film in accordance with the Film Censorship Ordinance. This manpower arrangement applies to films of all categories.

- (b) In the estimates of OFNAA for 2019-20, the expenditure on staff salaries and related expenses is about \$42 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)076

(Question Serial No. 5078)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

(a) Please provide in tabular form the numbers of inspections conducted by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration at various locations to regulate the publication and public display of obscene and indecent articles under the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, and the expenditure and number of staff involved in the past 5 years.

(b) Please provide in tabular form the numbers of films and publications examined by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration in the past 5 years.

(c) Please provide in tabular form the number of complaints concerning obscene and indecent articles received by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration, the number of substantiated complaints and the number of cases against which enforcement actions were taken in the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

(a) The number of inspections conducted by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) for enforcing the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO) in the past 5 years is as follows -

Year	Number of inspections
2014	72 848
2015	72 818
2016	72 608
2017	72 616
2018	72 612

The inspection work constitutes part of the duties of the officers concerned. OFNAA does not have a breakdown of the operational expenses involved in carrying out such work.

- (b) The number of films examined by OFNAA in accordance with the Film Censorship Ordinance in the past 5 years is as follows –

Year	Total number of films examined
2014	13 301
2015	13 494
2016	13 327
2017	10 724
2018	11 306

For publications, under the COIAO, whether an article is obscene or indecent is determined by the Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT). The OAT is part of the Judiciary. OFNAA does not have any power to classify articles.

- (c) The number of complaints concerning obscene and indecent articles received by OFNAA and the number of cases for which relevant follow-up actions were taken in the past 5 years are as follows –

Year	Number of complaints received	Number of substantiated complaints	Number of cases for which enforcement actions were taken (Note)
2014	432	1	1
2015	286	5 (involving 5 cases)	2
2016	334	210 (involving 6 cases)	4
2017	178	7 (involving 7 cases)	6
2018	117	10 (involving 10 cases)	8

Note: The difference between the number of substantiated complaints and the number of cases for which enforcement actions were taken is mainly due to the fact that for cases involving indecent articles found on the Internet, either warning notices had been

added to the articles, or the articles had been removed in accordance with the Code of Practice jointly drawn up by OFNAA and the Hong Kong Internet Service Providers Association. There were also cases where the indecent matters in public display had already been removed when OFNAA took follow- up actions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)077

(Question Serial No. 6295)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please set out the number of members of the Panel of Film Censorship Advisers last year and the proportion of members of the public therein.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 344)

Reply:

The Panel of Film Censorship Advisers (the "Panel") is established under section 6 of the Film Censorship Ordinance. In 2018-19, the Panel consisted of about 300 members. All of them were members of the public.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)078

(Question Serial No. 0847)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The information of members of the Panel of Film Censorship Advisers in the past 10 years in tabular form.

Occupational Background	Source of Membership	Reason for Withdrawal

- (b) What percentage of them applied to be a member of the Panel voluntarily?
- (c) What measures have been taken to attract more members of the public to apply voluntarily?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

- (a)&(b) The Panel of Film Censorship Advisers (the "Panel") is established under section 6 of the Film Censorship Ordinance (Ordinance), with members appointed by the Film Censorship Authority.

The Panel consists of about 300 members, with male and female members in equal proportion. All members are aged 18 or above. The age distribution of members reflects the local demographic data published by the Census and Statistics Department. Members come from all walks of life, including the fields of accountancy, construction and engineering, commercial, catering, public service, education, financial, information technology, legal, property management and social work sectors. There are also retirees, housewives and students.

Members of the Panel are selected from the public who have submitted their applications, as well as from the Government's database of those who have expressed interest in joining advisory/statutory bodies.

The Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (OFNAA) has not compiled any statistics on the occupation, source of appointment or reason for departure of individual members of the Panel. With a view to protecting personal data, OFNAA will dispose of the information on members after their service with the Panel.

- (c) OFNAA has been promoting the Panel to the public through various channels and encouraging them to apply. Such means include -
- (1) producing posters and leaflets and providing application forms for public information and collection at OFNAA and District Offices;
 - (2) providing relevant information and application form on OFNAA's webpage for public viewing and downloading; and
 - (3) promoting the Panel and encouraging interested and suitable persons to apply during the public education activities organised by OFNAA.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)079

(Question Serial No. 4083)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

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

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2018, the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration continued to promote public awareness of the protection of youth from indecent and obscene materials. In this regard, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In the past 3 years, how many talks and workshops were organised in each district, and what were the objectives of the talks and the age of the participants?
- (b) What principles and criteria have been adopted for selecting filtering software for promotion?
- (c) The names and quantities of the free filtering software distributed to parents, and the expenditure involved.
- (d) How to assess the effectiveness and how to check whether the distributed software has been activated?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

- (a) The Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (“OFNAA”) organised 228, 234 and 246 talks and workshops in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively to promote the safe and smart use of the Internet and the use of filtering software. Participants of the talks and workshops were mainly primary and secondary students and parents.
- (b)&(c) OFNAA purchased the filtering software from suppliers in accordance with the Government’s procurement procedures, with the requirement that the software must be able to filter objectionable websites and applications. In 2018,

OFNAA distributed about 1 400 sets of filtering software to parents, involving an expenditure of around \$150,000.

- (d) The various talks and workshops organised by OFNAA were well received by participants, with positive feedback from participating parents on the arrangement of distributing filtering software. The foregoing reflected the effectiveness of the above activities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CEDB(CCI)080****(Question Serial No. 4088)**Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article AdministrationSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic DevelopmentQuestion:

With regard to the Meritorious Websites Contest and the Healthy Apps Contest, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The expenditure items involved in organising the Meritorious Websites Contest and the Healthy Apps Contest in the past 3 years in tabular form.
- (b) The ways and indicators for assessing the effectiveness of the activities.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)Reply:

- (a) The annual total expenditure for the Meritorious Websites Contest and the Healthy Apps Contest organised by the Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration ("OFNAA") from 2016 to 2018 is as follows -

Year	Total expenditure (Note)
2016	About \$1,000,000
2017	About \$850,000
2018	About \$890,000

Note: The implementation of the activities straddled 2 calendar years. The column on total expenditure reflects the actual expenses of the activities in the respective years. The total expenditure includes the expenses for engaging contractors to design, develop and manage the dedicated websites of the activities and conducting roving exhibitions in various districts, but excludes the salaries of the staff concerned. Since organisation of activities constitutes part of the duties of the staff concerned, OFNAA does not have a breakdown of the expenses on staff salaries for carrying out such work.

- (b) The Meritorious Websites Contest and the Healthy Apps Contest have been well received by the public since their launch. A large number of participants attended these activities and the number of participants is on the rise recently. This indicates the effectiveness of the above activities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)081

(Question Serial No. 4932)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the number of films classified as Category III solely because of the use of vulgar language in 2017-18 and 2018-19, and tabulate the vulgar expressions as well as the frequency of their use in the films.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

In 2017-18 and 2018-19 (up to 28 February 2019), there were respectively 6 and 8 films classified as Category III films solely for the extensive use of vulgar language (particularly the use of Cantonese vulgar terms relating to sex organs). The duration of these films ranged from 17 to 93 minutes, during which vulgar language was used 11 to 57 times.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CEDB(CCI)082

(Question Serial No. 4933)

Head: (180) Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Film Classification, Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles and Newspaper Registration

Controlling Officer: Director of Film, Newspaper and Article Administration (Miss Agnes WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Regarding the power of members of the Panel of Film Censorship Advisers, LIU Ka-man (廖嘉汶), a member during 2018-12, raised the following concerns:

- (I) The discussion time after viewing a film was about 5 minutes, which was too short.
- (II) Panel members wrote down on the questionnaire the classification for a film without being required to provide any justifications.
- (III) Even if Panel members pointed out the problematic shots, their opinions were just for censors' reference as the decisions on classification were largely made by the censors.

Please inform this Committee how to improve the situation.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

Pursuant to the Film Censorship Ordinance (Ordinance), the Film Censorship Authority may arrange members of the Panel of Film Censorship Advisers ("Panel members") to provide their opinions to a censor assigned by the Film Censorship Authority on whether a film submitted for examination and classification is suitable for public exhibition and its classification.

In accordance with the established practice, the censor and the Panel members will examine the film together and discuss the suitability of the film for public exhibition, its classification and the relevant considerations. No time limit is set for the discussion. The discussion time for each film will depend on the circumstances of each case. To facilitate discussion and for record purpose, a form will be distributed to the Panel members for them to provide their opinions in writing, including the suggested classification and the reasons, and whether excision is required. The censor will consolidate and balance the views of

different Panel members, and give holistic consideration and make a decision on the classification of the film and the excision required (where applicable), in accordance with the Ordinance, the relevant film censorship guidelines and the prevailing classification standards.

To gauge the views of the public on the film classification system, and to ensure that the film classification standards reflect the prevailing standards of the public, OFNAA commissions independent consultancy companies to conduct surveys from time to time. The latest survey was conducted in 2017-18, revealing that over 70% of the respondents considered the current film classification standards to be appropriate.

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