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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

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By email

9 May 2019

Mr Daniel SIN, Clerk to Panel, Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting, Legislative Council Complex, 1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Sin,

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting Motion Passed at the Meeting on 11 March 2019

Regarding the motion moved by Hon WONG Ting-kwong on "IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools" and passed by the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting on 11 March 2019, the Administration's response is set out below.

The "IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools" initiative put forward in the 2019-20 Budget is an enhancement measure under the existing "Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools" (EITP) to provide funding support of up to \$1 million in the three school years from 2019/20 to 2021/22 for each publicly funded secondary school to upgrade their information technology (IT) equipment and facilities and organise IT-related extra-curricular activities outside traditional classroom learning. It aims to enhance the interest of young people in IT and innovative thinking by fostering an IT learning atmosphere and encourage them to enroll in technology-related post-secondary programmes and pursue a future career in I&T.

Based on the experience of implementation of the EITP, we consider that students generally begin exploring directions in further studies and career development during secondary schooling. Hence, enabling students to experience new technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data, etc. at this learning stage is more in line with the Government's policy objective to nurture technology talent.

Yours sincerely,

(Eva YAM)

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for Secretary for Innovation and Technology