

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 627/18-19

**Paper for the House Committee meeting
of 24 May 2019**

**Questions scheduled for the
Legislative Council meeting of 29 May 2019**

Questions by:

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|------|--|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon SHIU Ka-chun | (Oral reply) |
| (2) | Hon Wilson OR | (Oral reply) |
| | <i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | |
| (3) | Hon CHU Hoi-dick | (Oral reply) |
| (4) | Hon AU Nok-hin | (Oral reply) |
| (5) | Hon Holden CHOW | (Oral reply) |
| (6) | Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG | (Oral reply) |
| (7) | Hon CHAN Kin-por | (Written reply) |
| (8) | Hon Mrs Regina IP | (Written reply) |
| (9) | Hon Dennis KWOK | (Written reply) |
| (10) | Hon Tony TSE | (Written reply) |
| (11) | Hon WU Chi-wai | (Written reply) |
| (12) | Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT | (Written reply) |
| (13) | Hon Kenneth LEUNG | (Written reply) |
| (14) | Hon Andrew WAN | (Written reply) |
| | <i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | |
| (15) | Hon Charles Peter MOK | (Written reply) |
| (16) | Hon Paul TSE | (Written reply) |
| | <i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | |
| (17) | Hon Jimmy NG | (Written reply) |
| (18) | Hon CHAN Hak-kan | (Written reply) |
| (19) | Hon LUK Chung-hung | (Written reply) |
| (20) | Hon SHIU Ka-fai | (Written reply) |
| | <i>(Replacing his previous question)</i> | |
| (21) | Hon Holden CHOW | (Written reply) |
| | <i>(Hon HUI Chi-fung
has given up the question slot)</i> | |
| (22) | Hon Wilson OR | (Written reply) |

Question 2
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Regulation of the sale of residential units by way of tender

Hon Wilson OR to ask:

It has been reported that recently, some units of a residential development were offered for sale by way of tender. According to the tender results, a certain unit was sold unexpectedly at a price of \$470,000 higher than that of another unit with the same orientation and size but 12 storeys higher, which was sold on the same day, and five other units with the same size and orientation but on different floors were sold surprisingly at the same price. There are comments that the sale of units by way of tender has resulted in a lack of information transparency, thereby placing prospective purchasers in an unfavourable position. Besides, as the payment terms drawn up by developers are multifarious, it is difficult to calculate their cash equivalents, rendering the “transaction prices” shown on the registers of transactions (“RT”) unable to reflect the actual prices at which the units were sold. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it will consider, by making amendments to the Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance, stepping up the regulation of the sale of residential units by way of tender, e.g. requiring that only units larger than a certain size may be sold by way of tender, and no more than a certain proportion of the units of a development may be sold by way of tender; and
- (2) given that although developers are required to set out, in the RT of developments, the payment terms for the units sold (including any discount on the price as well as any gift, financial advantage or benefit offered to the purchaser), it is difficult for ordinary prospective purchasers to compare the payment terms across different developments and different units, whether the Government will require developers to make public in the RT the cash equivalents of the payment terms calculated in accordance with a prescribed formula, so as to make it easier for prospective purchasers to grasp the actual prices at which the various units were sold?

Question 14
(For written reply)

Determining the English names for
public places and facilities, streets and government buildings

Hon Andrew WAN to ask:

The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (“WKCD”) has earlier determined the English name for the newly completed “戲曲中心” which is situated in the West Kowloon Cultural District as “Xiqu Centre”. Instead of adopting the commonly used term “opera” to refer to “戲曲”, the term “Xiqu” (Hanyu Pinyin for “戲曲”) is used in that English name. However, quite a number of visitors to Hong Kong, as well as local people who are ethnic Chinese and those who are not non-ethnic Chinese, have relayed to me that they have no idea of what “Xiqu Centre” means. Some members of the public have pointed out that the naming of “Xiqu Centre” has deviated from the Government’s established practice for determining the English names for streets and buildings in Hong Kong, i.e. using the Cantonese transliterations of their Chinese names or English terms with the same meaning. Besides, the term “中國戲曲” has been invariably translated as “Chinese Opera” on a number of webpages of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and on the printed materials for activities and exhibitions held by it. On the other hand, the term “opera” is widely used in the Chinese communities. For instances, the term “戲曲” is translated as “opera” by the relevant organizations in places such as Beijing and Singapore. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) given that it is uncommon to see English names of local buildings comprising Hanyu Pinyin, whether it knows the specific reasons for WKCD to adopt “Xiqu Centre” as the English name for “戲曲中心”;
- (2) whether it will request WKCD to consider changing the English name for “戲曲中心” to “Chinese Opera Centre”, or adding “Chinese Opera Centre” to its English name by way of a note, so that people from different sectors can have a clearer idea about the functions of the venue;
- (3) of the existing policies on as well as criteria and procedure for determining the English names for public places and facilities and government buildings; the public places and facilities as well as government buildings whose English names comprise Hanyu Pinyin; and
- (4) whether it will adopt Hanyu Pinyin in determining the English names for public places and facilities, streets and government buildings in future; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that,

and whether the fact that the English name for “戲曲中心” has given rise to controversies is one of the reasons?

Question 16
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Monitoring the administration of estates for charitable purposes

Hon Paul TSE to ask:

The estate of the late Mrs Nina WANG comprises the Chinachem Group with a net asset value of as high as HK\$137 billion as at August last year. The Court of Final Appeal handed down a judgement in 2015, which held that the Chinachem Charitable Foundation (the “Foundation”) was to hold the estate as a trustee rather than as a beneficiary which had received it as an unconditional absolute gift, and requested the Department of Justice to establish a supervisory managing organization to ensure that the Foundation would operate in accordance with the testamentary intention of Mrs WANG and use the estate for charitable purposes. So far, the incumbent Secretary for Justice (“SJ”) and her predecessors have not submitted to the court any plan for establishing the supervisory managing organization. Furthermore, recently, SJ has been alleged to have failed to fulfill her duty as the protector of charities for having mishandled the over HK\$10 billion estate for charitable purposes of the late “tycoon of hourly-rated hotels”, and a lawsuit has been filed against SJ in a bid to holding her accountable. On the other hand, it has been reported that the Executive Committee of the Chinachem Group (“ECCG”), which is under the direction of the interim administrator (“the administrator”) of the estate of Mrs WANG, recently relieved the duties of one of the members of the trustee on grounds that the person in question was allegedly involved in false investment projects on the Mainland and had allegedly divulged papers on ECCG making “abnormal termination payment” to the former chief executive officer of the Group. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has inquired into the various acts, in which the trustee and the administrator were alleged to have been involved, of improper use of the assets of the Foundation; if so, of the outcome, if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) whether, in view of the concerns of the media and the community regarding whether the estate of Mrs WANG has been misappropriated, it will make public the expenditures of the Foundation; if it will not, of any credible means in place to convince members of the public that the Government can effectively monitor the operation of the Foundation;
- (3) of the reasons why the incumbent SJ and her predecessors have so far not formulated any plan for establishing a supervisory managing

organization for the Foundation; when the aforesaid estate can formally be used for charitable purposes;

- (4) as it has been reported that an estate management fee of as high as HK\$60 million per annum is being charged by the administrator, and that over HK\$200 million have been charged since 2015, whether the Government has assessed the aggregated amount of management fees to be charged by the administrator before the estate can formally be used for charitable purposes;
- (5) as it has been reported that SJ is considering a request of the Foundation for replacing the administrator, of the outcome of SJ's consideration;
- (6) given that SJ has been criticized for the repeated delays and impropriety in handling sizeable estates for charitable purposes and thus causing unduly long delays in putting the relevant assets to charitable uses, whether the Government has assessed if such incidents will affect public confidence in SJ assuming the role as the protector of charities;
- (7) as it is estimated that the sizeable estates to be used for charitable purposes in just the aforesaid two cases amount to HK\$150 billion, whether the Government has assessed the negative impact on social welfare as a whole brought about by the unduly long delays in putting the relevant assets to charitable uses; and
- (8) of the difficulties of and constraints on SJ's handling of her work as the protector of charities; the strategies in place to prevent problems such as mishandling of sizeable estates and unduly long delays in putting sizeable estates to charitable uses?

Question 20
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Incidents of pigs in slaughterhouses infected with infectious diseases

Hon SHIU Ka-fai to ask:

Immediately upon confirming on the afternoon of the 10th of this month that African Swine Fever (“ASF”) virus had been found in a pig sample from Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse (“SSSH”), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”) announced that all pigs in SSSH would be culled. In addition, the operation of SSSH was suspended for more than one week for thorough cleansing and disinfection. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) given that ASF is transmitted only among pigs and does not infect humans, nor does it pose a food safety risk, of the measures the Government took in the past and will take in future to publicize this message among members of the public, so as to maintain public confidence in pork consumption;
- (2) whether it will, after duly consulting stakeholders, establish a compensation mechanism in respect of such kind of incidents; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (3) whether it has studied how the process of cleansing and disinfection of SSSH can be expedited in future, with a view to shortening its closure period as far as practicable; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (4) whether it has summed up the experience gained from this incident for formulating a standard practice for handling similar incidents in future; if so, of the details?

Question 21
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Providing financial assistance to victims of marine traffic accidents

Hon Holden CHOW to ask:

In response to a vessel collision incident near Lamma Island that happened on 1 October 2012, the Government announced on 18 October 2012 that the Marine Department (“MD”) would, in consultation with the trade, explore the implementation of 10 improvement measures. One of the measures was to consider, by drawing reference from the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (“TAVA”) Scheme, whether a Marine Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (“M-TAVA”) Scheme should be introduced. On the other hand, the Government set up a Steering Committee on Systemic Reform of the Marine Department (“Steering Committee”) on 3 May 2013 to advise and steer the Director of Marine on undertaking a comprehensive systemic review and reform. The Steering Committee indicated in its final report published in April 2016 that having considered the findings of a consultancy study, it had agreed not to introduce an M-TAVA Scheme at the present stage. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the assistance schemes through which the Government currently provides financial assistance to victims of marine traffic accidents;
- (2) in respect of each of the assistance schemes mentioned in (1), of (i) the respective numbers of marine traffic accident victims to whom financial assistance was provided, and (ii) the total amounts of subsidy granted to such persons, in each year since 2012; and
- (3) whether it will consider extending the scope of the TAVA Scheme to cover victims of marine traffic accidents; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?