

Legislative Council

Agenda

Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 11:00 am

I. Laying of Papers on the Table of the Council

4 items of subsidiary legislation and 21 other papers to be laid on the Table of the Council set out in Appendix 1

Members to address the Council

1. Hon Abraham SHEK

Papers

Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Report No. 74 of the Director of Audit on the Results of Value for Money Audits (July 2020 — P.A.C. Report No. 74)
(Item 9 in Appendix 1)

2. Hon Paul TSE

Committee on Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Progress Report for the period October 2019 to July 2020
(Item 11 in Appendix 1)

3. Hon Tommy CHEUNG

Report of the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene 2019-2020
(Item 14 in Appendix 1)

4. Hon Vincent CHENG

Report of the Panel on Manpower 2019-2020
(Item 15 in Appendix 1)

5. Hon Jimmy NG

Report of the Panel on Commerce and Industry 2019-2020
(Item 16 in Appendix 1)

6. Hon LAU Kwok-fan

Report of the Panel on Home Affairs 2019-2020
(Item 17 in Appendix 1)

7. Hon Mrs Regina IP Report of the Panel on Education 2019-2020
(Item 18 in Appendix 1)

8. Hon Charles Peter MOK Report of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting 2019-2020
(Item 19 in Appendix 1)

9. Hon Frankie YICK Report of the Panel on Transport 2019-2020
(Item 20 in Appendix 1)

10. Hon Christopher CHEUNG Report of the Panel on Financial Affairs 2019-2020
(Item 21 in Appendix 1)

11. Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan Report of the Panel on Health Services 2019-2020
(Item 22 in Appendix 1)

12. Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Report of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services 2019-2020
(Item 23 in Appendix 1)

13. Hon Paul TSE Report of the Legislative Council Select Committee to Inquire into Matters about the Agreement between Mr LEUNG Chun-ying and the Australian firm UGL Limited
(Item 24 in Appendix 1)

14. Hon Kenneth LEUNG Minority Report on an inquiry into matters about the agreement between Mr LEUNG Chun-ying and the Australian firm UGL Limited (Chinese version only)
(Item 25 in Appendix 1)

II. Questions

Members to ask 22 questions (6 for oral replies and 16 for written replies)

Questions for oral replies to be asked by	Public officers to reply
1. Hon SHIU Ka-chun <u>(Prisoners receiving publications from outside the prison)</u>	Secretary for Security
2. Hon CHAN Hoi-yan <u>(Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme)</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
3. Hon Vincent CHENG <u>(Measures to support employment)</u>	Secretary for Labour and Welfare
4. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan <u>(District football teams)</u>	Secretary for Home Affairs
5. Hon Holden CHOW <u>(Professional conduct of teachers)</u>	Secretary for Education
6. Hon Claudia MO <u>(Laws listed in Annex III to the Basic Law)</u>	Secretary for Justice

Contents of 22 questions, Members to ask such questions and public officers to reply set out in Appendix 2

III. Government Bills

Second Reading (debate to resume), consideration by committee of the whole Council and Third Reading

(Standing over from the meeting of 8 July 2020)

1. <u>Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Profits Tax Concessions for Insurance-related Businesses) Bill 2019</u>	: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
Amendment mover	: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Amendments set out in LC Paper No. <u>CB(3) 589/19-20</u> issued on 29 June 2020)

(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 614/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

2. Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Amendment mover : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Amendments set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 587/19-20 issued on 24 June 2020)

(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 616/19-20 issued on 6 July 2020)

3. Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2020 : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

4. Insurance (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2020 : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Amendment mover : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Amendments set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 591/19-20 issued on 30 June 2020)

(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 606/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

5. Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Food and Health

Amendment mover : Secretary for Food and Health (Amendment set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 583/19-20 issued on 24 June 2020)

(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 609/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

6. Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Bill : Chief Secretary for Administration

7. Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Justice
Amendment mover : Secretary for Justice
(Amendment set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 584/19-20 issued on 24 June 2020)
(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 610/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

8. Evidence (Amendment) Bill 2018 : Secretary for Justice
Amendment mover : Secretary for Justice
(Amendments set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 585/19-20 issued on 24 June 2020)
(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 613/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

9. Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Food and Health

10. Broadcasting and Telecommunications Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

11. Freight Containers (Safety) (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Transport and Housing

12. Road Traffic Legislation (Parking Spaces) (Amendment) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Transport and Housing
Amendment mover : Secretary for Transport and Housing
(Amendment set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 586/19-20 issued on 24 June 2020)
(Debate and voting arrangements set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 604/19-20 issued on 3 July 2020)

Clerk to the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 15 July 2020
Laying of Papers on the Table of the Council

Subsidiary legislation

	Legal Notice No.
1. <u>Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation (Amendment) Ordinance 2020 (Commencement) Notice</u>	140 of 2020
2. <u>Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) (Amendment) (No. 7) Regulation 2020</u>	141 of 2020
3. <u>Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation</u>	142 of 2020
4. <u>Prevention and Control of Disease (Wearing of Mask) (Public Transport) Regulation</u>	143 of 2020

Other papers

5. J.E. Joseph Trust Fund Report, Financial Statements and Report of the Director of Audit for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020
(to be presented by Secretary for Food and Health)
6. Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund Report, Financial Statements and Report of the Director of Audit for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020
(to be presented by Secretary for Food and Health)
7. Clothing Industry Training Authority Annual Report 2019 (including Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report)
(to be presented by Secretary for Labour and Welfare)
8. Hong Kong Deposit Protection Board Annual Report 2019-2020 (including Statement of Accounts and Independent Auditor's Report)
(to be presented by Financial Secretary)
9. Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Report No. 74 of the Director of Audit on the Results of Value for Money Audits (July 2020 — P.A.C. Report No. 74)
(to be presented by **Hon Abraham SHEK**, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
10. Report of the Committee on Members' Interests of the Sixth Legislative Council to be tabled at the Council meeting of 15 July 2020
(to be presented by Hon YIU Si-wing, Chairman of the Committee on Members' Interests)

11. Committee on Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Progress Report for the period October 2019 to July 2020
(to be presented by **Hon Paul TSE**, Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
12. Committee on Access to the Legislature's Documents and Records Progress Report for the period October 2016 to July 2020
(to be presented by the President of the Legislative Council)
13. Report No. 6/19-20 of the House Committee on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation and Other Instruments
(to be presented by Hon Starry LEE, Chairman of the House Committee)
14. Report of the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Tommy CHEUNG**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
15. Report of the Panel on Manpower 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Vincent CHENG**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
16. Report of the Panel on Commerce and Industry 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Jimmy NG**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
17. Report of the Panel on Home Affairs 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon LAU Kwok-fan**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
18. Report of the Panel on Education 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Mrs Regina IP**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
19. Report of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Charles Peter MOK**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
20. Report of the Panel on Transport 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Frankie YICK**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
21. Report of the Panel on Financial Affairs 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Hon Christopher CHEUNG**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)

22. Report of the Panel on Health Services 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
23. Report of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services 2019-2020
(to be presented by **Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG**, Chairman of the Panel, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
24. Report of the Legislative Council Select Committee to Inquire into Matters about the Agreement between Mr LEUNG Chun-ying and the Australian firm UGL Limited
(to be presented by **Hon Paul TSE**, Chairman of the Select Committee, who **will address the Council** on this paper)
25. Minority Report on an inquiry into matters about the agreement between Mr LEUNG Chun-ying and the Australian firm UGL Limited (Chinese version only)
(to be presented by **Hon Kenneth LEUNG**, who **will address the Council** on this paper)

22 questions to be asked at the Council meeting of 15 July 2020

	Subject matters	Public officers to reply
Questions for oral replies		
1 Hon SHIU Ka-chun	<u>Prisoners receiving publications from outside the prison</u>	Secretary for Security
2 Hon CHAN Hoi-yan	<u>Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
3 Hon Vincent CHENG	<u>Measures to support employment</u>	Secretary for Labour and Welfare
4 Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan	<u>District football teams</u>	Secretary for Home Affairs
5 Hon Holden CHOW	<u>Professional conduct of teachers</u>	Secretary for Education
6 Hon Claudia MO	<u>Laws listed in Annex III to the Basic Law</u>	Secretary for Justice
Questions for written replies		
7 Hon Abraham SHEK	<u>Reactivation of the scheme for revitalization of industrial buildings</u>	Secretary for Development
8 Hon CHAN Kin-por	<u>Assistance for victims of road traffic accidents</u>	Secretary for Labour and Welfare
9 Hon LAM Cheuk-ting	<u>National security law for Hong Kong</u>	Secretary for Justice
10 Hon Starry LEE	<u>Common Spatial Data Infrastructure</u>	Secretary for Development
11 Hon Tanya CHAN	<u>Designating judges to handle national security cases</u>	Chief Secretary for Administration
12 Hon Martin LIAO	<u>The “new normal” of co-existence with virus</u>	Secretary for Innovation and Technology
13 Hon KWONG Chun-yu	<u>Public housing</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
14 Hon CHU Hoi-dick	<u>Provision of temporary public markets</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
15 Hon KWOK Wai-keung	<u>Car parking spaces on the Hong Kong Island</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
16 Hon WONG Ting-kwong	<u>Developing Chinese medicine</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
17 Hon IP Kin-yuen	<u>Gift Book Pilot Scheme</u>	Secretary for Education
18 Hon Frankie YICK	<u>Illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward by motor vehicles</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
19 Hon CHAN Han-pan	<u>Encouraging wider use of private healthcare services</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
20 Hon Mrs Regina IP	<u>Student guidance personnel</u>	Secretary for Education
21 Hon Alice MAK	<u>Measures to increase land supply</u>	Secretary for Development
22 Hon LUK Chung-hung	<u>Aviation industry and aviation support services sector</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question 1
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Prisoners receiving publications from outside the prison

Hon SHIU Ka-chun to ask:

Rule 56 of the Prison Rules stipulates that “prisoners may receive such books, periodicals, newspapers or other publications from outside the prison as the Commissioner [of Correctional Services] may determine” (“publications”). However, a Superintendent of the Correctional Services Department (“CSD”) may withhold and dispose of a publication without forwarding it to the relevant person on remand or in custody if he has reasonable grounds to believe that such publication falls within the circumstances referred to in subrules (a) to (e) of the rule. I have received quite a number of complaints about CSD’s withholding, without explanation, some publications (including those about the “anti-extradition to China” movement). In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) who determines whether or not to withhold individual publications; whether CSD has maintained a list of publications which are prohibited from being forwarded; if so, of the number of publications on the list and the reasons for their inclusion on the list; how the family members of the persons on remand or in custody may know which publications will not be allowed for forwarding;
- (2) of the justifications for CSD to point out to the media that certain publications about the “anti-extradition to China” movement are not conducive to the rehabilitation of the persons in custody or pose threats to the security of penal institutions and therefore need to be withheld; and
- (3) whether CSD will establish a mechanism to handle review applications from persons who are dissatisfied with CSD’s withholding of publications; if not, of the reasons for that?

Question 2
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme

Hon CHAN Hoi-yan to ask:

The Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme, implemented for over a decade since its launch in 2009, aims to provide additional choices for the elderly on top of the public primary healthcare services, with a view to enhancing the primary healthcare services for the elderly. Some members of the public have criticized that after enhancement by the Government for a number of times, the Scheme still has long-standing shortcomings, including the small value and the narrow scope of use of health care vouchers, as well as the elderly being overcharged, etc. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) why the Government did not, for this year, provide each eligible elderly person with additional one-off health care vouchers amounting to \$1,000, as it did in June of the past two years; whether any mechanisms or criteria are currently in place for deciding if there is a need to adjust the value of health care vouchers; if so, of the details;
- (2) whether it has studied the feasibility of the arrangements under which health care vouchers may be transferred for spouse's use; if so, of the outcome; if the outcome is in the negative, the reasons for that and the difficulties involved; and
- (3) whether it will conduct in the near future a comprehensive review of the cost-effectiveness of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme, so as to ensure that the implementation of the Scheme meets its original aim; if so, of the timetable; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 3
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Measures to support employment

Hon Vincent CHENG to ask:

Amid a rapid downturn of Hong Kong's economy which has been caused by the epidemic, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate from March to May this year was 5.9%, with the numbers of unemployed and underemployed persons surging to 230 000 and 130 000 respectively. To support employment, the Government has earmarked \$6 billion under the Anti-epidemic Fund to create approximate 30 000 time-limited posts in both the public and private sectors in the coming two years, and is disbursing a subsidy of \$7,500 to each eligible self-employed person ("SEP") under the Employment Support Scheme. Regarding the measures to support employment, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has assessed the numbers and percentages of professional, skilled and non-skilled posts in the approximate 30 000 time-limited posts;
- (2) given that among the almost 260 000 subsidy applications submitted by SEPs, about 140 000 applications were rejected, whether the Government will expeditiously review the effectiveness of the Scheme, and when it will introduce new measures to support SEPs; and
- (3) whether it has assessed the industries that will recover at a slower pace, and of the plans in place to provide more timely support for such industries?

Question 4
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

District football teams

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan to ask:

It has been reported that two district football teams respectively from Yuen Long and Tai Po announced earlier their withdrawal from the current football season of the Hong Kong Premier League (“HKPL”), thus leaving only one district football team competing for the HKPL champion. This situation has aroused concerns about the development and prospect of district football teams. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has taken the initiative to gain an understanding of the reasons for the withdrawal of the aforesaid two district football teams from HKPL;
- (2) whether it knows the minimum annual funding needed for the continued operation of a district football team which participates in HKPL; whether it has assessed if the existing financial and other support for district football teams are adequate, and whether it has formulated plans to create new sources of income for such teams; and
- (3) whether it has plans to comprehensively review the role and functions of district football teams in promoting local football development?

Question 5
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Professional conduct of teachers

Hon Holden CHOW to ask:

It has been reported that since the eruption of the disturbances arising from the opposition to the proposed legislative amendments, around 100 primary and secondary school teachers have been arrested for suspected participation in unlawful activities. Also, quite a number of teachers have made hostile remarks on the Internet against the Police and instilled into students the idea of achieving justice by violating the law and hatred-inciting thoughts, but so far no cancellation of teacher registration has been heard of. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the number of persons whose applications for teacher registration have been refused (with a breakdown by reason) and the number of teacher registrations cancelled by invoking section 47 of the Education Ordinance (with a breakdown by the situation, as set out in that provision, into which the relevant case fell) by the Education Bureau (“EDB”) since Hong Kong’s return to China;
- (2) whether the authorities have invoked section 84(1)(m) of the Education Ordinance to make regulations on “the control of the dissemination of information, or expression of opinion, of a clearly biased political nature in schools” since Hong Kong’s return to China; if so, of the details; whether they will make the relevant regulation on the control of teachers instilling into students the ideas of secession and achieving justice by violating the law as well as hatred-inciting thoughts; and
- (3) given that newly appointed and in-service teachers are required to complete 30 hours of training within three years of service starting from September this year, and the content of such training covers teachers’ professional roles, values and conduct, what manpower and other resources are involved in the relevant training courses, and whether post-training examinations are needed; if examinations are needed, whether EDB will stipulate that teachers may continue teaching only if they have passed such examinations?

Question 6
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Laws listed in Annex III to the Basic Law

Hon Claudia MO to ask:

Certain provisions of the Basic Law, which make references to the common law, stipulate among other things that: the laws previously in force in Hong Kong which shall be maintained include the common law (Article 8), reference may be made to precedents of other common law jurisdictions in the adjudication of cases in accordance with the laws (Article 84), and the Court of Final Appeal may as required invite judges from other common law jurisdictions to sit on the Court of Final Appeal (Article 82). On the other hand, pursuant to Article 18 of the Basic Law, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("the National Security Law") was added to the list of national laws in Annex III to the Basic Law and applied in Hong Kong by promulgation on the 30th of last month. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has studied if the aforesaid Basic Law provisions, which are related to the common law, are applicable to the criminal proceedings instituted under the national laws (including the National Security Law) listed in Annex III to the Basic Law; and
- (2) of the justifications for the Secretary for Justice to make the following statement: "it is impracticable and unreasonable to expect that everything in a national law, the National Security Law, will be exactly as what a statute in the HKSAR common law jurisdiction would be like"?

Question 7
(For written reply)

Reactivation of the scheme for revitalization of industrial buildings

Hon Abraham SHEK to ask:

On 10 October 2018, the Chief Executive announced in the 2018 Policy Address the reactivation of the scheme for revitalization of industrial buildings (“IBs”). One of the policy measures under the scheme is to encourage redevelopment of IBs by relaxing the maximum permissible non-domestic plot ratio by up to 20% for IBs constructed before 1987 on sites located outside the relevant “Residential” zones, subject to the planning approval by the Town Planning Board (“TPB”) for the relevant planning applications which must be made within three years from 10 October 2018 to 9 October 2021, and the execution of the modified lease with full land premium charged under the prevailing mechanism within three years after the planning approval. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) of the number of IB redevelopment projects, since 10 October 2018, the planning application for which has been received by TPB, with a tabulated breakdown of such number by the stage (as set out in the table below) that the projects have reached;

Stage	Number of projects
(i) Planning application approved and the modified land lease executed	
(ii) Planning application approved but the modified land lease has not been executed	
(iii) Planning application being processed	
(iv) Planning application rejected	

(2) in respect of those projects for which the planning application has been approved but the modified land lease has not been executed, of the respective stages in the execution process that such projects have reached, and why the modified land leases have not yet been executed; the measures that the Lands Department will adopt for expediting the execution of the modified land leases; and

(3) in respect of those redevelopment projects for which the planning application has been approved and the modified land lease has been executed, of the total additional gross floor area to be generated upon completion of the projects concerned?

Question 8
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Assistance for victims of road traffic accidents

Hon CHAN Kin-por to ask:

The Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (“TAVA”) Scheme, which is administered by the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”), aims to provide victims of road traffic accidents or their dependents with speedy financial assistance calculated on the basis of the injuries sustained by or the death of the former. It has been reported that some persons who had not sustained any injury in the traffic accidents happened to them obtained, by pretending to be feeling unwell, medical certificates for sick leave of no less than three days so that they can apply for assistance under the TAVA Scheme. Moreover, some members of the insurance industry have relayed that some organizations suspected of engaging in champerty have sent persons station outside the office of the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance Section of SWD to persuade TAVA Scheme applicants to entrust their cases to the solicitors designated by such organizations, and arrange them to apply for legal aid for instituting legal proceedings to make claims for compensation. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the respective numbers of applications received and approved as well as the total amount of financial assistance disbursed by SWD under the TAVA Scheme in the past five years; among such cases, the relevant numbers and total amount of financial assistance in respect of those cases in which the applicants were professional drivers;
- (2) of the number of TAVA Scheme applicants who were prosecuted in the past five years for allegedly obtaining financial assistance by deception and the total amount involved; among such persons, the number of those who were professional drivers;
- (3) whether it will review if the eligibility criteria for the TAVA Scheme are too lax (e.g. the financial situation of the applicants and the element of responsibility for the traffic accident being disregarded), thereby giving lawbreakers opportunities to obtain financial assistance by deception; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (4) whether the authorities initiated any investigations in the past five years into suspected champerty cases involving traffic accidents; if so, of the number of such cases; of the measures in place to eradicate such unlawful acts?

Question 9
(For written reply)

(Translation)

National security law for Hong Kong

Hon LAM Cheuk-ting to ask:

The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("NSL") came into operation at 11 p.m. on 30 June this year. Some members of the public consider that NSL has seriously damaged the "one country, two systems" and Hong Kong's rule of law as well as undermined human rights. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has assessed where the provisions of NSL are in conflict with those of the Basic Law, which provisions shall prevail, and of the relevant justifications;
- (2) whether it has assessed where the provision about respecting and protecting human rights (i.e. Article 4) of NSL is in conflict with any other provisions therein, which provision shall prevail, and of the relevant justifications;
- (3) as Article 42 of NSL stipulates that "no bail shall be granted to a criminal suspect or defendant unless the judge has sufficient grounds for believing that the criminal suspect or defendant will not continue to commit acts endangering national security", whether it has assessed if the term "continue" used in this article carries the presumption that the suspect or defendant has actually committed acts endangering national security, and thus the presence of the term has rendered the article in conflict with the following provision in Article 5: a person is presumed innocent until convicted by a judicial body; if it has assessed and the outcome is in the affirmative, which one of these two provisions shall prevail; if the assessment outcome is in the negative, of the justifications for that;
- (4) whether it knows if the penalties stipulated in NSL (the maximum penalty being life imprisonment) are applicable to those cases over which the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("the Office") exercises jurisdiction; if they are not applicable, of the details, including whether a defendant who has been tried and convicted on the Mainland may be sentenced to death;

(5) as Article 35 of NSL stipulates that “a person who is convicted of an offence endangering national security by a court shall be disqualified from standing as a candidate in the elections of the Legislative Council and district councils of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, holding any public office in the Region, or serving as a member of the Election Committee for electing the Chief Executive”, whether it has assessed if the disqualification of the convicted person shall be for life; if it has assessed and the outcome is in the negative, of the details; if the assessment outcome is in the affirmative, whether it has assessed if this article is in conflict with the provision in Article 25(b) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (“ICCPR”) which stipulates that every citizen shall have the right and the opportunity, without unreasonable restrictions, to vote and to be elected at elections; and

(6) whether it knows if the suspects in those cases over which the Office exercises jurisdiction are, after being arrested, entitled to the human rights provided for in Article 9(3) of ICCPR and the existing laws of Hong Kong (including the rights to meet their lawyers and to be released if no charges are laid within 48 hours from the time of arrest), and if the suspects may, during detention or trial on the Mainland, engage Hong Kong legal practitioners who do not hold a Mainland lawyer’s practice certificate to defend for them?

Question 10
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Common Spatial Data Infrastructure

Hon Starry LEE to ask:

To promote the development of Hong Kong into a smart city, the Government is developing the “Common Spatial Data Infrastructure” (“CSDI”), a digital infrastructure facility, to facilitate the consolidation, exchange, sharing and innovative application of geospatial data among government departments and public and private organizations. The Government has set up, for coordination of the related work, a working group which is jointly led by the Development Bureau and the Innovation and Technology Bureau, and has a membership comprising representatives from those policy bureaux/government departments which are major holders of relatively larger amount of spatial data. The Government expects that the CSDI portal can be rolled out by the end of 2022 for public use. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the details of the work carried out by various policy bureaux/government departments in respect of developing CSDI, and the situation on the usage of the funding of \$300 million earmarked in the last financial year by the Government for this initiative; and
- (2) of the specific measures and additional resources to ensure that policy bureaux/government departments will actively provide CSDI with the geospatial data in their possession?

Question 11
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Designating judges to handle national security cases

Hon Tanya CHAN to ask:

As provided in Article 44 of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, which has come into effect since 30 June this year, the Chief Executive ("CE") shall designate a number of judges from the various levels of court to handle cases concerning offence endangering national security ("judges for national security cases"), and CE may, before making such designation, consult the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("the Committee") and the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal ("CJ"). In this connection, will the Government inform this Council if it has studied:

- (1) whether CE may designate judges for national security cases without consulting CJ; if it has studied and the outcome is in the affirmative, of the circumstances under which or the considerations based on which CE may do so;
- (2) whether CE may reject or only partially accept CJ's advice on the designation of judges for national security cases; and
- (3) in the event of discord between the advice on the designation of judges for national security cases offered by the Committee and that by CJ, whether CE should give priority consideration to the advice of CJ; if it has studied and the outcome is in the negative, of the reasons for that?

Question 12
(For written reply)

(Translation)

The “new normal” of co-existence with virus

Hon Martin LIAO to ask:

At present, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) epidemic in various places across the globe is still fluctuating, causing significant impacts on public health and the economy. The epidemic has put additional pressure on Hong Kong’s economy, which has been dealt a double blow by the riots and the Sino-US trade conflicts. The World Health Organization has advised recently that the world still has a long way to go in tackling the COVID-19 epidemic, and this novel coronavirus may co-exist with mankind for a long time. The governments of various places across the globe have adopted various anti-epidemic measures for tackling the epidemic, including immigration control, lockdown and isolation measures, social distancing, and restricting the conduct of business in high-risk premises. Worldwide communities may need to maintain the operation of their societies and economies through a wider use of models such as working-from-home and e-commerce. All of these are regarded as the “new normal” whereby the mankind co-exists with the virus for a long time. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has assessed the impacts of the new normal on (i) Hong Kong’s economy, (ii) various trades, and (iii) the effectiveness of the Government’s policies for economic revival;
- (2) with regard to those trades severely hit by the new normal and are subject to great hardship, of the Government’s new thinking and new measures (i) to help alleviate the adverse impacts of the epidemic and the anti-epidemic measures on them, such as by setting up a “travel bubble” with specific overseas places, and (ii) to turn risks into opportunities, in respect of supporting the digital transformation of small and medium enterprises for instance, apart from increasing the funding allocation for the Distance Business Programme under the Anti-epidemic Fund from \$500 million to \$1.5 billion in the light of the number of applications received which is five times that of the original estimation, what other enhancement measures are in place to ensure that the policy objectives of helping various trades to blaze an escape route and to survive the epidemic can be achieved; and

(3) of the measures in place to help local enterprises tap business opportunities in those markets outside Hong Kong which are also experiencing the new normal, including the establishment of a mechanism for mutual recognition of health certification between Hong Kong and the Mainland, as well as the implementation of electronic payment connectivity within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area?

Question 13
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Public housing

Hon KWONG Chun-yu to ask:

Regarding the public rental housing (“PRH”) and the subsidized sale housing under the Hong Kong Housing Authority (“HA”) and the Hong Kong Housing Society (“HKHS”), will the Government inform this Council (set out in different tables the information relating to HA and HKHS respectively in respect of (1) to (6)):

- (1) of the following details of each of the PRH redevelopment projects that were completed in the past 10 financial years:
 - (i) the name of the housing estate and the number of phases by which the redevelopment project was carried out,
 - (ii) the financial year in which the project commenced,
 - (iii) the financial year in which the project was completed,
 - (iv) the number of PRH units before redevelopment,
 - (v) the gross floor area (“GFA”) for community facility use before redevelopment,
 - (vi) the numbers of car parking spaces for various classes of vehicles before redevelopment,
 - (vii) the GFA for commercial use before redevelopment,
 - (viii) the number of PRH units after redevelopment,
 - (ix) the GFA for community facility use after redevelopment,
 - (x) the number of car parking spaces for various classes of vehicles after redevelopment,
 - (xi) the GFA for commercial use after redevelopment,
 - (xii) whether in-situ rehousing was provided for affected PRH tenants, and
 - (xiii) the main reception estate(s) for affected PRH tenants;
- (2) of the following details of each of the PRH redevelopment projects that will commence in the coming five financial years:
 - (i) the name of the housing estate and the number of phases by which the redevelopment project will be carried out,
 - (ii) the financial year in which the project is expected to commence,

- (iii) the financial year in which the project is expected to be completed,
- (iv) the number of PRH units before redevelopment,
- (v) the GFA for community facility use before redevelopment,
- (vi) the number of car parking spaces for various classes of vehicles before redevelopment,
- (vii) the GFA for commercial use before redevelopment,
- (viii) the projected number of PRH units after redevelopment,
- (ix) the projected GFA for community facility use after redevelopment,
- (x) the projected number of car parking spaces for various classes of vehicles after redevelopment,
- (xi) the projected GFA for commercial use after redevelopment,
- (xii) whether in-situ rehousing will be provided for affected PRH tenants, and
- (xiii) the expected main reception estate(s) for affected PRH tenants;

(3) of (i) the respective numbers of PRH units built and cleared as well as (ii) the net increases in the number of PRH units, in each of the past 10 financial years;

(4) of (i) the respective numbers of PRH units expected to be built and cleared as well as (ii) the projected net increases in the number of PRH units, in each of the coming five financial years;

(5) given that HA's PRH tenants affected by redevelopment projects are eligible for participating in the sale exercises for subsidized sale housing under HA (including the Home Ownership Scheme ("HOS") and the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme ("GSH")) using green forms with priority in flat selection, of the following details of such tenants participating in the aforesaid sale exercises in the past 10 financial years:

- (i) the names of the housing estates redeveloped/to be redeveloped and the numbers of phases by which the redevelopment projects were/would be carried out,
- (ii) the respective numbers of tenants who applied for the purchase of HOS and GSH flats,
- (iii) the respective numbers of tenants who succeeded in purchasing HOS and GSH flats, and
- (iv) the numbers and percentages of HOS and GSH flats sold to such tenants in the respective total numbers of flats offered for sale in the relevant sale exercises;

(6) regarding HKHS's PRH tenants affected by redevelopment projects, of the following details of those tenants participating in the sale exercises of subsidized sale housing under HKHS in the past 10 financial years:

- (i) the names of the housing estates redeveloped/to be redeveloped and the numbers of phases by which the redevelopment projects were/would be carried out,
- (ii) the number of tenants who applied for the purchase of subsidized sale housing flats,
- (iii) the number of tenants who succeeded in purchasing subsidized sale housing flats, and
- (iv) the numbers and percentages of subsidized sale housing flats sold to such tenants in the respective total numbers of flats offered for sale in the relevant sale exercises; and

(7) whether HA and HKHS will consider publishing on their websites the figures referred to in (3) and (4); if not, of the reasons for that?

Question 14
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Provision of temporary public markets

Hon CHU Hoi-dick to ask:

In view of the fact that the new Tin Shui Wai public market under planning will only be completed in 2027 at the earliest, the Government announced in October last year the plan to provide a temporary market adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park in Tin Shui Wai. The temporary market, which will be built by adopting the “Modular Integrated Construction” approach at a cost of about \$30 million, is expected to commence operation at the end of this year the soonest. Regarding issues relating to the provision of temporary public markets, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the time taken by the Government to conduct the relevant study before it announced last year the plan to provide a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai; whether it has compiled statistics on the shortest time needed for providing a temporary public market from initial thinking to commissioning upon completion;
- (2) given that both Tung Chung New Town and Tin Shui Wai are in lack of a public market, and an implementation timetable is not yet available for the provision of a permanent public market in Tung Chung as planned by the Government, whether the Government will, by making reference to the practice it has adopted for Tin Shui Wai, expeditiously provide a temporary public market in Tung Chung New Town to cater for local residents' daily shopping needs in the short run; and
- (3) whether it will draw up the criteria for determining the need for the provision of temporary public markets, e.g. that a temporary public market should be provided in a certain district when the need for the provision of a permanent public market in that district has been confirmed but it is impossible for the new market to be commissioned within a certain period of time?

Question 15
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Car parking spaces on the Hong Kong Island

Hon KWOK Wai-keung to ask:

Some members of the public have relayed that car parking spaces on the Hong Kong Island have all along been in short supply, resulting in illegal on-street parking of vehicles as well as activities of picking up/setting down passengers and loading/unloading goods by vehicles from time to time, which have aggravated the problem of traffic congestion and caused inconvenience to the residents. On the other hand, the Government has planned to implement pilot projects on automated parking systems in two government buildings proposed to be built on Chung Kong Road in Sheung Wan and Sheung Mau Street in Chai Wan. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the details of the law enforcement actions taken last year by the Police on the Hong Kong Island against illegal parking (including the number of fixed penalty notices issued, and the number and locations of large-scale operations conducted), and how the frequency of such actions compares with that of the year before;
- (2) of the respective current numbers of on-street parking spaces and those parking spaces in the public and the private car parks on the Hong Kong Island, with a breakdown by District Council district and type of vehicles that may be parked therein; the increase/decrease in such numbers in the coming year as estimated by the Government;
- (3) of the respective dates for (i) public consultation and (ii) commencement of works in respect of the two aforesaid pilot projects; the respective estimated numbers of parking spaces to be provided by the two projects, with a breakdown by type of vehicles that may be parked therein; and
- (4) whether it has put in place new measures for the short or medium term to alleviate the shortage of parking spaces on the Hong Kong Island and the problems arising therefrom (including traffic congestion and air pollution); if so, of the details?

Question 16
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Developing Chinese medicine

Hon WONG Ting-kwong to ask:

To promote the development of Chinese medicine (“CM”), the Government has allocated \$500 million to establish the Chinese Medicine Development Fund (“CMDF”). On developing CM, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the total amount of subsidies approved since the launch of CMDF in June last year, with a tabulated breakdown by the names of the projects approved;
- (2) given that the Mainland medical sector has launched the traditional Chinese medicine (“TCM”) health management services for the elderly with TCM constitution identification as the core, and has developed the Four Diagnostic Instrument that collects patients’ clinical data through electronic means and continuously monitors the changes in such data, whether the Government will include those projects for developing electronic CM and big data for CM in the funding scope of CMDF; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (3) of the respective to-date numbers of applications for subsidies under CMDF which involved online learning of CM received and approved;
- (4) whether it will include those projects which apply blockchain technology in logistics control of Chinese medicines in the funding scope of CMDF; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (5) of the progress of the work to include CM information in the Electronic Health Record Sharing System (commonly known as “eHRSS”)?

Question 17
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Gift Book Pilot Scheme

Hon IP Kin-yuen to ask:

The Education Bureau (“EDB”) announced on 18 June this year the launching of a Gift Book Pilot Scheme (“the Pilot Scheme”), under which all participating public-sector schools (including special schools) and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools will be allocated a one-off grant, calculated according to the number of students in each school (about \$100 per student), for the procurement of printed books to be given to students for free. Under the Pilot Scheme, schools were required to complete the procurement procedure (including selecting books on the designated book lists provided by EDB, inviting quotations and placing orders for the books) within the period from 18 June to 9 July this year. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) why EDB set the requirement that schools and students participating in the Pilot Scheme may only select and buy books on the designated book lists, instead of following the approach for book procurement applicable to the Promotion of Reading Grant, i.e. schools selecting on their own those books which match the needs and abilities of their students;
- (2) as quite a number of members of the education sector have relayed that the schedule for schools to complete the procurement procedure within 13 school days was too tight, whether EDB had consulted the education sector when it set the deadline; of the respective current numbers and percentages of primary and secondary schools which completed the procurement procedure by 9 July (including the completion of book selection, invitation for quotations and placement of orders for books within the relevant deadlines); whether it has assessed the impacts on schools’ class resumption work after the outbreak of the epidemic brought about by schools having to complete the procurement procedure in a hasty manner;
- (3) as some members of the education sector have criticized that the number of books published by a certain publishing group accounts for over 70% of the total number of books on the designated book lists, which has aroused suspicion of transferal of benefits, of the details of the compilation of the designated book lists, including (i) the rank of the officer-in-charge, (ii) the criteria for book selection and (iii) the time spent on compiling the lists; whether EDB had consulted teachers, teacher librarians and members of the

publishing industry on the book lists; the measures in place to ensure that the books on the book lists can be delivered to participating schools in July before the commencement of the summer vacation;

- (4) as EDB has indicated that the Pilot Scheme has the support from the Hong Kong Publishing Federation (“the Federation”), of the reasons for and the details of EDB’s decision to cooperate with the Federation (including the role of the Federation in the Pilot Scheme, as well as whether the Federation participated in the relevant work such as compiling the book lists, assisting schools in book procurement and supplying the books);
- (5) of the detailed estimated expenditure of the Pilot Scheme;
- (6) as some schools were unable to complete the procurement procedure within the aforesaid deadline, of the detailed arrangements for the late participation in the Pilot Scheme by such schools, including whether the level of the grant to be received by such schools will remain unchanged; if not, of the reasons for that; whether it has assessed if the situation where schools, due to different reasons, were unable to participate in the Pilot Scheme causing their students not being given any free books is unfair to the students concerned;
- (7) as some booksellers have indicated that it was difficult for them to cope with the surge in quotation requests from schools within a short span of time, and that they were unable to obtain the publishers’ guarantee of supply of all the books being ordered and even unable to have any supply of the books from the publishers, which made such booksellers unable to provide quotations, whether EDB has approached schools to gain an understanding of the difficulties they encountered in procuring books, and whether it has assessed if monopolization has occurred; and
- (8) whether EDB will consider making changes to the Pilot Scheme as follows: (i) abolishing the requirement that schools and students may only select books on the designated book lists, and (ii) extending the deadline for completion of the procurement procedure to the end of this year or the beginning of the coming year, so that teacher librarians and teachers will have ample time to select suitable books for their students?

Question 18
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward by motor vehicles

Hon Frankie YICK to ask:

It is learnt that the activities of using motor vehicles for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward (“illegal carriage of passengers”) have been quite rampant in recent years, resulting in unfair competition for the public transport trades which operate legally. In addition, the third party risks insurance for the vehicles concerned may be invalidated due to the vehicles having been used for illegal carriage of passengers, and this may result in a loss of protection for their passengers and other road users. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) of the respective numbers of first and subsequent convictions for illegal carriage of passengers in each of the past three years, with a breakdown by the groups (as set out in Table 1) to which the amounts of fines involved in such cases belonged;

Table 1

	Amount of fine (\$)	2017	2018	2019
First conviction	1,000 or below			
	1,001 to 2,000			
	2,001 to 3,000			
	3,001 to 4,000			
	4,001 to 5,000			
	Total:			
Subsequent conviction	5,000 or below			
	5,001 to 6,000			
	6,001 to 7,000			
	7,001 to 8,000			
	8,001 to 9,000			
	9,001 to 10,000			
	Total:			

(2) of the respective numbers of first and subsequent convictions for illegal carriage of passengers in respect of which the court imposed the following penalties in each of the past three years:
(i) imprisonment, (ii) disqualification of driving licence, and
(iii) suspension of vehicle licence and impoundment of vehicles, with a breakdown by the penalty periods set out in Table 2;

Table 2

	Penalty period (month)	2017			2018			2019		
		(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
First conviction	Less than 1									
	1 to less than 2									
	2 to 3									
	Total:									
Subsequent conviction	Less than 1									
	1 to less than 2									
	2 to less than 3									
	3 to less than 4									
	4 to less than 5									
	5 to 6									
	Total:									

(3) given that the Government has planned to amend the legislation to increase the penalties for illegal carriage of passengers, of the progress of such work and the expected commencement date of the new penalties; the measures put in place by the Government to step up efforts in combating the activities of illegal carriage of passengers before the commencement of the new penalties; and

(4) given that online vehicle booking platforms provide intermediary services for the activities of illegal carriage of passengers, whether the Government will put such platforms under regulation; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 19
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Encouraging wider use of private healthcare services

Hon CHAN Han-pan to ask:

By implementing the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme (“EHV Scheme”) and promoting the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (“VHIS”), the Government has encouraged members of the public to make wider use of private healthcare services, with a view to alleviating the pressure on the public healthcare system. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the number of VHIS policies as at 31 May this year, with a breakdown by the age group to which the policy holders belonged (i.e. aged 0 to 9, followed by groups covering 10 years each, and aged 60 or above);
- (2) given that as projected prior to the implementation of VHIS by an independent consultant engaged by the Government, about 1 million people would take out VHIS policies in the first two years after the implementation of VHIS, whether the Government has set target percentages of the policies (i) which migrated from individual indemnity hospital insurance plan (“IHIP”) policies effected before the implementation of VHIS and those (ii) which were newly issued, in the policies taken out by such people; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (3) given that as at the end of September last year, 81% of VHIS policies were policies migrated from individual IHIP policies effected before the implementation of VHIS, and only 19% of VHIS policies were newly issued policies, of the Government’s measures in place to encourage those who have not taken out any hospital insurance product to do so;
- (4) given that currently people aged above 80 may be unable to take out policies through VHIS, whether the Government has studied the introduction of voluntary health insurance schemes for such people and chronic disease patients to take out policies; if so, of the details; if not, the measures in place to enhance the healthcare protection for these people;
- (5) of the figures relating to the elderly (i.e. persons aged 65 or above) receiving the various healthcare services in 2018 and 2019 (set out in a table of the same format as Table 5 in the Report on the Review

of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme (“the Report”) published by the Food and Health Bureau in March last year); and

(6) as the findings of a survey cited in the Report have shown that only 24% of the elderly agreed to reserve a portion of EHV for paying the fees of preventive care services (e.g. vaccinations, health checks and screenings), of the Government’s measures to encourage the elderly to use EHV for such purposes, with a view to achieving the objective of making use of the EHV Scheme to promote preventive care?

Question 20
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Student guidance personnel

Hon Mrs Regina IP to ask:

Some student guidance personnel have relayed that while they join hands with school-based social workers and Student Guidance Teachers (“SGTs”) to provide Comprehensive Student Guidance Service, their posts are not on the approved establishment of teaching staff members of their schools. As a result, their salaries are on the low side with a lack of promotion prospect. On the other hand, the Education Bureau (“EDB”) wrote to a relevant organization on 28 June last year, indicating that EDB was collecting data and views by way of questionnaire survey and school visits, etc. in order to review the implementation of the relevant policies, including the mode of cooperation among student guidance personnel/school-based social workers and SGTs. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the details of the aforesaid review exercise, (e.g. the content of the questionnaire and the names of the schools visited), the work schedule and the latest progress; whether EDB will submit the review results to the Panel on Education of this Council;
- (2) whether it will consider creating permanent posts of student guidance personnel in primary and secondary schools; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (3) whether it will formulate professional development strategies for student guidance personnel, e.g. providing them with in-service education subsidies and progression pathways; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 21
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Measures to increase land supply

Hon Alice MAK to ask:

The Task Force on Land Supply submitted in December 2018 a report to the Government, in which it tendered a number of recommendations on land supply strategy and put forward eight land supply options worthy of priority studies and implementation. There are comments that it has been more than one year since the Government announced in February last year that it had fully accepted such recommendations, but the Government has achieved very little progress in its land development work. The tight supply of land over a prolonged period has aggravated the financial burden on housing for the public and hindered the development of various industries. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the projected area of developable land that can be provided in the coming five years through developing brownfield sites; the ways to accelerate the development of brownfield sites;
- (2) of the projected area of private agricultural land that can be released in the coming five years for housing development or other uses; whether it has set a target for the area of developable land to be supplied under the Land Sharing Pilot Scheme in the coming five years;
- (3) whether it will expeditiously invoke the Lands Resumption Ordinance (Cap. 124) to resume idle private land, so as to carry out various development projects;
- (4) of the latest progress of, and the timetable for, the implementation of the large-scale reclamation projects under the “Lantau Tomorrow Vision”; as the Government indicated in May this year that it aimed to submit, within the current legislative session, the funding application for the studies related to the artificial islands in the central waters to the Finance Committee of this Council for consideration, of the progress of the relevant work;
- (5) whether it has assessed the impacts on the long-term land supply and the overall development of Hong Kong in the event that the implementation of the various projects under the Lantau Tomorrow Vision experiences delays; and

(6) as the following proposal has been put forward recently: that the Central Authorities, by making reference to the model in 2009 of authorizing Macao to exercise jurisdiction over parts of the land on Hengqin Island of Zhuhai, arrange for the Mainland authorities to construct artificial islands in the Mainland waters (e.g. the waters to the west of Lantau Island or in the vicinity of Guishan Island) through reclamation, and then authorizes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to exercise jurisdiction over and use the reclaimed land in the form of an “enclave”, whether the Government will expeditiously conduct detailed studies on the proposal and discuss with the Central Authorities; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 22
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Aviation industry and aviation support services sector

Hon LUK Chung-hung to ask:

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic has dealt a heavy blow to Hong Kong's aviation industry. To maintain Hong Kong's status as an international aviation hub, the Government has, earlier on, announced its decision to invest in Cathay Pacific Airways Limited ("CX") to help CX come out of financial distress. On the other hand, some employees in the aviation industry and the aviation support services sector have relayed that the Government's current relief measures have mainly benefited enterprises, with little direct assistance for employees. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) as the Government has indicated that it has no intention of keeping its shareholding in CX for a prolonged period of time, of the expected time when the Government can cease to hold any shares in CX;
- (2) whether it knows the number of CX's Hong Kong staff members and the percentage of such number in the total number of employees in the local aviation industry, with a tabulated breakdown of the former by (i) type of business, (ii) job type and (iii) position;
- (3) given that when it accepted the Government's investment and loan, CX did not publicly undertake that it would not lay off its staff, and that CX has currently asked quite a number of its employees to take no pay leave, whether the Government has put in place specific measures to ensure that CX's staff have adequate protection for their employment and wages; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (4) of the (i) unemployment rate, (ii) number of unemployed persons, (iii) underemployment rate and (iv) number of underemployed persons, in respect of Hong Kong's aviation industry and aviation support services sector in each month from January to June this year, with a tabulated breakdown by job type and position;
- (5) whether the Government will provide cash assistance, anti-epidemic allowances and travel allowances for employees in the aviation industry and the aviation support services sector (including ancillary engineering personnel, ground crews, catering service

personnel, shop attendants and freight logistics personnel who work in the airport); if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;

(6) whether it has assessed when Hong Kong's aviation industry will recover; of the measures in place to assist the aviation industry in coming out of the trough as soon as possible, and to reinforce Hong Kong's status as an international aviation hub; and

(7) whether it has any measures to prevent the slump in the aviation industry from causing talent wastage, and to step up the training for employees in the industry; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?