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### Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Innovation and Technology**

**Session No. : 15**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB001**

**(Question Serial No. 2708)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

There is a shortage of space for performance and entertainment venues in Hong Kong. As Cyberport itself is a supporter of digital entertainment development, it is in line with the direction of Cyberport's development to organise performances related to digital entertainment. Besides, the Cyberport Waterfront Park has sufficient space to serve as a temporary outdoor performance and entertainment venue. In this regard, has the Government considered providing any support to enable Hong Kong to have an additional suitable performance and entertainment venue, while widening the source of income for Cyberport?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

The Government injected \$50 million into Cyberport in mid-2018 to set up a dedicated e-sports competition venue in the Cyberport Arcade, with the aim of providing the industry with a well-equipped venue to organise more e-sports competitions and promotional events relating to e-sports development. The competition venue officially opened in July 2019. Cyberport will accord priority to hosting activities relating to e-sports and digital entertainment. Organisations are also welcome to apply for organising other performances and entertainment activities in the venue.

At present, the nearby Waterfront Park facilities managed by Cyberport provide the public with a passive recreational space. Cyberport currently has no intention to use the park as a temporary performance and entertainment venue.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB002**

**(Question Serial No. 2709)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please tabulate the number of venues for e-sports competitions and training in Hong Kong at present, including spaces provided by the community and Cyberport. Are there other new venues for e-sports competitions and training expected for the e-sports sector in future?

The Government earlier allocated \$100 million to Cyberport to promote the development of e-sports. The Cyberport Arcade will become a local e-sports and digital entertainment node providing a competition venue for e-sports. Support will also be provided for the e-sports sector in areas such as technological development and talent nurturing. In this connection, how many competitions and training sessions have been held at the e-sports venue? What are the estimated manpower, expenditure and details involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

At present, the venues used by the industry for organising e-sports competitions or activities are generally divided into two types:

- (1) Permanent e-sports stadiums: they are usually smaller-sized venues that can accommodate tens to hundreds of people. According to the statistics provided by Cyberport, there are three permanent e-sports stadiums operated by the industry in Hong Kong apart from the one in Cyberport; and
- (2) Arenas: they can accommodate thousands to ten thousands of people for hosting activities and competitions of a larger scale, such as the Hong Kong Coliseum, the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and the AsiaWorld-Expo.

We do not have information on the plans of the industry to set up other e-sports venues in the future.

In mid-2018, the Government injected \$50 million into Cyberport to set up a dedicated e-sports competition venue in the Cyberport Arcade. The venue was opened in July 2019. Since its commissioning, 12 competitions/activities have been hosted there with more than 3 000 participants. The manpower and expenditure involved were borne by Cyberport.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB003**

**(Question Serial No. 2710)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide details of the expenditure and number of staff involved in the new initiative announced in this year's Budget:

- 1) The Government is now going through the statutory town planning procedures for the Cyberport 5 development site. Please provide information on the actual location of Cyberport 5 and a breakdown of the additional floor area for offices, co-working space, conference venues and data service platforms after expansion.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

The proposed Cyberport 5 is located at an existing waterfront site of approximately 1.6 hectares opposite the Cyberport Arcade and to the northwest of the Waterfront Park. It will provide a gross floor area of about 66 000 square metres (sq.m.), of which about 43 500 sq.m. will preliminarily be earmarked for office and Smart-Space co-working space use while the remaining area will provide a multi-function hall, a data services platform and related ancillary facilities, etc. For the Government, the relevant work will be absorbed by existing manpower and no additional resources are required.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB004**

**(Question Serial No. 2711)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government has used the electronic wristbands developed by the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre to facilitate home quarantine in the recent anti-epidemic work. Please advise the number of people who have been given such electronic wristbands? Is it easy for people under home quarantine to untie their electronic wristbands in order to evade surveillance?

At present, the Government traces people under home quarantine through the live location feature of WhatsApp or WeChat in addition to video calls and spot checks. Has the Government reviewed its effectiveness given the large number of fake Global Positioning programmes to evade surveillance?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

The financial impact of the measures will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account.

As at 6 March 2020, we have arranged a total of 1 065 electronic wristbands to be worn by people under home quarantine. The electronic wristbands, paired with smartphones, make use of Geo-fencing technology to ascertain the location of people under quarantine. By design, the electronic wristbands cannot be taken off at will, while the paired smartphones must be connected to a power source and must not be taken outside the confines of the home area. In case anyone under quarantine leaves home wearing the wristband or breaks it, disconnects the smartphone or attempts to take it outside, the Department of Health (DH) and Police will be notified immediately to take follow-up action. Upon completion of the 14-day home quarantine, we will arrange for collection and reuse of these electronic wristbands.



As for people under home quarantine who are requested to regularly share their real-time locations by WhatsApp or WeChat, the home quarantine control centres of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer will contact them to ensure that their location complies with the requirement of the compulsory quarantine order, including by making surprise video calls. In addition, the DH will call people under quarantine while members of the disciplinary forces will conduct spot checks to ensure that they are staying at the designated places.

In the light of the development of the epidemic, the Government has been reviewing and evaluating the current work arrangements and examining the use of other technologies and products to support compulsory quarantine in the past month or so. For instance, we are using an app jointly developed by a local innovation and technology company and a local university. It can be paired with the electronic waistbands and analyse the change in communication signals with artificial intelligence and big data to ascertain whether people under quarantine are staying at the designated places, with a view to further enhancing the support for compulsory quarantine.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB005**

**(Question Serial No. 3849)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide in tabular form the following details of each of the duty visits made by the Secretary and Under Secretary in the past year in chronological order: (a) purpose and destination, (b) post titles of the officials met, (c) number and post titles of Hong Kong officials in entourage, (d) number of days of the visit, and (e) total expenditure incurred, including expenses on (i) transportation (air tickets and local transportation), (ii) accommodation, (iii) meals, (iv) banquets or entertainment, and (v) gifts.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 146)

Reply:

Details of the overseas duty visits made by the Secretary and Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology in 2019-20 (as at the end of February 2020) are as follows:

(1) Secretary for Innovation and Technology

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
2 April 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting	-	-	-	-
21-26 April 2019	Shanghai, Hangzhou and Beijing	Shanghai, Hangzhou: 3 Beijing: 2	3 bureau directors to join the Legislative Council joint-Panel duty visit to the major cities in the Yangtze River Delta Region, and then depart for Beijing to attend the 2nd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation	About 25,000	About 29,000	About 16,500	About 70,500
16 May 2019	Guangzhou	3	To attend the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference	About 2,600	-	-	About 2,600
17-18 June 2019	Beijing	4	To attend the meeting of the task force on the development of an international innovation and technology hub in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area	About 39,600	About 5,500	About 4,900	About 50,000
22-23 July 2019	Beijing	3	To attend the closing ceremony of the Youth Internship Programme at the Chinese Academy of Sciences	About 18,800	About 4,100	About 3,600	About 26,500

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
26-27 August 2019	Guangzhou	3	To attend the 2019 China Industrial Internet Conference & Guangdong-HongKong-Macao Greater Bay Area Digital Economy Conference	About 1,900	About 2,100	About 6,300	About 10,300
15-21 September 2019	Vancouver of Canada, and Seattle and San Francisco of the United States	3	To visit innovation and technology enterprises and facilities, to update the US and Canadian technology communities on Hong Kong's latest developments in the innovation and technology arena	About 174,000	About 47,700	About 38,100	About 259,800
30 September-2 October 2019	Beijing	1	To participate in activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China	-	-	About 2,000	About 2,000
19-20 October 2019	Wuzhen of Zhejiang	2	To attend the 6th World Internet Conference	About 6,000	-	About 1,600	About 7,600
3 December 2019	Shenzhen	4	To attend the meeting of the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Co-operation Committee	About 600	-	-	About 600

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
4-5 December 2019	Beijing	2	To meet with the Ministry of Science & Technology	About 12,400	About 3,500	About 2,600	About 18,500
6 December 2019	Shenzhen	7	To attend the meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop	About 2,700	-	-	About 2,700

*Note: Other expenses include subsistence allowances. During the visits stated above, no entertainment expenses were incurred.*

(2) Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
3 April 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the launching ceremony of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Macao Technology Union	About 3,700	-	-	About 3,700
30 August 2019	Shenzhen	2	To join the Symposium of Hong Kong Youth Studying, Working and Doing Startups in Shenzhen	About 1,700	-	-	About 1,700
1 November 2019	Shenzhen	2	To join the 2019 Greater Bay Area Summit on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence	-	-	-	-
13 November 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the Forum of Invigorating the Greater Bay Area through Opening Up and Innovation under the 21 <sup>st</sup> China Hi-tech Fair	About 3,200	-	-	About 3,200
27-28 November 2019	Dongguan	2	To participate in the 2019 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Academician Summit and the 5 <sup>th</sup> Guangdong Academician Summit	About 800	-	About 3,800	About 4,600
20 December 2019	Shenzhen	2	To participate in the First Beijing-Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Development Forum and the Final of the 2nd Beijing-Hong Kong Youth Innovators and Entrepreneurs Competition	-	-	-	-

*Note: Other expenses include subsistence allowances. During the visits stated above, no entertainment expenses were incurred.*

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB006****(Question Serial No. 3852)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (1) Director of Bureau's OfficeControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Please tabulate the actual expenditure on the pay and gratuity of the Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for the past year.

Please tabulate the actual expenditure on the pay and gratuity of the Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 149)Reply:

The information requested is as follows:

The actual expenditure for 2019-20

Innovation and Technology Bureau	Salary
Secretary	About \$4.15 million
Under Secretary	About \$2.70 million
Political Assistant to the Secretary	About \$1.04 million

The estimated expenditure for 2020-21

Innovation and Technology Bureau	Salary
Secretary	About \$4.18 million
Under Secretary	About \$2.72 million
Political Assistant to the Secretary	About \$1.04 million

According to the remuneration package for Politically Appointed Officials serving in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Politically Appointed Officials are entitled to Mandatory Provident Fund contributions by the Government but there is no end-of-contract gratuity for them.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB007**

**(Question Serial No. 3859)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The current occupancy rate of Cyberport's offices is 93%, 4 percentage points down from last year's figure of 97%. Has Cyberport compiled any statistics on the numbers of Mainland, foreign and Hong Kong enterprises which terminated their tenancies in the past year, and asked them about the reasons for their decision?

With economic growth slowing recently, what initiatives will be rolled out by Cyberport to help its tenants ride out the difficulties?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 157)

Reply:

The occupancy rate of the offices in Cyberport has consistently exceeded 90% over the years. The overall occupancy rate in 2019 has remained above 90% in spite of the slight fluctuations in the monthly occupancy rate as a result of tenancy changes. Among the 12 companies that have vacated in 2019 (mostly local companies), the reason of non-renewal of leases was primarily commercial decision, including a tenant occupying over 36 000 square feet (sq. ft.) of space (i.e. The University of Chicago Booth School of Business) which has relocated from their temporary campus at Cyberport to a newly-built one. There were only two which did not renew their leases due to downsizing or business closure.

In response to the social situation in 2019, Cyberport granted a 50% rental concession to its commercial tenants and start-ups for a period of six months starting from October 2019 to end March 2020. In view of the challenging environment brought by the recent epidemic, Cyberport has, under the Government's Anti-epidemic Fund, extended the rental relief for six months from 1 April 2020 and expanded it to a 100% concession. The extended rental relief aimed at assisting Cyberport's tenants and start-ups in overcoming the turbulent times. The two rounds of measure cover Cyberport's office tenants, Smart-Space users, retail tenants and food operators. The rental relief is capped at 10,000 sq. ft..

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB008**

**(Question Serial No. 3860)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Is the Innovation and Technology Bureau involved in the tender exercises of various departments for the procurement of innovative technologies? According to a source quoted by Bloomberg earlier, the Hong Kong Police has been using the artificial intelligence software with facial recognition technology from Australia, including the software that can facilitate the identification of suspects in the Police's criminal investigations, for at least 3 years. In this regard, does the Bureau have any knowledge of the use of such technology by the Police? Was the Bureau established at the time when the facial recognition technology was procured? If yes, was the Bureau aware of the relevant tender exercises conducted by the Police?

If a department chooses to adopt innovative technologies to facilitate its work, does it need to inform or give any explanation to the Bureau in advance? Given that the data involved in facial recognition technology is relatively sensitive, it will constitute a serious infringement of personal privacy if a department using the technology collects any personal data which go beyond what is required for the purposes of its work and uses such data without prior consent from the parties concerned. Compared with other innovative technologies, facial recognition technology involves the collection of sensitive data from more members of the public. Will the Bureau intervene in the use of such technology after noting its use by various departments to ensure that the data of the general public will not be indiscriminately used or obtained? Are there any other better alternative technologies which can serve the same purpose?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 158)

Reply:

Currently, government departments can procure information technology (IT) services or products on their own through tender exercises or the Standing Offer Agreement

administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO). The Innovation and Technology Bureau is not involved in such procurement. In formulating the arrangements and procedures for the procurement of IT services or products, government departments should, apart from considering their business needs, safeguard the security of Government information systems and data, as well as comply with the regulations related to the protection of personal data in the collection, handling and use of such data. These arrangements also apply to the adoption of different technologies. If the information system concerned involves personal data, the relevant bureaux/departments are required to conduct privacy impact assessments and related improvements to ensure the privacy of the public is adequately protected.

To assist government departments to adopt innovative technologies more effectively, OGCIO plans to commence a study this year to develop a set of technical guidelines on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data analytics within the Government. It will cover the ethical and privacy issues arising from such application in order to assist government departments in planning and applying emerging technologies like AI and big data analytics to improve public services in an effective and responsible manner. The OGCIO will liaise closely with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data in the course of the study.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB009**

**(Question Serial No. 3965)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the first stage construction works of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park, the Government's earlier target was to make the first batch of land available by 2021 for Phase 1 superstructure development.

Please set out the specific timetable, expenditure and number of staff involved for the above works, and advise whether the Government will conduct public consultation on the entire Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park project.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 244)

Reply:

In consultation with the Development Bureau, the requested information is consolidated and provided as follows:

In May 2018, the Government obtained the approval of the Financial Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) for a funding of \$785.9 million for the construction of the Advance Works as well as the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1. The approved project estimates for the construction of the Advance Works and the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 are \$517.6 million and \$268.3 million respectively in money-of-the-day prices. The relevant works and the detailed design and site investigation commenced in June and September 2018 respectively. If everything goes smoothly, it is expected that the first batch of land parcels of the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop) will be made available by 2021, and the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 will be completed in phases by early 2023. The total project estimate for the construction of Main Works Package 1 is about \$13,794.5 million in money-of-the-day prices.

The Civil Engineering and Development Department deployed 5.5 professional staff for the Loop development project in 2018-19, and deployed 8.5 professional staff in 2019-20. There were also directorate officers overseeing this project as well as supporting technical and clerical staff.

Besides, the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study for the development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park), and is currently conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and the operating expenditure of the Park.

We will seek funding approval from the LegCo for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.

The Government has consulted relevant stakeholders, including the LegCo, District Councils and Rural Committees in a timely manner in different stages of the Loop development, such as during the Planning and Engineering Study on Development of Lok Ma Chau Loop in 2014, after signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Jointly Developing the Lok Ma Chau Loop by Hong Kong and Shenzhen in 2017, during the completion of the draft Lok Ma Chau Loop Outline Zoning Plan and the gazettal of the proposed road works of the Advance Works in 2017, during funding application for the construction of the Advance Works and the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 of the Loop in 2018, and during the gazettal of the proposed road works, the sewerage system and sewerage treatment works of Main Works Package 1 in 2019. The Loop development is a large-scale and long-term project. The Government and HSITPL will continue to listen to the views from relevant stakeholders on the development of the Loop and the Park.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB010****(Question Serial No. 3966)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (3) Efficiency OfficeControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the cases handled by the 24-hour one-stop service "1823", what are the respective numbers and percentage shares of the departments involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 245)Reply:

The information requested is provided as follows:

In 2019, 1823 handled a total of 2.23 million cases, including enquiries and complaints, for the departments set out in the table below:

Department	Number of cases (and respective percentage of the total caseload)	
Hong Kong Housing Authority and Housing Department	333 153	14.94%
Labour Department	312 823	14.03%
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	266 734	11.96%
Transport Department	206 877	9.27%
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	179 805	8.06%
Rating and Valuation Department	95 488	4.28%
Hongkong Post	89 407	4.01%
Highways Department	70 625	3.17%
Buildings Department	62 407	2.80%

Department	Number of cases (and respective percentage of the total caseload)	
Companies Registry	48 254	2.16%
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	46 980	2.11%
Lands Department	45 572	2.04%
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	32 175	1.44%
Social Welfare Department	27 451	1.23%
Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office, Department of Health	16 324	0.73%
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	16 175	0.73%
Drainage Services Department	11 887	0.53%
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	11 071	0.50%
Land Registry	2 942	0.13%
Architectural Services Department	2 185	0.10%
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1 395	0.06%
Marine Department	709	0.03%
Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section, Development Bureau	447	0.02%
1823 and non-participating departments	349 495	15.67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 230 381</b>	<b>100%</b>

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB011**

**(Question Serial No. 1067)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Efficiency Office (EffO) will enhance the Youth Portal (YP) to improve its information dissemination related to youth development in the coming year. Will the Secretary inform this Committee of:

- 1) the details of the work on enhancing the YP, as well as the estimated manpower and expenditure involved;
- 2) the demarcation of responsibilities between the EffO and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) as the HAB's service targets include young people; and any difference in the staffing for the related work between the two?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

(1) YP (Youth.gov.hk) is a one-stop web portal managed by the EffO, disseminating information related to youth development. It offers youth-related public services information provided by different government bureaux/departments and other related organisations funded by the government on topics focusing on study pathways, career pursuit, entrepreneurship, and cultural and creative activities.

In 2020-21, we will continue to enhance the work on YP to facilitate information dissemination relating to youth development and get closer to young people. For example, we will further enrich, both in depth and breadth, the content of YP, in particular the information on entrepreneurship and career pursuit. On the depth of the content, more career-related contents will be added, including the academic or professional qualifications required for different jobs and the study pathways concerned, so that young people can get prepared for future career development. On the breadth of the content, YP will step up the use of different online platforms, including social media, to allow easier access to youth development-related information by young people. To cater for the young people's

ever-changing needs, we will also engage a contractor of user experience design to collect users' opinions and improve, from time to time, the layout design and content categories of YP for ongoing enhancement to user experience. The above efforts in upgrading YP will be handled by existing staff and thus no additional manpower or expenditure will be involved.

(2) Youth development falls within the policy portfolio of HAB and its responsibilities include, inter alia, providing support to the work of the Youth Development Commission and co-ordinating various youth development measures through collaboration with relevant bureaux/departments, uniformed groups and other youth organisations. The EffO, on the other hand, is responsible for managing the one-stop platform of YP to disseminate information related to youth development. As the duties of the two are different in nature, a direct comparison of the staffing involved would not seem appropriate.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB012**

**(Question Serial No. 4345)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

1. Please set out in detail the achievements, the expenditure and number of staff involved in promoting innovation and technology (I&T) since the establishment of the Bureau.
2. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on developing local I&T industries in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
3. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on promoting research and development (R&D) collaboration with the world's top-notch science and research institutes in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
4. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on promoting "re-industrialisation" through the development of smart production and high value-added industries in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
5. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on encouraging private sector investments in technology start-ups and R&D activities in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
6. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on supporting the formulation of digital framework and technical standards for smart city development in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
7. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on promoting the development of Hong Kong into a Wi-Fi connected city and facilitating open data applications in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

8. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on promoting the application of innovative technologies in addressing social issues in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
9. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on formulating policies to support the use of local technology products and services in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
10. What are the anticipated progress and achievements of the work on formulating policies to augment the pool of I&T talents in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?
11. What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in encouraging collaboration among institutions in developing I&T in 2020-21?
12. How will the Bureau support the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area into an international I&T hub in 2020-21? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 311)

Reply:

Our reply to the different parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) Since the establishment of the Innovation and Technology Bureau (“ITB”) in November 2015, the Government has devoted a large amount of resources and launched a series of initiatives with a view to perfecting the innovation and technology (“I&T”) ecosystem and promoting the I&T development in Hong Kong.

On I&T infrastructure, the works of the Hong Kong Science Park (“Science Park”) Stage 1 Expansion Programme have been completed, while the planning and infrastructure construction of the Data Technology Hub and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (“AMC”) in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate (“IE”), Cyberport 5, as well as the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (“the Park”) in the Loop are progressing at full steam.

On promoting research and development (“R&D”), we continue to provide funding support through the Innovation and Technology Fund (“ITF”), and have implemented measures to provide enhanced tax deduction for qualifying R&D expenditure. In addition, we are pressing ahead with the establishment of the 2 *InnoHK* research clusters at the Science Park, and are actively exploring the establishment of a third research cluster, with a view to attracting overseas and Mainland top-notch R&D institutions to Hong Kong to undertake collaborative research with our local institutions.

On pooling talent, we have launched the Technology Talent Admission Scheme and the Technology Talent Scheme to attract non-local talent and nurture local

talent. We are also building the InnoCell adjacent to the Science Park to provide technology talent with suitable living space.

In order to support technology enterprises, we have set up the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) and Technology Voucher Programme, as well as introduced a new policy to encourage the opening of data. We have also injected funding into the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (“HKSTPC”) and Cyberport respectively for enhancing support to their tenants and incubatees.

In addition, we promulgated the “Hong Kong Smart City Blueprint” which covers over 70 concrete initiatives and the new open data policy. We have also been actively participating in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (“the Greater Bay Area”) international I&T hub to enhance infrastructure connectivity.

- (2)&(4) On promoting “re-industrialisation”, the Government plans to inject \$2 billion into the ITF for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme to subsidise manufacturers, on a matching basis, to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. The Government also plans to provide an additional funding of \$2 billion to the HKSTPC for developing a Microelectronics Centre. In May 2019, the Government consulted the Panel on Commerce and Industry of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) on these two proposals and submitted the funding application to the Financial Committee of LegCo, with a view to launching the funding scheme in the second quarter of 2020 and commencing the works concerned as soon as possible. In addition, the Data Technology Hub and AMC in the Tseung Kwan O IE under development by the HKSTPC will be completed in the first half of 2020 and in 2022 respectively to provide infrastructure for the advanced manufacturing industry.
- (3) The Government has earmarked \$10 billion to establish the first 2 *InnoHK* research clusters, namely *Health@InnoHK* focusing on healthcare technologies and *AIR@InnoHK* focusing on artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics technologies. The *InnoHK* initiative has received enthusiastic response, with a total of 65 proposals received from world renowned universities and research institutes. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of organisations that will be set up in the 2 research clusters. The first batch of R&D laboratories are expected to be set up progressively this year.
- (5) The Government has established a \$2 billion ITVF to encourage venture capital funds to invest in local I&T start-ups. In 2019-20, the ITVF invested about \$66 million in 10 local I&T start-ups and attracted private capital of over \$200 million to invest in the concerned companies in the same round of financing. The business areas of these start-ups come in a wide range including financial technology, e-commerce, supply chain management, biotechnology and AI.

To encourage more enterprises to conduct R&D locally and promote technological innovation and economic development in Hong Kong, the Government implemented in 2018 the enhanced tax deduction for expenditures incurred on “qualifying R&D activities” by enterprises. According to the information provided by the Inland Revenue Department, as at the end of February 2020, among the profits tax returns received, there were 103 applications claiming tax deduction for R&D expenditures in the 2018-19 assessment year pursuant to the amended Inland Revenue Ordinance. The relevant R&D expenditures for claiming tax deduction are about \$1.75 billion. We will also continue to provide cash rebate for the expenditures of dedicated R&D projects conducted by eligible enterprises through the R&D Cash Rebate Scheme.

- (6) The Government promulgated the Hong Kong Smart City Blueprint in December 2017. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (“OGCIO”) is actively pushing ahead with 3 smart city infrastructure projects, including: the iAM Smart platform, the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme and the Next Generation GovCloud and Big Data Analytics Platform. It is estimated that the iAM Smart platform and the Next Generation GovCloud and Big Data Analytics Platform will be launched in the fourth and third quarters of 2020 respectively, with estimated expenditures of about \$46 million and \$125 million in 2020-21 respectively.
- (7) As at the end of February 2020, there were 36 801 “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots. We will continue to expand the coverage of “Wi-Fi.HK” in various districts across Hong Kong. In addition to providing free Wi-Fi service in government venues, we encourage the industry as well as the public and private sectors to participate in the programme through public-private collaboration for provision of free Wi-Fi service in more venues. We will also step up the promotion activities on various social media platforms and through working with the Hong Kong Tourism Board. The estimated expenditure in 2020-21 is about \$43.5 million.

A total of 700 new datasets were made available by the Government in 2019, which included the real-time arrival information of 3 franchised bus operators and 4 lines of the MTR Corporation Limited. About 220 new datasets are expected to be made available in 2020. Making use of the open data of the Government as well as those of the public and private sectors, the OGCIO also launched 4 city dashboards on the Public Sector Information (“PSI”) Portal ([data.gov.hk](http://data.gov.hk)) in December 2019 to present a range of city data (including data related to traffic, weather, public services, etc.) through interactive charts and maps. Moreover, leveraging the open data on the PSI Portal ([data.gov.hk](http://data.gov.hk)), the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Development Bureau and the relevant industry, introduced the “COVID-19 Infection Local Situation Interactive Map Dashboard” in February 2020 to keep the public abreast of the latest situation of the epidemic.

- (8) Through the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living, the ITB has financed I&T projects which make daily living more convenient, more comfortable and safer, or cater for the needs of specific groups. To date, 25



projects have obtained the Panel's funding support, involving around \$84 million in total. As at the end of February 2020, the deliverables of 13 projects approved were developed and rolled out for use by the target groups, while the other 11 projects are still under development. As for the remaining project, a funding agreement is to be signed with the successful applicant.

- (9) The ITB supports the use of local technology products and services through a number of measures.

Firstly, the Smart Government Innovation Lab ("SGIL"), established by the OGCIIO in April 2019, has promoted the wider use of I&T among government departments, and invited the industry to help assist the government departments in introducing various information technology ("IT") solutions to improve public services and create more business opportunities for local start-ups as well as small and medium enterprises ("SMEs"). In addition to exchange activities such as technology-related forums and themed workshops, the OGCIIO has also set up a dedicated webpage setting out the problems faced by different public services, and invited the industry to submit technology solutions and product suggestions. Trials and proof-of-concept testing for proposals that fulfill the needs of departments will be arranged in collaboration with the relevant departments. In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure on the SGIL is about \$4.9 million.

Secondly, the OGCIIO has set up a Minor Group in the Standing Offer Agreement for Quality Professional Services ("SOA-QPS") to enable local SMEs to provide IT services to departments. In the SOA-QPS4, the contract value limit of the minor group has more than doubled from \$1.43 million to \$3 million, so as to facilitate the SMEs to participate in government projects of higher contract values. Among the 49 companies participating in the SOA-QPS4, 16 of them (33%) are SMEs, an increase of 6 SMEs as compared with the last agreement. The OGCIIO also revised the existing Standard Marking Scheme for tenders and the marking scheme under the SOA-QPS4 to ensure that the procurement arrangements of IT projects are in line with the new pro-innovation procurement policy. We will consider including new measures in the contracts of the new SOA-QPS, thereby enabling the SMEs to have a higher chance of success in bidding for government IT projects.

Moreover, the Public Sector Trial Scheme ("PSTS") subsidises R&D projects funded by the ITF as well as incubatees and graduate tenants of the HKSTPC and Cyberport for producing prototypes/samples for project deliverables and their trials in the public sector (including government bureaux and departments) in order to foster the realisation and commercialisation of local R&D results. As at the end of January 2020, the PSTS has funded 238 projects with a total amount of about \$431 million, benefitting more than 140 organisations and involving over 320 trials. The funding scope of the PSTS has been extended to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong since 30 March 2020, thereby assisting more local technology companies to realise and commercialise their R&D outcomes and encourage public sector organisations to apply more local R&D outcomes.

- (10) The ITB continues to pool technology talent for Hong Kong through a 3-pronged approach of attracting, nurturing and retaining talent, including:
- Continuing to provide a fast-track arrangement for eligible technology companies/institutes to admit overseas and Mainland technology talent to undertake R&D work in Hong Kong through the Technology Talent Admission Scheme. Since January 2020, the technology areas of the Scheme have been extended from 7 to 13, and the coverage has been extended to all companies undertaking R&D activities in these 13 technology areas in Hong Kong. As at the end of February 2020, a total of 325 quotas were allocated by the Innovation and Technology Commission, and the Immigration Department approved a total of 102 employment visas/entry permit applications in accordance with the relevant quotas.
  - Continuing to subsidise eligible enterprises to recruit graduates and postdoctoral talent to engage in R&D projects through the Researcher Programme and the Postdoctoral Hub. Since 9 March 2020, the coverage of the two schemes has been extended to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. As at the end of January 2020, about 4 800 applications were approved under the Researcher Programme, with a total funding amount of about \$1.27 billion. For the Postdoctoral Hub, about 900 applications were approved, with a total funding amount of about \$520 million.
  - Continuing to subsidise local companies on a 2(government):1(company) matching basis through the Re-industrialisation and Technology Training Programme for training their staff in technologies, in particular the training related to “Industry 4.0”. As at the end of January 2020, 383 public training programmes were registered under the Programme, and 885 training funding applications were approved for subsidising 2 116 staff members of local companies to receive training in technologies. The total funding amount involved is about \$13.17 million.
- (11) The ITB will continue to encourage the collaboration and co-operation among various I&T institutions. The ITB will proactively strengthen the ties with various stakeholders, including the relevant government departments, R&D centres, universities, the HKSTPC, Cyberport, the Hong Kong Productivity Council. We will revisit the work priorities and interactions of various institutions from time to time, so as to ensure that the institutions can make good use of their resources, complement each other and create synergy, with a view to developing the I&T sector of Hong Kong in unison.
- (12) The establishment of an international I&T hub is a focus of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. While Hong Kong possesses strong R&D capabilities and advantages as an international and market-oriented economy, the Greater Bay Area has a sizeable market as well as capabilities in commercialising R&D results and advanced manufacturing. With the ability of pooling innovation resources from the

Mainland and across the globe and achieving synergistic development with other cities in the Greater Bay Area with regard to their comparative strengths, Hong Kong can build up a comprehensive industry chain for commercialising R&D results. In this regard, the Government will continue to take forward a number of initiatives to strongly enhance the I&T ecosystem in Hong Kong, including establishing international I&T clusters, pooling international technology resources, fostering flows of R&D factors, developing the Park, and pursuing smart city development and collaboration. We will actively facilitate the work of developing the Greater Bay Area international I&T hub, which will provide Hong Kong with a broader environment for I&T development.

The overall estimated expenditure of the ITB for 2020-21 is about \$699.2 million. The ITB is taking forward the work in collaboration with its departments using existing manpower and resources. We do not have a breakdown of the expenditure involved in individual work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB013****(Question Serial No. 4900)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the 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 the Innovation and Technology Bureau from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Innovation and Technology Bureau from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(a) Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					

2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(b) cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(c) cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

5) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted by the department in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted by the department, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 470)

Reply:

The required information is as follows:

- (1) – (2) During the period from October 2018 to September 2019, among the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB), there was none for which the requested information was only partially provided. Neither was there any refusal to provide the requested information.
- (3) From its establishment on 20 November 2015 till September 2019, the ITB did not receive any requests for review.
- (4)(a) From 2016 to September 2019, there were 8, 3 and 3 occasions on which the ITB was able to provide the requested information within 10 days, within 11 to 21 days and within 22 to 51 days from the date of receipt of a written request respectively. There was also 1 occasion on which the request for information by an applicant was refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code, and another 1 occasion on which the request was transferred to and handled by another department.



- (4)(b) From 2016 to September 2019, the main reason that the ITB was unable to provide the requested information within 21 days from the receipt of request was the complexity of the information requested which had to take time to process.
- (4)(c) From 2016 to September 2019, there was no case in which the ITB could not provide the information within 51 days from the date of receipt of a request.
- (5) From 2016 to September 2019, the ITB had not consulted the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data regarding any cases of refusal to provide the information requested.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB014**

**(Question Serial No. 0148)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list the estimated annual salary expenditure (including non-accountable entertainment allowance) for the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology and the Political Assistant to S for IT in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The requested information is provided as follows:

Under the Estimates of the Innovation and Technology Bureau for 2020-21, the provisions reserved for meeting the salary expenditure of the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology (US for IT) and the Political Assistant (PA) to S for IT are about \$4.18 million, \$2.72 million and \$1.04 million respectively. No provision has been set aside for paying the non-accountable entertainment allowance for S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB015**

**(Question Serial No. 3171)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide:

1. the estimates of salary, benefits and allowances for the Secretary for Innovation and Technology in the coming financial year; and
2. the estimates of salary, benefits and allowances for each of the other politically appointed officials in the coming financial year.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 9012)

Reply:

The information requested is as follows:

- (1) & (2) In the 2020-21 Estimates, the Innovation and Technology Bureau has earmarked around \$4.18 million, \$2.72 million and \$1.04 million for expenditures on salary for the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology (US for IT) and the Political Assistant (PA) to S for IT respectively.

S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT, as well as their dependants, are eligible for the medical and dental benefits available to civil servants and their dependents. S for IT is provided with the free use at his discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong. As for US for IT and PA to S for IT, their use of government cars are governed by rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable ranks.

S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT are not granted other allowances and therefore there is no relevant estimate.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB016****(Question Serial No. 5723)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Innovation and TechnologyControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

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

- (a) Please provide in the table below information on public policy studies and strategic public policy studies that were funded in the past 2 financial years:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open bidding/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Commence-ment date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If not, what were the reasons?

- (b) Has any funding been earmarked for conducting internal studies this year? If yes, please provide the following information:

Title, content and objectives of project	Commencement date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If not, what are the reasons?

- (c) Has any funding been earmarked for conducting consultancy studies this year? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open bidding/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Commence -ment date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If not, what were the reasons?

- (d) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the relevant research institutions?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 550)

Reply:

The required information is provided below:

- (a) In 2018-19, the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) and departments under its purview did not commission any consultancy study on public policy. In 2019-20, the studies on public policy and strategic public policy funded by the ITB include:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open bidding/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Commencement date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If not, what were the reasons?
Automated Systems (H.K.) Limited	Quotation	<p><u>Title</u> Review of Government information technology (IT) security related regulations, policies and guidelines</p> <p><u>Content</u> To examine the existing regulations, policies and guidelines on IT security of the Government with reference to international standards, industry best practices and the latest information and cyber security landscape.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To update the policies and guidelines on IT security of the Government in a timely manner.</p>	993,000	August 2019	In progress	Under review	Under review
Colliers International Hong Kong	Quotation	<p>Review of the facilitation measures for development of data centres</p> <p><u>Content</u> To review and assess the facilitation measures introduced by the Government for the development of data centres in Hong Kong since 2012.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To facilitate the development of data centres in Hong Kong.</p>	480,000	January 2020	In progress	Under review	Under review

(b) We have not planned or set aside any funding for conducting internal studies in 2020-21.

(c) The consultancy studies to be conducted in 2020-21 include:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open bidding/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Commencement date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Government on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If not, what were the reasons?
To be decided by tender	Tender	<p><u>Title</u> Study on formulation of the way forward for the “Wi-Fi Connected City” programme</p> <p><u>Content</u> To study the formulation of a comprehensive development strategy and implementation measures for future public Wi-Fi services in Hong Kong.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To formulate the way forward for the “Wi-Fi Connected City” programme.</p>	Pending tender result	First half of 2020 (expected)	Under planning	The study has yet to commence.	The study has yet to commence.

(d) We assess the proposals submitted by consultants in accordance with the contents of the invitation for quotation/tender document and the established procedures. The areas of assessment include the consultant’s understanding of the study, relevant expertise and experience, the proposed research methodology, work plan and timetable, and the price quotations.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB017**

**(Question Serial No. 5724)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide the following details of each of the meetings, visits and exchange activities with relevant Mainland authorities in the past year in chronological order: (a) purpose and destination, (b) post titles of the officials met, (c) number and post titles of Hong Kong officials in entourage, (d) number of days of the visit, and (e) total expenditure incurred, including expenses on (i) transportation (air tickets and local transportation), (ii) accommodation, (iii) meals, (iv) banquets or entertainment and (v) gifts.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 551)

Reply:

Details of the duty visits to the Mainland made by staff of the Innovation and Technology Bureau in 2019-20 (as at the end of February 2020) are as follows:



<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
2 April 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting	-	-	-	-
3 April 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the launching ceremony of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Macao Technology Union	About 3,700	-	-	About 3,700
21-26 April 2019	Shanghai, Hangzhou Beijing	Shanghai, Hangzhou: 3 Beijing: 2	3 bureau directors to join the Legislative Council joint-Panel duty visit to the major cities in the Yangtze River Delta Region, and then depart for Beijing to attend the 2nd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation	About 25,000	About 29,000	About 16,500	About 70,500
16 May 2019	Guangzhou	3	To attend the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference	About 2,600	-	-	About 2,600
17-18 June 2019	Beijing	4	To attend the meeting of the task force on the development of an international innovation and technology hub in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area	About 39,600	About 5,500	About 4,900	About 50,000
22-23 July 2019	Beijing	3	To attend the closing ceremony of the Youth Internship Programme at the	About 18,800	About 4,100	About 3,600	About 26,500

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
			Chinese Academy of Sciences				
26-27 August 2019	Guangzhou	3	To attend the 2019 China Industrial Internet Conference & Guangdong-HongKong-Macao Greater Bay Area Digital Economy Conference	About 1,900	About 2,100	About 6,300	About 10,300
30 August 2019	Shenzhen	2	To join the Symposium of Hong Kong Youth Studying, Working and Doing Startups in Shenzhen	About 1,700	-	-	About 1,700
30 September - 2 October 2019	Beijing	1	To participate in activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China	-	-	About 2,000	About 2,000
19-20 October 2019	Wuzhen of Zhejiang	2	To attend the 6th World Internet Conference	About 6,000	-	About 1,600	About 7,600
24-25 October 2019	Shanghai	1	Joined Cyberport in their bid to bring an international e-sports competition to Hong Kong by meeting with and lobbying a well-known Mainland e-sports company in Shanghai.	About 5,100		About 3,100	About 8,200

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
1 November 2019	Shenzhen	2	To join the 2019 Greater Bay Area Summit on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence	-	-	-	-
7-9 November 2019	Shanghai	2	To follow up the user experience survey of the "Hong Kong Exhibition Area" in the China International Import Expo conducted by the external consultant	About 3,200	-	About 12,500	About 15,700
13 November 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the Forum of Invigorating the Greater Bay Area through Opening Up and Innovation under the 21st China Hi-tech Fair	About 3,200	-	-	About 3,200
27-28 November 2019	Dongguan	2	To participate in the 2019 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Academician Summit and the 5th Guangdong Academician Summit	About 800	-	About 3,800	About 4,600
3 December 2019	Shenzhen	4	To attend the meeting of the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Co-operation Committee	About 600	-	-	About 600

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
4-5 December 2019	Beijing	2	To meet with the Ministry of Science & Technology	About 12,400	About 3,500	About 2,600	About 18,500
6 December 2019	Shenzhen	7	To attend the meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop	About 2,700	-	-	About 2,700
20 December 2019	Shenzhen	2	To participate in the First Beijing-Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Development Forum and the Final of the 2nd Beijing-Hong Kong Youth Innovators and Entrepreneurs Competition	-	-	-	-

*Note: Other expenses include subsistence allowances. During the visits stated above, no entertainment expenses were incurred.*

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB018****(Question Serial No. 5725)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (3) Efficiency OfficeControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Please advise this Committee on the following:

- (1) For the cases handled by the 24-hour one-stop service "1823", the respective numbers and percentage shares of the departments involved in tabular format.
- (2) Information on the staff establishment and salary expenditure of the 24-hour one-stop service "1823".

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 552)Reply:

The information required is provided as follows:

- (1) In 2019, 1823 handled a total of 2.23 million cases, including enquiries and complaints, for the departments set out in the table below:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Number of cases (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>	
Hong Kong Housing Authority and Housing Department	333 153	14.94%
Labour Department	312 823	14.03%
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	266 734	11.96%
Transport Department	206 877	9.27%
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	179 805	8.06%
Rating and Valuation Department	95 488	4.28%

Department	Number of cases (and respective percentage of the total caseload)	
Hongkong Post	89 407	4.01%
Highways Department	70 625	3.17%
Buildings Department	62 407	2.80%
Companies Registry	48 254	2.16%
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	46 980	2.11%
Lands Department	45 572	2.04%
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	32 175	1.44%
Social Welfare Department	27 451	1.23%
Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office, Department of Health	16 324	0.73%
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	16 175	0.73%
Drainage Services Department	11 887	0.53%
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	11 071	0.50%
Land Registry	2 942	0.13%
Architectural Services Department	2 185	0.10%
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1 395	0.06%
Marine Department	709	0.03%
Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section of Development Bureau	447	0.02%
1823 and non-participating departments	349 495	15.67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 230 381</b>	<b>100%</b>

- (2) As at the end of February 2020, 1823 had 444 full-time staff (including 436 contract staff and 8 civil servants) and 138 part-time staff. The salary expenditure in 2019-20 was \$140 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB019****(Question Serial No. 5726)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Innovation and TechnologyControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the records management work of your Bureau and the departments under your purview over the past year:

- (1) Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer so designated, 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.
- (2) Please list in table form information on closed programme and administrative records pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	
Reasons for not having been transferred	

- (3) Please list in table form information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	
Reasons for not having been transferred	

- (4) Please list in table form information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	
Reasons for not having been transferred	

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 553)

Reply:

The required information is set out below:

**Innovation and Technology Bureau**

- (1) In accordance with the Government's records management policy, the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) has designated staff of different ranks to perform records management duties as follows:
- (a) 1 Chief Executive Officer (CEO) serving as Departmental Records Manager (DRM) to devise, carry out and document departmental records management practices and procedures according to the guidelines and advice of the Government Records Service (GRS);
  - (b) 1 Executive Officer II (EOII) serving as Assistant Departmental Records Manager (ADRM) to assist the DRM in the execution of the duties concerned;
  - (c) 9 Executive Officers I (EOIs), 2 EOIIIs and 1 Senior Information Officer being responsible for supervising records management work in different divisions/sections; and
  - (d) 3 Clerical Officers (COs), 12 Assistant Clerical Officers (ACOs), 2 Clerical Assistants (CAs), 1 Personal Secretary II (PSII) and 1 Contract Personal Secretary being responsible for the execution of certain records management duties.

In the course of performing daily duties, staff of different ranks in ITB take part in related records management work to meet operational needs.

- (2), (3) & (4) ITB does not have any closed programme and administrative records pending transfer to the GRS for appraisal, transferred to the GRS for retention or approved for destruction by the GRS.



## **Efficiency Office**

- (1) In accordance with the Government's records management policy, the Efficiency Office (EffO) has designated staff of different ranks to perform records management duties as follows:
  - (a) 1 Principal Executive Officer serving as DRM to devise, carry out and document departmental records management practices and procedures according to the guidelines and advice of the GRS;
  - (b) 3 CEOs serving as ADRMs to assist the DRM in the execution of the duties concerned;
  - (c) 1 Senior Executive Officer (SEO) and 2 EOIs serving as Records Managers being responsible for supervising records management work in different divisions/sections; and
  - (d) 1 EOII, 1 CO, 5 ACOs, 3 CAs, 1 Assistant Manager, 1 Assistant Customer Service Supervisor and 1 Operation Assistant being responsible for the execution of certain records management duties.

In the course of performing daily duties, staff of different ranks in EffO take part in related records management work to meet operational needs.

- (2) Information on closed records pending transfer to the GRS for appraisal is as follows:

Category of records	Administrative records
Years covered by the records	2006 - 2019
Number and linear metres of records	3 records/0.15 linear metres
Retention period approved by the GRS	2 to 3 years
Whether they are confidential documents	2 of them are confidential documents
Reasons for not having been transferred	The retention period approved by the GRS is not yet expired.

- (3) The EffO has not transferred any records to the GRS for retention in the past year.
- (4) Information on records which have been approved for destruction by the GRS is as follows:

Category of records	Administrative records
Years covered by the records	1970 - 2016
Number and linear metres of records	89 records/3.87 linear metres
Year in which the records were transferred to the GRS	2018 - 2019
Retention period approved by the GRS	2 to 7 years; or retained until superseded or become obsolete; or 12 months after the staff concerned has left the service
Whether they are confidential documents	No

### **Office of the Government Chief Information Officer**

- (1) In accordance with the Government's records management policy, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has designated staff of different ranks to perform records management duties as follows:
- (a) 1 CEO serving as DRM to devise, carry out and document departmental records management practices and procedures according to the guidelines and advice of the GRS;
  - (b) 1 SEO serving as ADRM to assist the DRM in the execution of the duties concerned;
  - (c) 3 EOIs, 1 EOII, 3 Senior Clerical Officers (SCOs), 1 Accounting Officer I, 1 Chief Training Officer, 1 Computer Operation Manager and 1 Senior Supplies Officer being responsible for supervising records management in different divisions/sections; and
  - (d) 8 COs, 8 ACOs, 1 PS II, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 Data Preparation Supervisor, 1 Training Officer I and 2 Senior Computer Operators being responsible for the execution of certain records management duties.

In the course of performing daily duties, staff of different ranks in OGCIO take part in related records management work to meet operational needs.

- (2) Information on closed records pending transfer to the GRS for appraisal is as follows:

Category of records	Administrative records
Years covered by the records	2004-2019
Number and linear metres of records	5 records/0.25 linear metres
Retention period approved by the GRS	3-5 years
Whether they are confidential documents	No
Reasons for not having been transferred	The retention period approved by the GRS is not yet expired.

- (3) Information on records which have been transferred to the GRS for retention is as follows:

Category of records	Programme records
Years covered by the records	1972-1996
Number and linear metres of records	7 records/0.35 linear metres
Year in which the records were transferred to the GRS	2014
Retention period approved by the GRS	Permanent retention
Whether they are confidential documents	Yes

- (4) Information on records which have been approved for destruction by the GRS is as follows:

Category of records	Administrative records	Programme records
Years covered by the records	1988-2015	1975-1997
Number and linear metres of records	3003 records/ 142.68 linear metres	36 records/ 1.80 linear metres
Year in which the records were transferred to the GRS	2017-2019	2014
Retention period approved by the GRS	3 months to 7 years	14 years
Whether they are confidential documents	Yes: 125 No: 2878	Yes

### **Innovation and Technology Commission**

- (1) In accordance with the Government's internal guidelines and codes, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) has designated staff of different ranks to undertake different duties on departmental records management as part of their overall duties and report to a directorate officer responsible for overseeing such work:
- (a) 1 CEO serving as DRM to assist in developing and implementing the departmental records management programme;
  - (b) 2 EOIs serving as ADRMs to assist the DRM in the execution of the duties concerned; and
  - (c) 9 officers not below the rank of EOII serving as Records Managers to monitor the records management of various divisions.

In addition, each division has its own general registry with clerical grade staff responsible for filing and records management routine. In this regard, the ITC has 1 SCO, 12 COs, 47 ACOs and 15 CAs.

(2) Information on closed records pending transfer to the GRS for appraisal is as follows:

Category of records	Programme records	Programme records	Administrative records	Administrative records
Years covered by the records	1995 - 2019	2002 - 2019	2005 - 2019	2002 - 2019
Number and linear metres of records	408 records/ 20.45 linear metres	165 records/ 8.41 linear metres	116 records/ 5.80 linear metres	19 records/ 0.95 linear metres
Retention period approved by the GRS	1 to 30 years	8 to 30 years	1 to 5 years	1 to 3 years
Whether they are confidential documents	No	Yes	No	Yes
Reasons for not having been transferred	The retention period approved by the GRS is not yet expired.			

(3) Information on records which have been transferred to the GRS for retention is as follows:

Category of records	Programme records
Years covered by the records	1964 – 1985
Number and linear metres of records	11 records/0.55 linear metres
Year in which the records were transferred to the GRS	2019
Retention period approved by the GRS	Permanent retention
Whether they are confidential documents	Yes

(4) Information on records which have been approved for destruction by the GRS is as follows:

Category of records	Programme records	Administrative records	Administrative records
Years covered by the records	2010 - 2011	1982 - 2016	2016 - 2018
Number and linear metres of records	6 records/ 0.30 linear metres	203 records/ 5.63 linear metres	346 records/ 0.83 linear metres
Year in which the records were transferred to the GRS	2019	2017 - 2018	2019
Retention period approved by the GRS	7 years	Retained according to the General Administrative Records Disposal Schedules of the GRS, generally for 0 to 7 years after closure of the files	
Whether they are confidential documents	No	No	Yes

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB020****(Question Serial No. 6827)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (1) Director of Bureau's OfficeControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Please set out the monthly salaries, allowances and other expenses of the Secretary for Innovation and Technology in the past 5 years, the monthly pension he will receive on retirement and the total expenditure on his pension.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1311)Reply:

The required information is as follows:

(1) The monthly salaries of the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT) in the past 5 years are tabulated below:

Relevant period in the past 5 years	Monthly salary (\$)
20 November 2015* to 30 June 2017	298,115
1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018	333,900
1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	340,250
From 1 July 2019 onwards	348,100

(\*The Innovation and Technology Bureau was established on 20 November 2015.)

(2) No expenditure is incurred by the Innovation and Technology Bureau on the job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to S for IT. Meanwhile, according to the remuneration package for Politically Appointed Officials of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, S for IT will not receive any pension benefits apart from the Mandatory Provident Fund contributions from the Government.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB021**

**(Question Serial No. 1263)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Innovation and Technology Bureau's expenditure for innovation and technology will increase by 67.3% to \$365 million in the coming year. What are the major uses of the additional provision and how much out of the provision will be spent on further promoting the Technology Voucher Programme?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The required information is provided below:

The estimated expenditure under Programme (2) of the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) for 2020-21 is \$146.9 million higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This is mainly due to:

- (a) the increased cash flow of about \$61.57 million for the TechConnect (block vote);
- (b) the increased cash flow of \$25.5 million for the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living;
- (c) the provision of about \$51.57 million for the general departmental expenses on strengthening the promotion of innovation and technology, office renovation works, upgrading of IT systems and procurement of equipment, etc.; and

- (d) the provision of about \$9.66 million for the salary expenses to be incurred by filling the vacancies which arise throughout the year and the creation of 6 new posts including 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Accounting Officer I, 1 Assistant Information Officer, 1 Clerical Officer, 1 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Motor Driver. Their main duties are to provide administrative and public relations support for ITB. The relevant salary expenses and related expenses incurred are about \$3.48 million.

Monitoring the implementation of funding schemes and support programmes (including the Technology Voucher Programme) under the Innovation and Technology Fund is one of the responsibilities under Programme (2) Innovation and Technology. We do not maintain a breakdown of expenditures for specific task.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB022**

**(Question Serial No. 0455)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Under this programme, one of the matters requiring special attention of the Innovation and Technology Bureau is to facilitate bureaux/departments to develop business-friendly measures to improve regulatory efficiency and transparency to further enhance the environment for doing business in Hong Kong. Please inform this Committee of the specific plans of the related work; the means to facilitate departments developing business-friendly measures; and the expenditure and manpower to be involved. As for last year (2019-20), it was mentioned under this programme that the Government would enhance the work of the Business Facilitation Team to improve regulatory efficiency, business processes and use of technology by the Government to further upgrade the environment for doing business in Hong Kong. Please advise on the effectiveness of the above-mentioned work over the past year and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The Business Facilitation Team under the Efficiency Office (EffO) is responsible for co-ordinating and overseeing the efforts of various departments in devising measures to improve licensing and regulatory services. It also provides secretarial support for the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee as well as its task forces and Business Liaison Groups.

Last year, there were a total of 145 new measures for improving licensing services initiated by various bureaux and departments. These measures include continuing the efforts of enhancing electronic licensing services, extending the validity of business licences, allowing the wider use of third party certification on compliance with licensing requirements, streamlining the procedures and documents required for licence applications, etc., with a view to relieving the compliance burden of various industries. The Government's business facilitation work has gained recognition worldwide. According to the Doing Business



2020 Report released by the World Bank, Hong Kong is ranked the third easiest place to do business globally. Currently, there are a total of 12 civil service posts and 3 Non-Civil Service Contract Staff positions in the Business Facilitation Team, and their total emoluments were about \$16 million in 2019-20.

In the coming year, the EffO will, building on the current solid foundation, continue to collaborate with the business sector, oversee and co-ordinate government departments' efforts in exploring ways to enhance the existing licensing regulatory regimes, and make use of information technology to provide more electronic licensing services, thereby creating a more business-friendly environment in Hong Kong. The EffO will take forward all the work concerned using existing manpower and resources.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB023**

**(Question Serial No. 0499)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Under this Programme, one of the main responsibilities of the Innovation and Technology Bureau is to promote re-industrialisation through the development of smart production and high value-added industries. Please inform this Committee of the effectiveness of the work done in this regard in 2019-20 and the expenditure incurred. In 2020-21, how will the Bureau promote re-industrialisation in Hong Kong through the development of smart production and high value-added industries? Please advise on the specific measures to be taken, the expenditure to be incurred and the anticipated effectiveness in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

In recent years, the Government has been actively promoting “re-industrialisation” and developing advanced manufacturing industries that are based on new technologies and smart production, so as to identify new growth point for Hong Kong’s economic development. We will continue to support the development of “re-industrialisation” from the perspectives of infrastructure, technology, talent, funding and scientific research.

In respect of infrastructure, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) is developing a Data Technology Hub (DT Hub) and an Advanced Manufacturing Centre (AMC) in Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate (IE). Upon approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in May 2016, an injection of about \$6.6 billion into the HKSTPC and a government loan of \$1.65 billion were made in October 2016 for the development of these 2 projects. The 2 projects are expected to be completed in the first half of 2020 and 2022 respectively. The AMC will foster smart production of the high value-added manufacturing industries. The HKSTPC will make use

of part of the Government's \$10 billion allocation to offer incentives for tenants at the AMC and DT Hub to set up smart production lines in Hong Kong. Moreover, a factory in the Tai Po Industrial Estate was refurbished into the Precision Manufacturing Centre in 2017 by the HKSTPC, with a view to fostering high technology smart production. The project costs were met by HKSTPC with its internal resources. Apart from the above, we also plan to provide an additional allocation of \$2 billion for the HKSTPC to develop a Microelectronics Centre (MEC) in Yuen Long IE.

In respect of technology, the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) has been dedicating efforts to promote "re-industrialisation" and assisting enterprises to move towards high value-added production and gradually upgrade to "Industry 4.0". The major work includes co-operating with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology of Germany (the Institute) to implement the Industry 4.0 Upgrade and Recognition Programme and, through the Invention Centre jointly set up by the HKPC and the Institute, accelerating the adoption of innovative industrial technologies by the industry to promote the development of smart industry and digital manufacturing. Meanwhile, the HKPC established the Smart Manufacturing Centre Digital@HKPC in May 2019 to showcase smart innovative products, materials, machinery and manufacturing processes and accelerate the adoption of innovative industrial technologies by the industry. In addition, the HKPC continues to provide workspace and technical support to users through Inno Space, in order to assist them in developing innovative ideas into industrial design, which may subsequently be translated into products through prototyping.

In respect of training of talent, we continue to implement the Re-industrialisation and Technology Training Programme to subsidise local companies on a 2 (the Government):1 (enterprises) matching basis to train their staff in technologies, especially those related to "Industry 4.0". The Programme was launched in August 2018. As at the end of January 2020, the Programme has approved 885 applications for training grant, subsidising the technology training of 2 116 staff members of local enterprises with a total funding amount of about \$13.17 million.

In respect of funding, we plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for establishing the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme which provides financial support for manufacturers on a 1 (the Government):2 (enterprises) matching basis for setting up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. The maximum funding per project is one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million, whichever is lower. It will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new production line in Hong Kong as well as fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned. We have consulted the LegCo Panel on Commerce and Industry on this proposal, together with the above-mentioned MEC proposal, in May 2019 and have submitted a funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to implementing the Scheme in the second quarter of this year and commencing the works as soon as possible.

In respect of scientific research, the 5 research and development (R&D) Centres established by the Government (i.e. the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre, the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute, the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel, and the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre) will continue to engage in

R&D related to “re-industrialisation”, and co-operate closely with the industry to promote commercialisation of R&D results, thereby assisting the industry to ride trend and create business opportunities. Furthermore, the Government will, through the ITF, continue to support local R&D work by financing projects that can contribute to technology upgrading and promotion of innovation, thereby promoting “re-industrialisation”. Related funding programmes include the Innovation and Technology Support Programme, the Partnership Research Programme, the Enterprise Support Scheme, etc..

We will closely monitor the progress and effectiveness of the various measures mentioned above.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB024**

**(Question Serial No. 0384)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In the past 3 years, the Government introduced a number of policies and allocated over a hundred billion dollars to support a series of measures for the development of innovation and technology, and hence some “unicorns” have emerged. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- the “unicorns” which received funding support in the past 3 years and their projects in tabular form;
- whether there are any performance indicators to assess if the funding has achieved the desired objectives. If yes, what are the details; if no, what are the reasons; and
- what mechanism is there to measure the effectiveness of the funding objectively?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The current-term Government values the development of innovation and technology (I&T), and has so far allocated over \$100 billion to launch a series of measures. One of the goals is to create a vibrant I&T ecosystem. These measures are gradually delivering results, with the number of local start-ups increasing from about 1 065 in 2014 to 3 184 in 2019 and the venture capital investment in Hong Kong increasing 13 times from \$1.27 billion in 2014 to \$17.8 billion in 2018.

It has come to our notice that a few start-ups in Hong Kong have become “unicorns”, i.e. unlisted enterprises with a valuation of over US\$1 billion, many of which have benefitted from the I&T infrastructure of Hong Kong, our policy measures and subsidy schemes.

For example, two of these “unicorn” companies were the incubatees of Cyberport, while another one graduated from the incubation programme of the Hong Kong Science and

Technology Parks Corporation. In addition, before and after two of the “unicorn” companies were formed, the Innovation and Technology Fund also on multiple occasions funded their teams in carrying out research and development projects that are relevant to their business.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB025**

**(Question Serial No. 0386)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government plans to submit a funding proposal for the Cyberport 5 development site to the Legislative Council in the first half of 2021. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- the types of technology companies and start-ups that it expects to attract;
- the vetting mechanism; and
- whether there are conditions for application of technology companies and start-ups; if yes, what are the details; if no, what are the reasons.

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-yee, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

At present, the technology companies and start-ups in the information and technology (I&T) ecosystem of Cyberport cover numerous digital technology areas, including financial technology, smart living, digital entertainment, big data, artificial intelligence, blockchain and cyber security. Cyberport will continue to follow the current application and leasing terms for tenants and Smart-Space co-working space to attract technology companies and start-ups to set up offices in Cyberport, including key clusters being driven by Cyberport and emerging digital technology areas, thereby providing more opportunities for young people to pursue a career in I&T and to further promote the overall development of I&T in Hong Kong.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB026**

**(Question Serial No. 4702)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Loop development of, it is mentioned in the Budget Speech that “the first phase of ground treatment works is in good progress. We will seek funding from the Legislative Council (LegCo) for commencing the Main Works Package 1 and construction works of the first batch of buildings.” In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the area of the first batch of land and details of the treatment works;
- (2) the progress of the works on the establishment of an ecological area within the location mentioned above and the area involved;
- (3) the expected time for seeking funding from the LegCo; and
- (4) details of the plan, date of announcement and the expenditure involved for commencing the Main Works Package 1 and construction works of the first batch of buildings.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 301)

Reply:

- (1) Regarding the Advance Works for the development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop with the funding approval by the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2018, the area of the first batch of land parcels made available for Phase 1 development of buildings and relevant facilities in the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) is about 5.5 hectares. In light of the relatively soft soil in some areas of the Loop, the Civil Engineering and Development Department has adopted preloading to strengthen the soft soil in the ground



treatment works, with a view to mitigating the impact of ground settlement on the future development of the Park.

- (2) The Ecological Area (EA) in the Loop, which covers an area of about 12.8 hectares, is currently under construction by the contractor of the Advance Works. We expect that the EA will be completed by early 2021.
- (3) & (4) Main Works Package 1 mainly covers site formation in the Loop and the infrastructural works for Phase 1 development of the Park, including construction of the Western Connection Road, Direct Road Link between the Mass Transit Railway Lok Ma Chau Station and the Loop, a tertiary sewage treatment plant, drainage and sewerage system, fresh water service reservoir and water supply system, as well as provision of relevant mitigation works on environmental impact, etc. The detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 commenced in September 2018 and are expected to be completed in phases by early 2023. Main Works Package 1 will be carried out in phases. The total project estimate for the construction of Main Works Package 1 is about \$13,794.5 million in money-of-the-day prices.

The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study, and is conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and the operating expenditure of the Park.

The Government has set aside \$20 billion to support the first phase development of the Park in the Loop for, inter alia, site formation, provision of infrastructure, construction of superstructure and initial operation. Since the Loop is a sizeable undeveloped land without any infrastructure, development of the Loop into the Park is a large-scale and long-term project. The total expenditure on the development of the Loop will depend on various factors, such as the specific planning of the Park, complementary facilities, site formation and detailed design of the infrastructure, etc. We expect the funding required for the Loop development as a whole will far exceed \$20 billion.

We will seek funding approval from the LegCo for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB027**

**(Question Serial No. 5004)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

1. What are the talent visa systems and tax concessions implemented in the Lok Ma Chau Loop to attract Mainland and foreign enterprises and talents?
2. What are the respective numbers of Mainland innovation and technology talents and enterprises in Hong Kong in each of the past 5 years?
3. It is stated in the Budget that \$20 billion is earmarked for the development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop. Please give a breakdown of the estimated expenditure.
4. For the past 5 years, what are the respective numbers of people who have stayed in Hong Kong for (i) less than 2 years; (ii) 2 to 4 years; (iii) 4 to 7 years; and (iv) over 7 years under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 852)

Reply:

In consultation with the relevant policy bureaux, the required information is provided as follows:

- (1) The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) in the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop) will be developed as a key base for co-operation in scientific research through liaising with top-tier enterprises, research and development institutions as well as higher education institutions in the Mainland and overseas to facilitate exchange and co-operation with quality research talent from all over the world. The Park is located in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR). The measures taken by the SAR Government to attract technology talent will also apply to institutions and enterprises which will set up offices in the Park in the future.

In addition, according to the “Memorandum of Understanding on Jointly Developing the Lok Ma Chau Loop” signed by the SAR Government and the Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government, the Hong Kong side has agreed to take effective measures to facilitate the exit and entry of mutually approved personnel of the Shenzhen side. Details of the arrangements will be studied and discussed by the relevant departments of the two governments through the “Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop”. There is no specific idea at this stage.

- (2) We do not maintain statistics on Mainland innovation and technology talent and enterprises in Hong Kong.
- (3) The Government has set aside \$20 billion to support the first phase development of the Park in the Loop for, inter alia, site formation, provision of infrastructure, construction of superstructure and initial operation. Since the Loop is a sizeable undeveloped land without any infrastructure, the development of the Loop into the Park is a large-scale and long-term project. The \$20 billion reserve fund earmarked by the Government is only used to support part of the expenditures of the first phase development of the Park in the Loop. The total expenditure on the development of the Loop will depend on various factors, such as the specific planning of the Park, complementary facilities, site formation and detailed design of the infrastructure, etc. We expect the funding required for the Loop development as a whole will far exceed \$20 billion. The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study for the Park’s development, and is currently conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and operating expenditure of the Park. We will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.
- (4) According to the information provided by the Immigration Department, the breakdowns of persons admitted under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals to work in Hong Kong with valid limit of stay by duration of stay in Hong Kong are as follows:

	Duration of stay in Hong Kong			
	Less than 2 years	2 to 4 years	4 to 7 years	More than 7 years
As at 31 December 2015	7 161	3 881	3 745	1 447
As at 31 December 2016	7 660	3 992	4 482	1 928
As at 31 December 2017	8 542	4 497	4 597	2 714
As at 31 December 2018	9 925	4 706	4 597	3 295
As at 31 December 2019	10 566	5 201	4 878	3 654

Note: The above figures exclude those who have obtained the right of abode in Hong Kong.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB028**

**(Question Serial No. 5111)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What is the expenditure on engaging dedicated personnel to manage and maintain the Secretary's personal social media platforms, including Facebook fan page, Instagram and website?

- a. What were the number of staff responsible for maintaining the Secretary's social media platforms and the expenditure on each of the staff members (in terms of annual salary) in the past 3 years?
- b. Were outside companies engaged to assist in maintaining the social media platforms in the past 3 years? If yes, what were the expenditure and companies involved?
- c. What were the number of advertisements posted on social media and the annual expenditure on such advertisements in the past year?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 1151)

Reply:

The Facebook of the Innovation and Technology Bureau is mainly managed with existing manpower and no additional resources are involved. No external company has been engaged to assist in maintaining the social media platforms and no advertisement has been posted on social media.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB029**

**(Question Serial No. 2367)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of the Efficiency Office (EffO) carried out last year, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) Which government departments did the EffO help take forward transformation projects involving innovation and technology? What improvements were made to the public services and operational efficiencies of these departments?
- (b) On enhancing the service of 1823 by reducing the call response time, what was the increase in the number of incoming calls from the public? Were there any savings on the staff cost?

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

Reply:

- (a) The Efficiency Office (EffO) is committed to support the Government in promoting innovation and technology, and enhancing public services and operational efficiency through encouraging departments to adopt technology and innovation in business processes.

EffO launched the Streamlining of Government Services Programme in 2019, aiming to streamline government services involving applications and approvals with a view to improving their convenience, efficiency and transparency. Last year, 36 bureaux/departments proposed 74 streamlining measures under this Programme, entailing 117 government services. More than 80% of these measures involve the adoption of technology, such as establishing online application platforms and providing online enquiry on application status. The streamlining measures can improve both the quality and efficiency of government services in enhancing service channels, streamlining business processes, reducing application documentation requirements and strengthening communication between the Government and the public.

- (b) The percentage of calls answered by 1823 within 12 seconds increased from 67% in 2018 to 68% in 2019. The waiting time for answering a call from the public is influenced by the call volume, overall call handling time as well as staffing levels. The above improvement in call handling is not directly related to a possible increase in the volume of calls being answered or cost reduction. Nevertheless, in 2019, as 1823 assisted in handling a large number of calls relating to the Caring and Sharing Scheme, the Sale of Home Ownership Scheme, the White Form Secondary Market Scheme and various financial assistance schemes of the Student Finance Office, the number of calls from the public increased from 3.7 million in 2018 to 4.5 million in 2019.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB030**

**(Question Serial No. 2928)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Although Hong Kong is ranked third globally among 190 economies according to the World Bank's Doing Business 2020 Report released in 2019, the Purchasing Managers' Index of Hong Kong fell sharply from 46.8 in January to 33.1 in February which is at its worst in 21.5 years.

In this connection, please advise on:

- (1) Apart from measures on credit facilities and rental relief, whether there are additional measures to promote business facilitation in Hong Kong in 2020-21 in response to the economic downturn. If yes, what are the details of the measures? If not, what are the reasons?
- (2) What are the details of the work duties of the 4 posts to be created under this Programme in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

- (1) In 2020-21, the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) will continue to provide support to the industry, assisting the innovation and technology (I&T) sector and start-ups to counter the uncertain economic environment through the following means:
  - a) On promoting research and development (R&D), the Government will continue to provide enhanced tax deduction for qualifying R&D expenditure incurred by enterprises and subsidise local R&D work through the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), thereby fostering technology transfer as well as application and commercialisation of R&D results. We have extended since late March 2020 the

coverage of the Public Sector Trial Scheme to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong in order to subsidise more local technology companies to conduct trials of their R&D results in the public sector.

- b) On promoting re-industrialisation, the Government will inject \$2 billion into the ITF for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme to provide financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) will also be provided with an additional funding of \$2 billion for developing Microelectronics Centre to address the need of the manufacturers in the microelectronics or related industries (such as advanced materials) for such manufacturing facilities.
- c) On encouraging enterprises to make use of technology to enhance their productivity, the Government's funding ratio in each approved project under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) will be raised from two-thirds to three-quarters. The funding ceiling and the maximum number of approved projects per applicant will be increased from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and from 4 to 6 respectively, so as to further assist enterprises in making use of technology to improve their business operation.
- d) On developing I&T infrastructure, \$3 billion will be earmarked for Phase 2 of the Science Park Expansion Programme. We are pressing ahead with the development of the Data Technology Hub and the Advanced Manufacturing Centre in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate which are expected to be completed in the first half of this year and in 2022 respectively. \$5.5 billion has been earmarked for the development of Cyberport 5 for attracting more technology companies and start-ups, and the construction is expected to complete in 2024 at the earliest.
- e) On pooling I&T talent, we enhanced the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) in January 2020 by extending the applicable technology areas of the TechTAS from 6 to 13 and the TechTAS' coverage to all companies undertaking R&D activities in the 13 technology areas in Hong Kong. The scope of funding under the Researcher Programme and the Postdoctoral Hub has also been expanded since March 2020 to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. We will also consolidate the 2 programmes starting from July 2020 to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent.
- f) Advance disbursement of partial funding from the Enterprise Support Scheme, the TVP, the Re-industrialisation and Technology Training Programme, and the Patent Application Grant has been arranged in phases to allow sufficient funds for enterprises to kick off their projects. Furthermore, the fees of the Standards and Calibration Laboratory and the Hong Kong Accreditation Service are frozen until the end of 2020.
- g) On top of the provision of a six-month 50% rental concession for tenants of the HKSTPC and Cyberport, \$380 million has been earmarked under the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide tenants with a 6-month rental waiver. The measures help reduce the operating costs and ease the liquidity problem that the sector may face, thereby maintaining their competitiveness.
- h) The Business Facilitation Team of the Efficiency Office will continue to collaborate with the business sector to further enhance the existing licensing and regulatory services in order to ease the compliance burden of the sector and create a more business-friendly environment in Hong Kong.



(2) Under Programme (3), the Efficiency Office will create 4 time-limited posts in 2020-21 for six years, including 1 Senior Management Services Officer, 1 Management Services Officer I and 2 Management Services Officers II. They will mainly be deployed to provide support for bureaux/departments to conduct change management in the full implementation of electronic recordkeeping system in the Government.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB031**

**(Question Serial No. 3732)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Will the Bureau please provide the balance, government injection amount, investment or other income and total expenditure of the following funds in 2018-19? 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. Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living
2. Applied Research Fund
3. Innovation and Technology Fund

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (1) Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL)

The Government launched the \$500 million FBL in 2017 to finance innovation and technology projects that bring more convenience, comfort and safety to daily living, or address the needs of specific community groups. So far, the Assessment Panel has supported funding for 25 applications with a total grant of about \$84 million. The grant will be disbursed to applicants according to the progress of the projects. The balance and total amount of expenditure of the FBL in 2018-19 were \$478 million and \$21.5 million respectively. In the year, there was no Government injection and the FBL did not have investment or other income.

(2) Applied Research Fund (ARF)

The ARF is a Government venture capital fund of \$750 million set up in 1993. The Government reviewed the operation of the ARF and reported the relevant result to the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry (the Panel) in 2005. With the consent of the Panel, we decided to gradually wind down the ARF and cease making new investments. The balance of the ARF in 2018-19 was \$126 million, and its investment or other income and total amount of expenditure were \$5.7 million and \$0.6 million respectively. There was no Government injection in the year.

(3) Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF)

The Government established the \$5 billion ITF in 1999 to finance projects that contribute to technology upgrading in manufacturing and services industries and promote innovation. The LegCo Finance Committee (FC) approved an additional injection of \$5 billion into the ITF in February 2015, and 2 further injections of \$2 billion each in June and July 2016 respectively to implement the “Midstream Research Programme for Universities” and the “Innovation and Technology Venture Fund”. The above total of \$9 billion was transferred into the ITF in 2016-17. In July 2018, the FC further approved an additional injection of \$20 billion into the ITF, including \$10 billion for supporting the continued operation of the existing ITF funding schemes and introducing various new initiatives, and another \$10 billion for providing financial support to establish the *InnoHK* research clusters. The above total of \$20 billion was transferred into the ITF in 2018-19. The balance, amount of government injection, investment or other incomes and total amount of expenditure of the ITF in 2018-19 are as follows:

Financial year	Balance (\$ million)	Government injection (\$ million)	Investment or other income (\$ million)	Expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	25,939	20,000	718	1,575

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB032****(Question Serial No. 6056)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

- a. Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

- b. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- c. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- d. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- e. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- f. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

- g. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that the ITB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock of goggles	Consumption

- h. Did the ITB supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

- i. If the ITB is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks

of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each decision, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 145)

Reply:

The information required is as follows:

- (a) - (g) In the past 3 years, the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) has obtained surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) and has procured masks from the market for staff consumption.

With an upsurge in demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) around the globe, the Government is facing fierce competition in procurement efforts. The Government considers it inappropriate at this stage to disclose further information on PPE of individual departments, such as the stock levels, places of origin, quantities procured, consumption and moneys involved, so as not to undermine the bargaining power of the GLD and other departments in the procurement of PPE.

- (h) & (i) The ITB has not supplied or sold any PPE to other organisations.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB033****(Question Serial No. 0713)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the TechConnect (block vote) continued to be implemented to support technology projects of government departments to enhance operational efficiency and service quality. Will the Government advise on:

(1) the relevant departments, project titles, objectives, expenditure and commissioning dates of the technology projects supported for implementation last year, and the details of how the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) monitored the progress and expenditure of these projects; regarding evaluation of projects' effectiveness, whether the periodic reports from the departments of the approved projects and the relevant performance indicators for assessing effectiveness will be released for public's information, how does ITB assess if a particular technology project has achieved the intended targets, and whether the projects that failed to achieve the targets will be terminated to ensure proper use of public funds;

(2) the technology project proposals/applications received by ITB from departments in 2019-20, including details of the technology project proposals, names of the departments, project titles, technologies to be adopted and expenditures; project proposals/applications rejected and details of the stated reason of "they did not meet the approval criteria" in tabulated form;

(3) whether there are requirements stipulated in the project approval criteria that protective measures or guidelines should be put in place for the use of recorded image/footage and analysis techniques to protect personal privacy of members of the public; if yes, the projects involved and the requirements so far;

(4) the number of pilot projects approved by ITB in 2019-20, departments of the approved projects, project titles, technologies to be adopted, expenditures, expected completion time and vetting criteria in tabulated form;

(5) the duration between obtaining approval for implementation and commissioning of

various projects since the launch of the TechConnect (block vote) by departments in tabulated form, and whether ITB plays a specific role in assisting the departments to expedite the implementation of projects, e.g. deploying staff for co-ordinating work or technical support;

(6) the annual expenditure on salaries of the time-limited non-directorate posts created in 2019-20 and to be created in 2020-21 for implementation of the above initiative;

(7) the posts and the annual expenditure on salaries of the non-civil service contract staff created in 2019-20 and to be created in 2020-21 for implementation of the above initiative;

(8) the plans to encourage departments to co-operate with local small and medium enterprises and start-ups in 2019-20;

(9) the relevant departments, project titles, technologies adopted, estimated amount (\$ million) and expected commissioning dates of the technology projects supported in 2020-21; and

(10) the total amount spent so far and its percentage with reference to the approved provision of \$500 million, and the expected time for full consumption of the provision.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

(1), (2), (4) and (9) The Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) set up the TechConnect (block vote) in mid-2017 to support government departments in planning and implementing technology projects so as to enhance operational efficiency and improve public services through the adoption of technology.

The scheme accepts applications from all government departments (except those operating under the Trading Fund mode and subvented bodies). The amount of funding provided for each project is capped at \$10 million, with a funding period up to 3 years. Applications submitted by departments are considered by an internal committee. Assessment criteria include the benefits of public services improvement, adoption of technology, technical viability, cost, etc.

The departments concerned are required to submit reports regularly to the TechConnect Unit of the ITB, which will monitor the progress and expenditure of the approved projects. When necessary, the TechConnect Unit will conduct meetings with, or pay visits to the departments to understand the project progress and offer advice.

The ITB received 56 and 52 technology project applications in 2019-20 and



2020-21 respectively, of which 24 and 22 technology projects were supported for funding. Some of the applications were not supported as they did not meet the assessment criteria, including no clear benefits in public service improvement, failure in demonstrating appropriate adoption of technology and lack of technical viability etc. Details of the projects are at Annex I.

- (3) As all projects launched by government departments, all technology projects supported by the TechConnect (block vote) have to comply with relevant laws and regulations, including the relevant provisions for protecting personal data privacy. Among the technology projects supported by the TechConnect (block vote), 7 involve video analytics. The details of the projects are at Annex II.
- (5) To expedite the implementation of technology projects, the internal committee will give priority consideration to projects which can be rolled-out shortly when considering applications, so as to enable early realisation of benefits to the public. As the nature, technologies adopted, implementation details and arrangements of each technology project vary, the time taken to implement projects is not directly comparable. For the 17 projects rolled-out so far, according to existing records, the average duration between obtaining approval and rolling-out is about 18 months. The TechConnect Unit of ITB will monitor the implementation and progress of the projects and offer advice on the projects to departments when necessary.
- (6) and (7) To implement the TechConnect (block vote), ITB created 8 non-directorate time-limited posts in 2017-18. As some of the posts were yet to be filled, the salary expenditure of the relevant posts in the 2019-20 revised estimates was about \$1.78 million. In 2020-21, the estimated salary expenditure is about \$3.94 million. The ITB has not employed non-civil service contract staff for the relevant work.
- (8) The Government encourages departments to co-operate with local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups for trial of their research and development (R&D) results or introduction of technology solutions and products to improve public services. The Government supports policy bureaux, departments and public bodies to participate in the Public Sector Trial Scheme for trial of R&D results of local SMEs and start-ups, thereby facilitating the commercialisation of R&D results. The Innovation and Technology Commission set up a helpdesk for the scheme in December 2018 to assist in matching applicants with policy bureaux/departments/public bodies.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) set up a Smart Government Innovation Lab (Smart LAB) in April 2019 with a view to enabling the industry to help assist government departments in adopting information technology to improve public services, thereby creating more business opportunities for local start-ups and SMEs. The Smart LAB has set up a thematic website to assist in matching the business needs of various policy bureaux/departments (B/Ds) with information technology solutions

covering areas in artificial intelligence, data analytics, cloud computing and Internet of Things submitted by the industry. In addition, the Smart LAB also organised technical forums in collaboration with Cyberport and Hong Kong Science Park to invite industry players to introduce their technology solutions to different government departments.

The Efficiency Office and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation also jointly organise innovation and technology (I&T) trade shows to showcase I&T solutions of the companies in the Hong Kong Science Park to B/Ds. The trade shows can enhance B/Ds' understanding of local I&T solutions which help tackling problems in daily operation, and facilitate the participation of start-ups and SMEs in government procurement plans.

Besides, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) acts as innovation facilitator by setting up the E&M InnoPortal to assist government departments in identifying E&M-related new technologies and products, and supporting them in engaging stakeholders in the I&T industry, including local SMEs and start-ups, to build up collaborative relationships. From incubation of ideas to implementation, the EMSD will provide appropriate support to departments according to their needs.

- (10) The 2018 Policy Address announced to allocate another \$500 million to the TechConnect (block vote). The ITB has so far supported funding to a total of 70 technology projects or studies proposed by 28 departments/offices. The total earmarked funding amount under the TechConnect (block vote) is about \$380 million. Through the TechConnect (block vote), ITB will continue to support various departments to adopt technology and provide services to the public in a more efficient and effective manner.

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
Civil Engineering and Development Department	Development of an automated system for concrete cube testing	Advanced Engineering Technology / Artificial Intelligence / QR Code	9.7	Q1 2021
Correctional Services Department	Health Signs Monitoring System for Persons in Custody requiring additional medical observation and care in correctional institutions (hospitals of Stanley Prison (SP) and Tai Lam Centre for Women (TLCW), geriatric ward and sickbay of Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre (SLPC) and certain hall(s) in SP)	Smart wristband / Bluetooth	9.2	Q3 2020
	Video Analytics Monitoring System for behaviour of Persons in Custody in Pik Uk Prison (PUP)	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Video Analytics	9.6	Q3 2020
Customs and Excise Department	Feasibility study on Single E-lock enhancement	E-lock / Augmented Reality / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	8.9	Q4 2021
Development Bureau (Tree Management Office)	Application of QR Code in tree labelling	QR code	7.0	Q4 2020
Development Bureau	Application of optical fiber sensing	Sensors / Advanced	8.0	Q2 2020

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
(Tree Management Office) and Architectural Services Department	technology in monitoring of the movement of masonry retaining walls, stonewall trees and large trees	Engineering Technology		
Department of Health	Developing Smart Fever Screening System for boundary control points in Hong Kong	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Video Analytics / Infrared Imaging	7.0	Q3 2020
Drainage Services Department	Trial use of robots for inspection and desilting of drains, box culverts, decked nullahs and sewers	Robotics / Advanced Engineering Technology	9.8	Rolled out in Q4 2019
	Intelligent Pressure Transient Monitoring System for Rising Mains	Advanced Engineering Technology / Sensor for pressure transient monitoring	2.2	Rolled out in Q3 2019
	Applying smart robotic underwater vehicle (ROV) for ensuring safe and effective maintenance of wet wells at sewage treatment plants	Imaging Sonar / Digital Terrain Models / Robotics/ Global Positioning System	8.5	Q2 2021
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Study on Immersion Cooling technology used for servers in data centres	Advanced Environmental Technology	1.4	Q2 2020
	Study of noise signature of lifts and escalators using optical fiber Bragg grating sensing technology	Sensors / Advanced Engineering Technology	1.2 (actual expenditure)	Completed in Q4 2019

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
Fire Services Department	Implementation of logistics solution of dangerous drugs for patients with certain medical conditions	Radio-frequency Identification/ Video Analytics / Internet of Things	9.7	Q1 2021
Highways Department	Development of lux logger with GPS function	Lux Logging / Global Positioning System / Advanced Engineering Technology	1.5	Q3 2020
Hong Kong Observatory	Development of a smart analytics platform for weather related Big Data to support forecasting and alerting of high-impact weather hazards	Artificial Intelligence / Big Data / Cloud Computing	9.6	Q4 2021
Hong Kong Police Force	Fraud Analytic Toolkit for Social Media (Project FANTOM)	Artificial Intelligence / Web Crawling	9.1	Q1 2021
	Predictive Email Scam Analytic (PESA) System	Big Data / Cloud Computing	5.6	Q1 2021
Lands Department	Pilot project on creation of 3D indoor maps for smart city	3D Modelling / Geographic Information System	5.5	Q2 2020
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Tech Experiential Learning Project	Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality	9.4	Q4 2020
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	Pilot application on blockchain technology	Blockchain	4.9	Rolled out in Q4 2019
Transport Department	Pilot Real-time Adaptive Traffic Signal System	Sensors	8.1	Q3 2020

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
	Trial of geo-fencing technology on vehicles	Artificial Intelligence / Sensors / Video Analytics / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	2.5	Q2 2020
Water Supplies Department	Robotic in-line inspection of water mains	Robotics / Artificial Intelligence / Sensors	9.0	Q3 2021
	Using Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV) System for water quality monitoring and sampling at impounding reservoirs	Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System / Advanced Environmental Technology	4.0	Rolled out in Q1 2020

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2020-21</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
Architectural Services Department	The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and drone to assist with external wall inspection for government buildings	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Unmanned Aerial System	2.3	Q4 2020
Audit Commission	Pilot Smart Audit Information System	Big Data	1.8	Q4 2021
Buildings Department	Defective Signboards Diagnostic System (DSDS)	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / 3D Scanning, Modelling & Printing / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	4.1	Q4 2021
Civil Engineering and Development Department	Sensor-Based Monitoring System at piers and breakwaters	Sensors / Advanced Engineering Technology	3.2	Q2 2021
	Application of innovative technologies to enhance efficiency and quality of fill compaction control tests	Robotics / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System / Advanced Engineering Technology / 3D Imaging	4.6	Q1 2023
Correctional Services Department	Intelligent Robotic Monitoring System in a maximum security institution	Video Analytics / Robotics	7.0	Q2 2022
Department of Health	Developing karyotype analysis software for genetic diseases diagnosis via Machine Learning	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning	2.0	Q1 2021
Electrical and Mechanical	Escalator accident detection and safety	Artificial Intelligence /	0.5	Q3 2022

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2020-21</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
Services Department	message dissemination System	Machine Learning / Infrared Imaging / Object Detection System		
	Development of Escalator Web-based Predictive Fault Alarm System using Optical Fiber Sensing and Artificial Intelligence technology	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Sensors	3.0	Q4 2020
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Trial application of smart technology at public toilets	Internet of Things / Sensors	1.8	Q2 2021
Fire Services Department	Applying new firefighting robots to better protect firefighters during firefighting operation and enhance operational efficiency	Sensors / Robotics / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	5.5	Q1 2023
Government Laboratory	Reconstruction of crime scenes in courtrooms by 3D visualization technology	Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality / 3D Scanning, Modelling & Printing	0.7	Q2 2020
Government Property Agency	Smart Parking System for the fee-paying public car park at Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices	Sensors / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	2.4	Q2 2021
Hong Kong Observatory	Using radiation measurement and related weather data to develop an inverse modelling system for nuclear accident consequence assessment and	Inverse modelling for radiation measurement	1.6	Q3 2021



<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2020-21</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
	radiation release estimation			
Hong Kong Police Force	Threat Evaluation and Cyber Healthiness System (Project TECHS)	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Big Data	5.5	Q1 2023
Lands Department	Pilot project on ubiquitous positioning infrastructure of Hong Kong for smart city development	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Internet of Things / Radio-frequency Identification / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System / Indoor and Outdoor Positioning Technologies	8.4	Q4 2021
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Trial project of smart toilet at pilot LCSD venues	Internet of Things / Sensors / Nanotechnology	5.5	Q3 2021
	Trial project for Car Park Availability System at pilot LCSD venues	Internet of Things / Sensors	1.4	Q3 2021
Marine Department	Monitoring life-saving appliances on Hong Kong locally licensed vessels to enhance passengers safety using Radio Frequency Identification	Radio-frequency Identification / 2D Barcode	5.8	Q1 2021
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	Pilot application of robotic technology for smart offices	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Robotics / Chatbot	3.0	Q4 2020

<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2020-21</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
Social Welfare Department	Enhancement of Psychological Trauma Treatment Protocol using Augmented and Virtual Reality	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality / Biofeedback technologies	4.0	Q1 2022
Transport Department	Installation of Internet of Things sensors at selected non-metered on-street parking spaces to collect real-time parking space vacancy information	Internet of Things / Sensors	2.2	Q2 2022

<b>Technology projects involved video analytics</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2018-19</b>				
Energizing Kowloon East Office, Development Bureau	To conduct a feasibility study to monitor illegal parking / stopping by utilising video analytics and to conduct a pilot trial at Kowloon East	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Video Analytics	8.0	Q2 2020
Hong Kong Police Force	Video Explorer to enhance prevention and detection of crime by improving the accuracy and efficiency of video analysis	Video Analytics	9.9	Rolled out in Q1 2019
	Advanced Image Processing System (Project AIPS) to enhance effectiveness of crime investigation and presentation of digital evidence for court proceedings	Video Analytics	5.5 (actual expenditure)	Completed in Q4 2019
<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
Correctional Services Department	Video Analytics Monitoring System for behaviour of Persons in Custody in Pik Uk Prison (PUP)	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Video Analytics	9.6	Q3 2020
Department of Health	Developing Smart Fever Screening System for boundary control points in Hong Kong	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Video Analytics / Infrared Imaging	7.0	Q3 2020
Fire Services Department	Implementation of logistics solution of dangerous drugs for patients with certain medical conditions	Radio-frequency Identification / Video Analytics / Internet of Things	9.7	Q1 2021

<b>Technology projects involved video analytics</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Technologies Adopted</b>	<b>Estimated Amount (\$ million)</b>	<b>Rollout Date (tentative)</b>
<b>Supported Technology Projects in 2019-20</b>				
Transport Department	Trial of geo-fencing technology on vehicles	Artificial Intelligence / Sensors / Video Analytics / Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System	2.5	Q2 2020

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB034**

**(Question Serial No. 0759)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states that the Government is now going through the statutory town planning procedures for the Cyberport 5 development site and plans to submit a funding proposal to the Legislative Council in the first half of 2021. Construction is expected to complete in 2024 at the earliest. In this connection, the Government has earmarked \$5.5 billion. Regarding the planning for Cyberport expansion, will the Government please advise on the following:

- (1) the details of and timetable for implementing the project; whether the relevant planning information can be provided; whether there are any estimates for expenditure such as consultation expenses, design and construction fees, and the details;
- (2) whether the Government has assessed the economic benefits of the project, including the job opportunities to be created; if yes, the details; if no, the reasons; whether the technology companies and start-ups attracted to Cyberport are expected to be engaged in certain specific business areas; if yes, how to specify these business areas; and the strategic importance of these business areas to the overall development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong;
- (3) the work plan, timetable, manpower and resources required for 2020-21; and
- (4) the details on the distribution of the expenditure of \$5.5 billion?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 100)

Reply:

- (1) and (3) As the Cyberport expansion project involves rezoning, the town planning procedures for the amendment of the relevant Outline Zoning Plan have commenced in September 2019 and are expected to be completed in the second half of 2020. We plan to consult the Panel on Information Technology and

Broadcasting of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in late 2020 or early 2021 and submit the funding proposal to the Finance Committee (FC) of LegCo in the first half of 2021. Construction is expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2021 for completion in 2024 at the earliest. The relevant work will be absorbed by existing manpower and no additional resources are involved.

The Cyberport 5 site covers an area of about 1.6 hectares, with a gross floor area of around 66 000 square metres. The site will mainly be used for facilities like offices, Smart-Space co-working space, a multi-function hall and a data services platform. Upon completion of the town planning procedures, Cyberport will conduct detailed design work to finalise details, such as the design, works schedule and construction cost.

- (2) According to Cyberport's preliminary assessment, it is expected that economic benefits of nearly \$1.9 billion and about 1 200 employment opportunities will be generated during the construction period of the expansion project whereas annual economic benefits of nearly \$3.3 billion and about 6 300 employment opportunities will be generated upon completion of the project. We will update the estimate before submitting the funding proposal to the FC of LegCo.

At present, the technology companies and start-ups in the information and technology (I&T) ecosystem of Cyberport cover numerous digital technology areas, including financial technology, smart living, digital entertainment, big data, artificial intelligence, blockchain and cyber security. Cyberport will take into account the key clusters being driven by Cyberport and emerging digital technology areas to attract technology companies and start-ups to set up offices in Cyberport, thereby providing more opportunities for young people to pursue a career in I&T and to further promote the overall development of I&T in Hong Kong.

- (4) The initial estimate of the construction cost for the Cyberport expansion project is \$5.5 billion, of which about \$400 million is reserved for the enhancement works for the Waterfront Park. The detailed breakdown of the expenditure of the whole project will only be finalised when the detailed design work is conducted.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB035**

**(Question Serial No. 0761)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Bureau will continue to take forward the development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the expenditure on consultant's fees, total estimated expenditure on infrastructural works, deployment of human resources and timetable at various phases of the entire Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park project in tabular form;
2. the estimated expenditure on superstructure construction and commencement of operation, and the timetable for land delivery;
3. noting the Government has earmarked a \$20 billion reserve fund to support the first phase development of the Park, has it come up with the estimated figures for the total expenditure on the development of the Loop or the expenditure for different phases, taking into account the specific planning of the Park, user requirements, site formation, and detailed design of the infrastructure, etc.?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 102)

Reply:

In consultation with the Development Bureau, the requested information is provided as follows:

- (1) and (2) Regarding the development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop), the estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day prices) and timetable at various phases of the relevant infrastructural works are as follows:

	<b>Planning, design and site investigation (\$ million)</b>	<b>Construction works (\$ million)</b>	<b>Estimated completion date of the works</b>
Planning and works study	30.3 (actual expenditure)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Advance Works	11.9	517.6	End of 2021
Main Works Package 1	268.3	13,794.5 <sup>(Note 1)</sup>	Under review <sup>(Note 2)</sup>

Note 1: Funding approval has to be sought from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) for the estimated construction cost of Main Works Package 1.

Note 2: The estimated completion date of Main Works Package 1 will be confirmed in the detailed design and site investigation.

The Civil Engineering and Development Department deployed 5.5 professional staff for the Loop development project in 2018-19, and deployed 8.5 professional staff in 2019-20. There were also directorate officers overseeing this project as well as supporting technical and clerical staff.

Regarding the site formation and infrastructural works, the Advance Works for the development of the Loop commenced in June 2018. If everything goes smoothly, it is expected that the first batch of land parcels will be made available by 2021 for Phase 1 superstructure development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park). The detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 commenced in September 2018 and are expected to be completed in phases by early 2023. Main Works Package 1 will be carried out in phases.

The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study for the development of the Park, and is currently conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and the operating expenditure of the Park.

- (3) The Government has set aside \$20 billion to support the first phase development of the Park in the Loop for, inter alia, site formation, provision of infrastructure, construction of superstructure and initial operation. Since the Loop is a sizeable undeveloped land without any infrastructure, the development of the Loop into the Park is a large-scale and long-term project. The \$20 billion reserve fund earmarked by the Government is only used to support part of the expenditures of the first phase development of the Park in the Loop. The total expenditure on the development of the Loop will depend on various factors, such as the specific planning of the Park, complementary facilities, site formation and detailed design of the infrastructure, etc. We expect the funding required for the Loop development as a whole will far exceed \$20 billion.



We will seek funding approval from the LegCo for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB036****(Question Serial No. 2343)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology, (3) Efficiency OfficeControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Please set out the details of and estimated provision for the studies conducted by consultancy firms or research institutes commissioned by the Innovation and Technology Bureau and the departments under its purview for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies in 2019-20 and 2020-21 (Estimates) in the following format.

Commencement date of the study	Title of the study	Content and objective	Progress of the study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Name of consultant	Mode of award (tender/quotation/others (please specify))	Expenditure (\$)	Have Reports been made public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)Reply:

The information required is as follows:

The studies conducted/to be conducted by consultancy firms or research institutes commissioned by the Innovation and Technology Bureau and departments under its purview for formulating and assessing policies in 2019-20 and 2020-21 include:

Commence- ment date of the study	Title of the study	Content and objective	Progress (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Name of consultant	Mode of award (tender/ quotation/ others) (please specify)	Expendi- ture (\$)	Have reports been made public? If not, what are the reasons?
August 2019	Review of Government information technology (IT) security related regulations, policies and guidelines	<p><u>Content</u> To examine the existing regulations, policies and guidelines on IT security of the Government with reference to international standards, industry best practices and the latest information and cyber security landscape.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To update the policies and guidelines on IT security of the Government in a timely manner.</p>	In progress	Automated Systems (H.K.) Limited	Quotation	993 000	The review is in progress.
January 2020	Review of the facilitation measures for development of data centres	<p><u>Content</u> To review and assess the facilitation measures introduced by the Government for the development of data centres in Hong Kong since 2012.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To facilitate the development of data centres in Hong Kong.</p>	In progress	Colliers International Hong Kong	Quotation	480 000	The review is in progress.
2020-21 (Estimated)	Study on formulation of the way forward for the “Wi-Fi Connected City” programme	<p><u>Content</u> To study the formulation of a comprehensive development strategy and implementation measures for future public Wi-Fi services in Hong Kong.</p> <p><u>Objective</u> To formulate the way forward for the “Wi-Fi Connected City” programme.</p>	Under planning	To be decided by the tender	Tender	Pending tender result	The study has not been conducted.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB037**

**(Question Serial No. 2345)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the support for the Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialisation (the Committee), please advise on the following:

- (1) the number of meetings convened, issues discussed and attendance rate of each meeting since the establishment of the Committee, and whether minutes of the meetings are available and open to the public; the number of relevant meetings convened, issues discussed and attendance rate of each meeting for the working groups (if any), and whether minutes of the meetings are available and open to the public (please set out the details of the above items in tabular form). If such information is not available, what are the reasons?
- (2) the work plan and schedule for 2020-21. If such information is not available, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

Since its establishment in April 2017, the Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialisation (“the Committee”) has convened a total of 12 meetings. The attendance rate of members is about 80% on average. The Committee discussed the latest scene of innovation and technology (“I&T”) development in Hong Kong and different I&T-related topics, including establishment of research clusters, promotion of re-industrialisation, the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme, enhanced tax deduction for research and development (“R&D”) expenditure, attracting overseas R&D institutions to Hong Kong, research work in the higher education sector, nurturing I&T talent, the

Technology Talent Admission Scheme, the Talent List, popular science education, supporting the development of start-ups in Hong Kong, the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund, the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong, smart mobility, smart tourism, the experience of the Hospital Authority in digital health, the open data policy, the Common Spatial Data Infrastructure, the Government's pro-innovation procurement policy, development of the e-sports industry, electronic payment, the Innovation and Technology Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care and the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund, etc. The Committee plans to convene 4 meetings in 2020-21 to continue to advise the Government on matters relating to the promotion of I&T development and re-industrialisation in Hong Kong.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB038**

**(Question Serial No. 3237)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide in table form the details of the overseas duty visits made by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology in 2019-20, including the date of visit, place of visit, purpose and major itinerary, number of accompanying officers from the Principal Official's Office (POO) in the entourage, hotel accommodation expenses, transportation expenses, other expenses and total expenditure.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 108)

Reply:

Details of the overseas duty visits made by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology in 2019-20 (as at the end of February 2020) are as follows:

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of accompanying POO officers</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
2 April 2019	Shenzhen	1	To attend the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting	-	-	-	-
21-26 April 2019	Shanghai, Hangzhou and Beijing	Shanghai, Hangzhou: 2 Beijing: 1	3 bureau directors to join the Legislative Council joint-Panel duty visit to the major cities in the Yangtze River Delta Region, and then depart for Beijing to attend the 2nd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation	About 25,000	About 29,000	About 16,500	About 70,500
16 May 2019	Guangzhou	1	To attend the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference	About 1,800	-	-	About 1,800
17-18 June 2019	Beijing	1	To attend the meeting of the task force on the development of an international innovation and technology hub in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area	About 20,800	About 2,800	About 2,500	About 26,100

<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of accompanying POO officers</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
22-23 July 2019	Beijing	2	To attend the closing ceremony of the Youth Internship Programme at the Chinese Academy of Sciences	About 18,800	About 4,100	About 3,600	About 26,500
26-27 August 2019	Guangzhou	1	To attend the 2019 China Industrial Internet Conference & Guangdong-HongKong-Macao Greater Bay Area Digital Economy Conference	About 1,300	About 2,100	About 3,000	About 6,400
15-21 September 2019	Vancouver of Canada, and Seattle and San Francisco of the United States	2	To visit innovation and technology enterprises and facilities, to update the US and Canadian technology communities on Hong Kong's latest developments in the innovation and technology arena	About 174,000	About 47,700	About 38,100	About 259,800
30 September-2 October 2019	Beijing	0	To participate in activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China	-	-	About 2,000	About 2,000
19-20 October 2019	Wuzhen of Zhejiang	1	To attend the 6th World Internet Conference	About 6,000	-	About 1,600	About 7,600



<b>Dates of visits</b>	<b>Places of visits</b>	<b>Number of accompanying POO officers</b>	<b>Purposes of visits</b>	<b>Passage expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Hotel expenses HK\$</b>	<b>Other expenses<sup>Note</sup> HK\$</b>	<b>Total expenditure HK\$</b>
3 December 2019	Shenzhen	1	To attend the meeting of the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Co-operation Committee	About 300	-	-	About 300
4-5 December 2019	Beijing	1	To meet with the Ministry of Science & Technology	About 12,400	About 3,500	About 2,600	About 18,500
6 December 2019	Shenzhen	2	To attend the meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop	About 1,200	-	-	About 1,200

*Note: Other expenses include subsistence allowances. During the visits stated above, no entertainment expenses were incurred.*

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB039****(Question Serial No. 3613)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

In respect of the public relations expenditure of your department in the past year, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the expenditure and details of publishing advertisements on mainstream or online media by your department in table form:

Period of publishing/ broadcasting (Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of advertise- ment	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the advertise- ment (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure/ financial resources involved (as at 29 February 2020)
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...			

- (2) the expenditure and details of sponsoring media to provide programmes or materials by your department:

Period of publishing/ broadcasting programme/ materials (Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Sponsoring government or public organisation (including bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of programme/ materials	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the sponsor-sh ip (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2020)

		body)					
			(1)...	(1)...			
			(2)...	(2)...			
			(3)...	(3)...			

(3) the expenditure on and details of advertorials by your department:

Period of publishing/broadcasting programme/materials (Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government organisation (including bureau/department/public organisation/government advisory body)	Name of programme/materials	Name of publisher or broadcast-ing media (newspaper/radio station/TV station/website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the programme/materials (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Non-government organisation /personnel responsible for writing advertise-ment script (if any)	Expend-iture (as at 29 February 2020)
			(1)...	(1)...				
			(2)...	(2)...				
			(3)...	(3)...				

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 130)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

(1) the expenditure and details of publishing advertisements on mainstream or online media by the Information and Technology Bureau (the Bureau) in the past year:

Period of publishing/broadcasting (Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including bureau/department/public organisation/government advisory body)	Name of advertise-ment	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the advertise-ment (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure/ financial resources involved (as at 29 February 2020)
Jan 2019 – Sept 2019	Done	Efficiency Office	Social Innovation Videos	Outdoor television	To enable the general public to understand the concept of social innovation, and enhance the awareness of social innovation among the public; 6 times	Marketing and Public Relations Manager (1)	Free of charge (broadcast during community airtime)
April 2019 – May 2019	Done	Efficiency Office	Social Innovation Videos	Facebook	To enable the general public to understand the concept of	Marketing and Public Relations Manager	\$55,000

Period of publishing/ broadcasting (Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of advertise- ment	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the advertise-ment (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure/ financial resources involved (as at 29 February 2020)
					social innovation, and enhance the awareness of social innovation among the public; 1 time	(1)	
Mar 2019 – April 2019	Done	Efficiency Office	Social Innovation Videos	YouTube and other video websites	To enable the general public to understand the concept of social innovation, and enhance the awareness of social innovation among the public; 1 time	Marketing and Public Relations Manager (1)	\$50,000

(2) & (3) The Bureau did not sponsor any media to provide programmes or materials or publish any advertorials in the past year.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB040**

**(Question Serial No. 3663)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of Cyberport, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the number, company name, business type, staff number, financing stage and the investment amount secured of Cyberport information and communications technology start-ups with investment from the Cyberport Macro Fund in 2018-19 and 2019-20 (please list out in tabular form), as well as the number of start-ups with planned investment in 2020-21 and the related details?
- (2) What are the numbers of applications, accepted applications and applications with financing secured together with the total financing amount of various Cyberport incubation programmes in 2018-19 and 2019-20, as well as the survival rate (of incubatees) in 3 years after graduation (please list out in tabular form)? Will more support be given to incubatees in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details, targets as well as the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (3) What are the details, targets as well as the manpower and expenditure involved for Cyberport's projects in promoting financial technology (Fintech) and e-commerce in 2018-19 and 2019-20? Will more resources be allocated for studying and developing the application of blockchain, facilitating the collaboration between local Fintech start-ups and financial institutions, and promoting e-commerce to various sectors and small and medium enterprises in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details, targets as well as the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (4) What are the take-up rate and operating expenditure of the Smart-Space small offices and working space in 2018-19 and 2019-20 (please list out in tabular form by type)? What is the take-up rate of the dedicated space for supporting Fintech start-ups? Is there any plan to increase the take-up rate in 2020-21?

- (5) It is mentioned in the Budget that \$100 million will be allocated to promote e-sports. What are Cyberport's strategies and plans in this regard? For the estimated expenditure on promoting e-sports in areas of technological development and talent nurturing in 2018-19, what are the work commenced, resources and expenditure spent so far; and
- (6) what is the progress of offering more financial assistance by the Cyberport for start-ups to conduct market research and promotion?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 140)

Reply:

- (1) As at end February 2020, the Cyberport Macro Fund (CMF) has approved 12 applications, with a total investment of over \$92 million. Details of the relevant start-ups are as follows:

	<b>Company name</b>	<b>Business nature</b>	<b>Staff number (Approx.)</b>	<b>Latest financing position</b>
1	LYNK	Information network on global experts	100	Series B round of funding completed
2	TravelFlan	Chatbot for travelers supported by AI	30	Series A+ round of funding just completed
3	Snapask	Education platform which matches students with teachers for instant problem solving	90	Series C round of funding completed
4	Yeechoo	Online branded fashion rental platform	10	Series A round of funding completed
5	HelloToby	Service matching platform	30	Series A round of funding completed
6	Findsolution AI	AI educational technology company	15	Series B round of funding to commence
7	Origami Labs	Research and development of smart rings	16	Series A+ round of funding completed
8	DocDoc	Platform for search of doctors	84	Series A round of funding to be continued
9	Farm66	High-tech agricultural technology company	15	Series pre-A round of funding completed
10	Onedegree	InsurTech company	60	Series B round of funding commenced
11	Rinlink	IoT technology supplier	40	Series A round of funding completed
12	Pick up	Smart logistics platform	65	Series B round of funding commenced

The amount of investment from Cyberport is not disclosed as sensitive commercial information of other venture capital funds is involved for the above projects.

The amount of investment from Cyberport is not disclosed as sensitive commercial information of other venture capital funds is involved in the above projects.

In 2020-21, the number of start-ups to be invested by the CMF will depend on the actual number of applications as well as the business and financial conditions of the applicants.

- (2) As at end February 2020, figures in relation to the Cyberport Incubation Programme (CIP) are as follows:

	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b> (As at end February 2020)
No. of applications	677	607
No. of admitted companies	108	129
No. of Cyberport's start-ups <sup>1</sup> obtaining financing and total amount involved	63 companies obtaining a total financing of HK\$5.5 billion	39 companies obtaining a total financing of HK\$3.8 billion
Survival rate in 3 years after incubation	72%	69%

Cyberport has increased its financial subsidy for the CIP from \$330,000 to a maximum of \$500,000 in the fourth quarter of 2018. Cyberport has no plan to further raise the subsidy for the CIP in 2020-21.

- (3) In 2018-19 and 2019-20, Cyberport continued to support Financial Technology (FinTech) and e-commerce start-ups through the CIP, actively assisting the relevant companies in developing their businesses and establishing partnerships. As at end February 2020, a total of 135 FinTech start-ups and 103 e-commerce start-ups have participated in the CIP.

Cyberport has been actively promoting the products and technical solutions of start-ups, helping them to match with traditional enterprises and providing solutions for such enterprises according to their needs for new technologies, with a view to fostering integration of the old and new economies.

In addition, Cyberport enhances FinTech-specific training for in-service financial practitioners to enrich the FinTech talent pool and promote FinTech applications in the traditional financial industries. The relevant programmes have been launched in January 2020.

To promote technology start-ups in embracing global business opportunities and developing overseas businesses and partnerships, Cyberport has actively formed partnerships with other overseas institutions and organisations, which include assisting

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<sup>1</sup> including incubatees, alumni, and grantees of the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund.

Accenture FinTech Innovation Lab in organising a 12-week accelerator programme at Cyberport; collaborating with other overseas organisations or government agencies to provide soft-landing opportunities for FinTech enterprises in Cyberport; and participating in and supporting a large number of international FinTech events, such as FinTech Festival held around the world.

So far, more than 300 university students were funded by Cyberport to participate in the FinTech entrepreneurship boot camp at renowned universities in the United States. Cyberport also co-organised the FinTech Career Accelerator Scheme with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Hong Kong Applied Sciences and Technology Research Institute to provide internship opportunities for university undergraduates and postgraduates at financial institutions, with a view to nurturing FinTech talent.

Cyberport will continue to implement blockchain-related initiatives and encourage the relevant enterprises on campus to participate in international blockchain activities.

Cyberport took forward the above programmes/schemes with internal resources and the government injection of \$200 million in 2018. No government manpower and other additional expenditures are involved.

- (4) The occupancy rates and operational expenses of Cyberport Smart-Space in 2018-19 and 2019-20 are as follows:

	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b> (As at end February 2020)
Occupancy rate of Smart-Space on Cyberport campus	93%	98%
Occupancy rate of Smart-Space 8 in Tsuen Wan	85%	97%
Occupancy rate of dedicated Smart-Space for FinTech	86%	99%
Total operational expenses of Smart-Space	\$10.5 million	\$9.4 million

Since the occupancy rate of Smart-Space on Cyberport campus has almost reached saturation, Cyberport considers that there is an urgent need to take forward the Cyberport 5 expansion project. Cyberport is actively conducting preparatory work for the project, with a view to providing more co-working space for start-ups as early as possible.

- (5) In mid-2018, the Government injected \$100 million into Cyberport for promoting the development of the local e-sports industry, with the aim of providing support for the e-sports industry at its initial stage of development and facilitating its stable development. \$50 million of the provision has been used to set up a dedicated e-sports competition venue in the Cyberport Arcade for hosting more activities that are conducive to the local development of e-sports, such as e-sports competition and promotion activities. The venue was open in July 2019. So far, 12 competitions/activities have been held, with over 3 000 participants.



The remaining \$50 million has been used for supporting the development of e-sports. Cyberport has introduced two funding schemes, namely:

- (i) E-sports Internship Scheme: provides employers with a salary subsidy for interns, covering different positions such as e-sports competition co-ordinator, animated effects designer and e-sports stadium manager, with a view to nurturing more e-sports talent; and
- (ii) E-sports Industry Facilitation Scheme: provides financial support to the industry for hosting e-sports competitions and activities, participating in overseas exchange trips to explore business opportunities, introducing e-sports education programmes and organising promotional activities, etc.

Since their introduction in April 2019, the two schemes have approved a total funding of about \$11.5 million. Cyberport will continue to collaborate with the industry to promote the development of e-sports, such as by establishing local e-sports leagues, and nurturing talent in the long run through encouraging tertiary and training institutions to introduce relevant training programmes.

The manpower involved in the above-mentioned work will be absorbed by Cyberport.

- (6) The Overseas/Mainland Market Development Support Scheme (MDSS) was introduced by Cyberport in the fourth quarter of 2018 under which a financial subsidy of up to \$200,000 would be provided to start-ups to assist them in conducting market research and promotion, participating in trade fairs outside Hong Kong, expanding into overseas markets and attracting investors. As at end February 2020, 51 applications for the MDSS were approved by Cyberport, and the financial assistance is provided on a reimbursement basis. The total amount of subsidy is estimated to be about \$8.1 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB041****(Question Serial No. 3711)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the public relations expenses of government departments, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

The websites/network platforms on which the Bureau placed online advertisements/sponsored content, as well as the frequency, duration (days) and total expenditure involved in the past year (tabulated in descending order):

Website / network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of display and number of viewers	Total expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 146)Reply:

Details of the websites/network platforms on which the Innovation and Technology Bureau placed online advertisements/sponsored content, as well as the frequency, duration (days) and total expenditure involved in the past year are as follows:

Website/network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of display and number of viewers	Total expenditure (\$)
Facebook	Social innovation videos	1	44	Hit rate (frequency): 2.96% (13 463); frequency of display: 454 691; number of viewers: 382 728	\$55,000
YouTube and other video websites	Social innovation videos	1	15	Hit rate (frequency): 0.41% (1 009); frequency of display: 247 554; number of viewers: not applicable	\$50,000

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB042**

**(Question Serial No. 0350)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

E-sports is a rapidly developing industry with great potential in recent years. The Government mentioned the allocation of \$100 million to Cyberport in paragraph 70 of the Budget Speech last year for promoting the development of the e-sports industry. However, the Budget this year did not discuss this matter in any way. Will the Bureau continue to allocate additional resources in staff establishment and expenditure estimates? If yes, what are the estimated staff establishment and expenditure involved in the coming 3 years? Besides, will the Bureau allocate resources for conducting publicity work in the coming 3 years? If yes, what are the work plans and the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 85)

Reply:

It was announced in the 2018-19 Budget that \$100 million would be injected into Cyberport for promoting the development of the local e-sports industry, with the aim of providing support for the industry at its budding stage and facilitating its stable development. \$50 million of the provision was used to set up a dedicated e-sports competition venue in the Cyberport Arcade so as to provide the industry with a readily available and well-equipped venue for hosting more activities that are conducive to the local development of e-sports, such as e-sports competition and promotion activities. The venue was opened in July 2019.

The remaining \$50 million has been used for supporting the development of the e-sports industry. Cyberport has also introduced two funding schemes, namely:

- (1) E-sports Internship Scheme: provides employers with a salary subsidy for interns, covering different positions such as e-sports competition co-ordinator, animated

effects designer and e-sports stadium manager, with a view to nurturing more e-sports talent; and

- (2) E-sports Industry Facilitation Scheme: provides financial support to the industry for hosting e-sports competitions and activities, participating in overseas exchange trips to explore new business opportunities, introducing e-sports education programmes and organising promotional activities, etc.

Since their introduction in April 2019, the two schemes have approved a total funding of about \$11.5 million. In addition, Cyberport will continue to collaborate with the industry to promote the development of e-sports, such as by establishing a local e-sports league, and nurture talent in the long run through encouraging tertiary and training institutions to introduce relevant training programmes.

The above work does not involve any additional provision from the Government.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB043**

**(Question Serial No. 2847)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The estimated expenditure under Programme (2) of Innovation and Technology for 2020-21 is 67.3% higher than the revised estimate this year. What are the details of and reasons for the abovementioned individual items of expenditure? Besides, regarding the staff establishment, 6 posts will be created in 2020-21. Will the Government advise on the main duties of these posts and the related expenditure on salaries?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure under Programme (2) of the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) for 2020-21 is \$146.9 million higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This is mainly due to:

- (a) the increased cash flow of about \$61.57 million for the TechConnect (block vote);
- (b) the increased cash flow of \$25.5 million for the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living;
- (c) the provision of about \$51.57 million for the general departmental expenses on strengthening the promotion of innovation and technology, office renovation works, upgrading of IT systems and procurement of equipment, etc.; and
- (d) the provision of about \$9.66 million for the salary expenses to be incurred by filling the vacancies which arise throughout the year and the creation of 6 new posts including 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Accounting Officer I, 1 Assistant Information Officer, 1 Clerical Officer, 1 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Motor Driver. Their main duties are to provide administrative and public relations support for ITB. The relevant salary expenses and related expenses incurred are about \$3.48 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB044**

**(Question Serial No. 4031)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialisation co-ordinates innovation and technology development and re-industrialisation in Hong Kong. To promote re-industrialisation in a more effectively manner, will the Government allocate more resources to support the operation of the Committee? If yes, what are the details and the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 84)

Reply:

The Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialisation (the Committee) advises the Government on matters relating to the promotion of innovation and technology (I&T) development and re-industrialisation in Hong Kong. Since its establishment in April 2017, the Committee has held 12 meetings to discuss the latest scene of I&T development in Hong Kong and various I&T-related topics.

To support the work of the Committee is one of the duties under Programme (2) Innovation and Technology. We do not have a breakdown of expenditure for individual items of work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB045****(Question Serial No. 2950)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Innovation and TechnologyControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL), please provide the numbers of eligible applications received and projects approved by the Government, the total amount of grants approved, and the number of approved projects monitored in each of the past 3 years. In addition, please give a detailed breakdown of information in the table below:

2017-18					
Project title	Type/details of project	Vetting time	Amount of grants approved	Number of beneficiaries	Progress of project
2018-19					
Project title	Type/details of project	Vetting time	Amount of grants approved	Anticipated number of beneficiaries	Progress of project
2019-20					

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)Reply:

The Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL) was launched on 31 May 2017. As at early March 2020, we have received a total of 122 eligible applications, of which 5 were withdrawn by the applicants due to various reasons. Of the 117 eligible applications, the FBL Assessment Panel has considered 108, of which 25 have been approved, with a total grant of about \$83.62 million. The average grant for each project is \$3.34 million. A breakdown of the figures by year is tabulated below:



	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020 (As at 2 March)</b>
Number of eligible applications	26	55	41
Number of applications considered by the FBL Assessment Panel	14	48	46
Number of applications approved	9	9	7
Amount of grants approved	\$24,794,641	\$33,933,558	\$24,895,301.5

The FBL has put in place a stringent monitoring system under which all approved projects are required to submit regular progress reports and audited project accounts. The grants are disbursed by instalments according to project progress.

Key information on the approved projects, including the objectives, amounts of grants, number of beneficiaries and project progress, is uploaded on the FBL's website (<https://fbl.itb.gov.hk/ApprovedProject/ListApprovedProject>) for public information.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB046**

**(Question Serial No. 2989)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the progress of the work on developing the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop, will the SAR Government advise on the following:

the estimated expenditure for each phase of the construction works of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park and the overall estimated expenditure, the construction timetable for each phase and the estimated completion date for each phase;

whether the estimates for the construction works cover infrastructure for major research institutes, and if yes, the estimates involved;

whether the estimates for the construction works cover construction of industrial estates, and if yes, the estimates involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The Government is implementing various planning and infrastructural works in full swing to actively develop the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop) into the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park).

Regarding the site formation and infrastructural works, the Advance Works of the Loop commenced in June 2018. If everything goes smoothly, it is expected that the first batch of land parcels will be made available by 2021 for the development of the Loop. The detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 also commenced in September 2018 and are expected to be completed in phases by early 2023.

The respective approved project estimates for the construction of the Advance Works and the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 are \$517.6 million and \$268.3 million in money-of-the-day prices, while the total project estimate for the construction of Main Works Package 1 is about \$13,794.5 million in money-of-the-day prices.

The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study for the development of the Park, and is currently conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and the operating expenditure of the Park. As for the timetables and estimated expenditures of the remaining batches of development, specific plans will be drawn up according to the findings of the technical feasibility study and the economic impact analysis study to be carried out for each batch of development.

The Government has set aside \$20 billion to support the first phase development of the Park in the Loop for, inter alia, site formation, provision of infrastructure, construction of superstructure and initial operation. There will not be any industrial estate in the Park of the Loop, and the earmarked funding of \$20 billion does not cover the construction of industrial estate. Since the Loop is a sizeable undeveloped land without any infrastructure, development of the Loop into the Park is a large-scale and long-term project. The total expenditure on the development of the Loop will depend on various factors, such as the specific planning of the Park, complementary facilities, site formation and detailed design of the infrastructure, etc. We expect the funding required for the Loop development as a whole will far exceed \$20 billion.

We will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB047**

**(Question Serial No. 2998)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Bureau will oversee the launch of the City Innovation and Technology Grand Challenge. Has the Government estimated the outcomes of this initiative? What are the staffing establishment and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

In order to promote the atmosphere and culture of innovation and technology (I&T) in Hong Kong, the Government has allocated \$500 million for organising the annual City Innovation and Technology Grand Challenge ("Grand Challenge"). We will set themes for the competition having regard to issues that are closely related to daily lives, such as environmental protection, medical and health, public hygiene, and transportation, and openly invite people from all walks of life in the community to put forward solutions with I&T elements. In addition to cash prizes and other rewards, winners may also receive funding for implementing, refining and trial running the winning solutions in suitable public sector organisations/communities.

Through the Grand Challenge, we hope to raise I&T awareness across all sectors of our society, promote the use of I&T solutions to tackle problems encountered in the community or in daily life, as well as inspire and encourage more young people to pursue a career in I&T.

The Innovation and Technology Commission has invited the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation as a key partner to organise and run the competition. Implementation details are being mapped out, and the first Grand Challenge is expected to be launched within this year. To oversee the preparatory work for the Grand Challenge is one of the tasks under Programme (2) "Innovation and Technology". We do not have a breakdown of expenditure and manpower for individual items of work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB048**

**(Question Serial No. 3779)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of the Efficiency Office (EffO) to accelerate innovation across Government, please set out the details of the projects conducted and their progress, as well as the respective government departments, manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

Details of the projects conducted by the EffO in the past 3 years (i.e. 2017-2019) to accelerate innovation across bureaux/departments are set out in the attached table. Accelerating innovation across Government is one of the core areas of work of EffO, we do not have a separate breakdown on the staff establishment and the expenditure involved.

	<b>Bureau/ Department Involved</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Scope</b>
1.	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	Consultancy Study to Deploy Design Thinking Approach in the Design of the Hong Kong Exhibition Area in the China International Import Expo	Design Thinking
2.	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	Study on Better Support to Small and Medium Enterprises	Design Thinking
3.	Development Bureau	Consultancy Study on Development Strategy of a Common Spatial Data Infrastructure	Strategy Study
4.	Efficiency Office	Knowledge Management System	Application of Information Technology
5.	Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau	Consultancy Study on Research on Public Procurement	Strategy Study
6.	Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau	Government Procurement Review	Strategy Study
7.	Labour Department	Study on Disbursement System for Implementing the Proposed Extension of Statutory Maternity Leave	Strategy Study
8.	Lands Department	Helicopter Review of Information Technology Functions in Lands Department	Strategy Study
9.	Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	Government Human Resources Management Services	Application of Information Technology
10.	Bureaux/departments	‘Streamlining of Government Services’ Programme	Application of Information Technology and Streamlining of Business Processes

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB049**

**(Question Serial No. 3780)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

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

Programme: (3) Efficiency Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the operation of the 1823 contact centre, will the Government inform this Committee of:

in table form, the staff establishment and strength of the 1823 contact centre in each of the past 3 years, as well as the salary expenditure involved;

in table form, the number of calls and emails from the public received by the 1823 contact centre in each of the past 3 years, as well as the respective numbers and percentage shares of the departments involved;

the staff establishment of the 1823 contact centre this year (number of posts, ranks, duties of respective posts, remuneration packages, and scopes of work) and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)

Reply:

The staff establishment, strength and salary expenditure for 1823 in the past 3 financial years were as follows:

	<b>Establishment of Civil Servants</b>	<b>Strength of Civil Servants</b>	<b>Number of Non-Civil Service Contract Staff (including full-time staff and part-time staff (in full-time equivalent))</b>	<b>Salary Expenditure</b>
2017-18	6	6	456	\$124 million
2018-19	6	6	472	\$136 million
2019-20	8	8	477	\$140 million

The numbers of calls and emails from the public received by the 1823 contact centre in the past 3 years were as follows:

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Call	3 625 822	3 702 192	4 501 920
Email	288 979	290 783	381 153

The numbers of enquiry and complaint cases 1823 handled for various departments in the past 3 years are set out in the table below<sup>1</sup>:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Number of cases in 2017 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>		<b>Number of cases in 2018 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>		<b>Number of cases in 2019 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>	
Hong Kong Housing Authority and Housing Department	366 041	15.11%	368 014	15.37%	333 153	14.94%
Labour Department	397 972	16.43%	352 814	14.74%	312 823	14.03%
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	195 359	8.07%	202 484	8.46%	266 734	11.96%
Transport Department	254 033	10.49%	231 271	9.66%	206 877	9.27%
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	184 206	7.61%	183 092	7.65%	179 805	8.06%
Rating and Valuation Department	165 853	6.85%	150 724	6.30%	95 488	4.28%
Hongkong Post	103 643	4.28%	102 512	4.28%	89 407	4.01%
Highways Department	65 205	2.69%	72 103	3.01%	70 625	3.17%



<b>Department</b>	<b>Number of cases in 2017 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>		<b>Number of cases in 2018 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>		<b>Number of cases in 2019 (and respective percentage of the total caseload)</b>	
Buildings Department	73 503	3.03%	68 692	2.87%	62 407	2.80%
Companies Registry	48 636	2.01%	92 282	3.85%	48 254	2.16%
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	48 962	2.02%	50 076	2.09%	46 980	2.11%
Lands Department	44 202	1.83%	50 027	2.09%	45 572	2.04%
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	43 025	1.78%	39 951	1.67%	32 175	1.44%
Social Welfare Department	30 591	1.26%	36 747	1.54%	27 451	1.23%
Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office, Department of Health	20 090	0.83%	19 087	0.80%	16 324	0.73%
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	15 716	0.65%	15 764	0.66%	16 175	0.73%
Drainage Services Department	18 452	0.76%	19 026	0.79%	11 887	0.53%
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	15 442	0.64%	11 592	0.49%	11 071	0.50%
Land Registry	4 776	0.20%	4 110	0.17%	2 942	0.13%
Architectural Services Department	2 069	0.08%	2 615	0.11%	2 185	0.10%
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1 287	0.05%	1 280	0.05%	1 395	0.06%
Marine Department	997	0.04%	991	0.04%	709	0.03%
Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section of Development Bureau <sup>2</sup>					447	0.02%
1823 and non-participating departments	321 924	13.29%	318 594	13.31%	349 495	15.67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 421 984</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2 393 848</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2 230 381</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note 1: One single case could involve multiple calls or emails from the public. On the other hand, the public could file multiple cases through a single call or email. Thus, there could be discrepancies between the number of cases and the number of calls and emails.

Note 2: The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section of the Development Bureau became a participating department of 1823 in September 2019.

The staff establishment of the 1823 for the financial year 2020-21 (number of posts, ranks, duties of respective posts, remuneration packages, and scopes of work) are as follows:

<b>Employment Terms</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Main Duties</b>	<b>Number of Staffs</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Civil Servants	Executive Officer / Management Services Officer / Assistant Clerical Officer	Manage the centre / Streamline business process / Handle enquiries and complaints from the public	8	\$15,560 - \$135,470
Non-civil Service Contract Staff (Full-time)	Customer Service Officer and Customer Service Supervisor	Handle enquiries and complaints from the public	404	\$12,750 - \$30,050
	Managerial Staff	Operation Management	16	\$30,930 - \$82,520
	Training and Knowledge Base Development Staff	Training and Quality Assurance	13	\$18,450 - \$68,760
	Systems Unit Staff	System support	15	\$26,090 - \$73,570
	Administration Unit Staff	Administrative support	16	\$14,600 - \$41,970

The estimated salary expenditure for 1823 in 2020-21 is about \$151 million.

The benefits for civil servants are provided in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations while the benefits for non-civil service contract staff are provided in accordance with the relevant terms of the employment contract, which are no less favourable than those provided for under the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57).

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB050**

**(Question Serial No. 0481)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

1. Please set out the respective salary provisions for the Secretary, Under Secretary and Political Assistant to Secretary for Innovation and Technology in 2020-21.
2. What is the staff establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office in 2020-21? What is the salary provision for the entire Office and its percentage to the overall salary provisions under this Head?
3. As the work of the Office includes "planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions", what were the Secretary's respective attendances at (a) meetings of the District Councils (DCs) and (b) other community functions last year? What is the estimated figure of his attendance at DC meetings in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The required information is as follows:

- (1) The salary provisions earmarked for the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology (US for IT) and the Political Assistant (PA) to S for IT in the 2020-21 estimates are about \$4.18 million, \$2.72 million and \$1.04 million respectively.
- (2) Apart from S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT, there are 7 civil service posts in the Director of Bureau's Office in the 2020-21 financial year, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Personal Assistant, 1 Senior Personal Secretary, 1 Personal Secretary I, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Chauffeur, which

provide support for the Office. The salary provisions in the 2020-21 financial year are about \$6.78 million, representing about 4% of the overall salary provisions under this Head.

(3) In 2019, S for IT visited Tsuen Wan, Sai Kung and Wan Chai District Councils to meet with the District Councillors and exchange with them views on issues relating to innovation and technology as well as matters of local concern. S for IT also participated in the activities organised by different organisations from time to time to meet and exchange views with the stakeholders.

The Innovation and Technology Bureau will continue to maintain dialogue and contact with the districts and stakeholders, and attend meetings of District Councils concerned as and when necessary.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB051**

**(Question Serial No. 0535)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

With reference to “continue to take forward the development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop”:

1. how many meetings have been convened by the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop over the past year? Which government representatives attended these meetings? What is the major content of discussion or recommendations of each meeting?
2. Have the Master Layout Plan Study and the Business Model and Business Plan Study carried out earlier by the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited been completed? If yes, is there any preliminary proposal for project expansion or development?
3. Is there any other research projects being carried out in addition to those mentioned above? If yes, what are the details?
4. Is the target of making the first batch of land parcels available in the Loop by 2021 remains unchanged? Are there any recommendations or related work on the use of the first batch of land parcels, such as exploring the feasibility of inviting local universities to set up research centres in the Loop?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The information required is consolidated as follows:

- (1) Co-chaired by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology and the Vice Mayor of Shenzhen Municipality, the Joint Task Force on the Development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Loop (the Joint Task Force) held 2 meetings in 2019. Through the Joint Task Force, the Hong Kong and Shenzhen sides conducted discussions and consultations on major issues relating to the development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park), such as the progress and future work arrangements of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL), the works progress of supporting infrastructure in the Lok Ma Chau Loop, etc. Representatives of the Hong Kong side attending the meetings included those from the Innovation and Technology Bureau, the Development Bureau, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, the Education Bureau, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, the Innovation and Technology Commission, and the Civil Engineering and Development Department.
- (2) to (3) The HSITPL has completed the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study for the development of the Park, and is currently conducting a technical feasibility study and an economic impact analysis study. We will make reference to the findings of the studies in formulating the development strategy and planning of the Park.

As for supporting infrastructure works, the consultancy study on the “Development of Lok Ma Chau Loop – Main Works Package 1 – detailed design and site investigation” commenced in September 2018 and is expected to be completed in phases by early 2023.

- (4) The “land decontamination and advance engineering works” of the Lok Ma Chau Loop commenced in June 2018. If everything goes smoothly, the target of making the first batch of land parcels available by 2021 for the Loop remains unchanged. To attract top-notch enterprises, research institutions and higher education institutes of Hong Kong and Shenzhen, as well as those of other places in the Mainland and overseas, the Park plans to establish itself as a key base for co-operation in scientific research, with relevant higher education, cultural and creative, as well as other complementary facilities. We will explore the feasibility of having different organisations, including local universities, to establish presence and set up scientific research centres in the Park in due course.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB052**

**(Question Serial No. 4044)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work to “continue to implement the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL) to finance projects that would make use of innovative application of technologies to improve Hong Kong people’s daily life or address the needs of specific community groups”, please provide information on the following:

1. the numbers of applications received and approved by the FBL Secretariat since the establishment of the FBL, the total funding amount, and the average funding amount for each project;
2. the number of projects, with a breakdown by the target group of approved projects, in respect of the aim of “improving Hong Kong people’s daily life or addressing the needs of specific community groups”;
3. details of the approved projects: project titles, applicants, objectives, approved funding amounts, beneficiary groups, expected/actual launch dates, expected/actual numbers of people benefitted; and
4. the measures taken by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) to promote the FBL, which currently has a balance of about \$450 million; and whether the Innovation and Technology Bureau or the ITC has any plans to promote the scheme, in particular among universities and professional groups?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The required information is provided below:

- (1) The Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL) was launched on 31 May 2017. As at early March 2020, we have received a total of 122 eligible applications, among which 5 were withdrawn by applicants due to various reasons. Of the 117 eligible applications, the FBL Assessment Panel (the Panel) has considered 108, of which 25 were approved with a total grant of about \$83.62 million. The average grant for each project is \$3.34 million.
- (2) and (3) The approved projects cover various themes, including daily living, education, health, safety, transportation, etc. The project deliverables are mainly in the form of mobile applications, followed by services, products and software. The target beneficiaries of the projects are mainly persons with special needs (such as children with special educational needs) and the general public, followed by people with disabilities, the elderly, young people, etc. Key information of the projects, including the objectives, funding amount, number of beneficiaries, project progress, etc. is provided on the FBL website (<https://fbl.itb.gov.hk/ApprovedProject/ListApprovedProject>) for public information.
- (4) To encourage more organisations to submit applications so that more people can benefit from the FBL, we conducted a comprehensive review in mid-2019 on different aspects of the FBL, including eligibility criteria, application procedures, assessment mechanism, level of funding, implementation and monitoring of projects, etc. After consulting the Panel, enhancement measures were introduced in August 2019, which include extending the eligibility to cover social service organisations exempted from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap 112), and having streamlined the requirement on progress reports to ease the administrative burden of funded organisations.

Eligible applicants of the FBL include universities and professional bodies. Among the 122 eligible applications, 34% was from tertiary institutions. There were also some applications made by tertiary institutions as joint applicant to provide technical support. It shows that the FBL has gained recognition from tertiary institutions. In addition, 5 applications were made by professional bodies as the lead applicants.

In 2019-20, the FBL Secretariat continued to organise a series of publicity and promotional activities, including promoting the FBL through media interviews, holding a briefing session during which successful cases were shared to encourage applications from eligible organisations, attending various public activities, and meeting with interested organisations or groups to explain the details of the FBL. These activities reached out to about 1 150 organisations. The FBL Secretariat will continue to proactively promote the FBL to stakeholders through various channels.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB053****(Question Serial No. 0942)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): (001) SalariesProgramme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

Regarding the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances and related expenses to be incurred by the Office of the Secretary for Innovation and Technology in 2020-21, please tabulate the following information:

- (1) the estimated expenditures on the (i) salaries, (ii) benefits and allowances, (iii) job-related allowances, (iv) Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contribution and (v) other allowances and contribution (please specify) of (a) the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), (b) the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology (US for IT) and (c) the Political Assistant (PA) to S for IT in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Salaries	(ii) Benefits and allowances	(iii) Job-related allowances	(iv) MPF contribution	(v) Other allowances and contribution (please specify)
(a) S for IT					
(b) US for IT					
(c) PA to S for IT					
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau					

- (2) the estimated expenditures on the benefits and allowances for (a) S for IT, (b) US for IT and (c) PA to S for IT in this financial year, including the following four categories of expenditures: (i) their medical and dental benefits, (ii) the medical and dental benefits of their spouses, (iii) their leave passage allowances and (iv) the leave passage allowances of their spouses. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Medical and dental benefits	(ii) Medical and dental benefits of spouses	(iii) Leave passage allowances	(iv) Leave passage allowances of spouses
(a) S for IT				
(b) US for IT				
(c) PA to S for IT				
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau				

- (3) the estimated expenditures on the (i) government vehicle services and (ii) security arrangements for (a) S for IT, (b) US for IT and (c) PA to S for IT in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Cars and chauffeur services	(ii) Security arrangements
(a) S for IT		
(b) US for IT		
(c) PA to S for IT		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

- (4) the estimated expenditures on the job-related allowances for (a) S for IT, (b) US for IT and (c) PA to S for IT in this financial year, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) official entertainment and (ii) passage for duty visits. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; and

	(i) Official entertainment	(ii) Passage for duty visits
(a) S for IT		
(b) US for IT		
(c) PA to S for IT		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

- (5) the estimated expenditures on the end-of-contract gratuity for (a) S for IT, (b) US for IT and (c) PA to S for IT upon the completion of their term of office, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) end-of-contract gratuity and (ii) related allowances. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above.

	(i) End-of-contract gratuity	(ii) Related allowances
(a) S for IT		
(b) US for IT		
(c) PA to S for IT		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

The information required is as follows:

- (1) In the 2020-21 Estimates for the Innovation and Technology Bureau, the provisions earmarked for remuneration for the Secretary for Innovation and Technology (S for IT), the Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology (US for IT) and the Political Assistant (PA) to S for IT are about \$4.18 million, \$2.72 million and \$1.04 million respectively, and the provisions earmarked for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution for each of the 3 officials is \$18,000. Apart from these, no provision has been earmarked for benefits and allowances, job-related allowances or other allowances and contribution for S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT.
- (2) S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT as well as their dependents are entitled to the medical and dental benefits applicable to civil servants and their dependents. No provision has been earmarked for leave passage allowances for S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT as well as their spouses.
- (3) S for IT is provided with the free use at his discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong, whereas the use of government cars by US for IT and PA to S for IT is governed by the rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable

ranks. No provision has been earmarked for security arrangements for S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT.

- (4) In the 2020-21 Estimates, \$130,000 and \$810,000 have been earmarked for official entertainment and duty visits respectively for the Director of Bureau's Office.
- (5) According to the remuneration package for Politically Appointed Officials of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT are not entitled to contract gratuity except for the Government's contribution to the Mandatory Provident Fund. No provision has been earmarked for related allowances for S for IT, US for IT and PA to S for IT.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB054**

**(Question Serial No. 0999)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

During the epidemic period, the Government has used the electronic wristbands developed by the Logistics and Supply Chain Multi-tech R&D Centre to facilitate home quarantine. Will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (1) the expenses for developing the electronic wristbands, and the cost price per wristband;
- (2) the number of electronic wristbands being used by the Government as at 1 March 2020, and the stock in hand; whether those used by people under home quarantine will be reused;
- (3) whether there is any plan to increase the production capacity or purchase additional electronic wristbands in the coming year; if yes, the number of electronic wristbands to be purchased/produced and the estimated expenditures to be incurred;
- (4) how the electronic wristbands will be disposed of after the epidemic, and whether they will be destroyed; if yes, the expenditures involved; if no, how they will be stored and the expenditures involved; and
- (5) whether other government departments have plans to procure from the Government/introduce electronic wristbands/smart wristbands; if yes, the number of such wristbands required by each department.

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

Reply:

The financial implications of the relevant measures are covered by the Anti-epidemic Fund, and are not within the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the Government's General Revenue Account. The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), in collaboration with the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre (LSCM) under the Innovation and Technology Commission, has adopted a locally developed electronic wristband system, which is used in conjunction with smartphones and their positioning technology. This arrangement ensures that persons under compulsory quarantine stay at the designated premises without invading their personal privacy. As at 1 March 2020, the research and development (R&D) expenditure of the electronic wristband system in support of the compulsory quarantine measure was about \$900,000 (excluding the expenditure on the procurement of smartphones and production of the hardware in electronic wristbands). The unit cost of the first batch of 2 700 electronic wristbands is about \$470. The design and device of the electronic wristbands will be refined according to the quarantine operation of the Government. It is expected that the cost of electronic wristbands hereafter will decrease with further R&D outcomes and mass production.
- (2) As at 1 March 2020, we have arranged a total of 769 electronic wristbands for wearing by people under home quarantine, with a total stock of 1 931 wristbands. Upon completion of the 14-day home quarantine, we will arrange to collect and reuse these electronic wristbands.
- (3) In view of the continuous increase in number of persons under compulsory quarantine, the Government has earmarked \$50 million under the Anti-epidemic Fund, mainly for the procurement and production of home quarantine monitoring devices. OGCIO and LSCM have procured an additional 6 000 reusable electronic wristbands and another 160 000 disposable electronic wristbands to support the implementation of the compulsory quarantine measure.
- (4) After the epidemic, we will distribute these smartphones to other government departments, such as for use as mobile offices after installing the required software. The reusable electronic wristbands can be used by government departments in other services, such as for taking care of elderly in need in residential care homes.
- (5) At present, no other government departments have discussed with or procured electronic wristbands from LSCM.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB055****(Question Serial No. 6499)**Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and TechnologyQuestion:

The Financial Secretary mentioned the electronic wristbands developed by the Logistics and Supply Chain Multi-tech R&D Centre in his Budget Speech. On 21 February 2020, the Finance Committee approved the creation of a \$30 billion Anti-epidemic Fund, of which \$50 million will be used to purchase the above electronic wristbands and related equipment for the purposes of supporting home quarantine measures. In this connection, would the Government please provide the following information:

- (1) What are the respective functions of the electronic wristbands and pairing smart phones? Do they have any GPS tracking function? How are they paired for use with the support system(s)? Is employment of personnel needed to regularly monitor their use?
- (2) What are the respective models, manufacturers, countries of origin and research and development (R&D) institutions (including collaborating organisations other than the Logistics and Supply Chain Multi-tech R&D Centre) of the electronic wristbands, pairing smart phones and support system(s), as well as the expenditures involved in the purchase of these equipment?

	Model	Manufacturer	Country of origin	R&D institution	Expenditure on the purchase of equipment
Electronic wristband					
Pairing smart phone					
Support system					

- (3) What Government departments and relevant persons (especially whether the Security Bureau and the Police Force are involved) are involved in preparing the preliminary research projects, and what are the costs for the preliminary research before the Government places orders for the above equipment and puts it into use?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

The financial implications of the relevant measures, which do not fall under the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the General Revenue Account Estimates, are absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund. The information required is provided as follows:

- (1) The electronic wristbands currently in use are not equipped with Global Positioning System (GPS) function, but the app installed on the smartphone uses geo-fencing technology to detect the surrounding signals including GPS, Wi-Fi and bluetooth signals of the electronic wristbands, etc., in order to ascertain whether persons under quarantine stay at the designated premises. By design, the electronic wristbands cannot be taken off at will, while the smartphones must be connected to a power source and must not be taken outside the home area.

At present, the manpower for monitoring system operation is provided by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) through internal deployment, and civil service volunteers. With the continuous increase in the number of persons under home quarantine, we need to recruit additional manpower to assist.

- (2) Details of the equipment involved are as follows:

	Model	Manufacturer	Country of origin	R&D institution	Expenditure on the purchase of equipment
Electronic wristband	The electronic wristband developed by the Logistics and Supply Chain Multi-tech R&D Centre (LSCM)	LSCM	Hong Kong and the Mainland	LSCM  (Other collaborating public and private organisations include: Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, Wisilica, Skytech Creations Limited,	Estimated to be around \$15 million (including the costs of production of electronic wristbands and their delivery, collection, maintenance, replacement and resetting)



	Model	Manufacturer	Country of origin	R&D institution	Expenditure on the purchase of equipment
				Liricco Technologies Limited, Ideal Radio Limited, Jetta Company Limited and InfoTronic International Limited	
Pairing smartphone	No specific model required (smartphones supporting near-field communication and bluetooth communication)	Depending on the model of smartphones	Depending on the model of smartphones	Depending on the model of smartphones	Estimated to be around \$25 million
Support system	StayHomeSafe system	LSCM	Hong Kong	LSCM	Estimated to be around \$5 million (including development and updating services of the software and app)
	StayHomeSafe smartphone app	Compathnion Technology Limited		Compathnion Technology Limited	

- (3) Prior to the procurement and use of the above equipment, OGCIO is responsible for the relevant preparatory work (including identifying and testing suitable electronic wristbands and pairing smartphones, developing the smartphone app, upgrading the back-end system, etc). No additional research expenses are involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB056**

**(Question Serial No. 1504)**

Head: (135) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Innovation and Technology

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology  
(Ms Annie CHOI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In paragraph 109 of the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech, it is mentioned that the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) in the Lok Ma Chau Loop is an important infrastructure for promoting local R&D and re-industrialisation. The first phase of ground treatment works is in good progress. Please advise the Committee on the following:

1. details of work in relation to the development of the first phase of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park that have been commenced and completed by the Innovation and Technology Bureau in the past 2 years, and the manpower and expenditures involved;
2. in light of the results of the Master Planning Study and Business Model and Business Planning Study, what are the development strategies, planning and implementation timetable of the Park in the coming 2 years?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) The Government is implementing various planning and infrastructural works in full swing to actively develop the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop) into the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park). The Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB) is responsible for co-ordinating the work related to the development of the Park, whereas the Development Bureau and the Civil Engineering and Development Department are tasked with the relevant site formation and infrastructure works. The Government obtained funding approval of about \$790 million from the Legislative Council (LegCo) in May 2018, and commenced the construction of the Advance Works of the Loop as well as the detailed design and site

investigation of Main Works Package 1 in June and September 2018 respectively. If everything goes smoothly, it is expected that the first batch of land parcels for the Loop development will be made available by 2021.

The Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL), which is responsible for the construction of the superstructure, operation, maintenance and management of the Park, was established in October 2017.

The ITB is tasked to develop the Park in the Loop under Programme (2) Innovation and Technology. The ITB is taking forward the said work in collaboration with relevant departments using its existing manpower and resources. A breakdown of the expenditures involved is not available.

- (2) The Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study conducted by the HSITPL on the development of the Park have been completed. The HSITPL is conducting the technical feasibility study and the economic impact analysis study. The HSITPL will make reference to the findings of the studies to estimate the cost required for Batch 1 development and the operating expenditure of the Park.

We will seek funding approval from the LegCo for Main Works Package 1 and the construction of the first batch of buildings in the Park in a timely manner.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB057****(Question Serial No. 3967)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list out in tabular form the number of local enterprises that applied for technology vouchers, the number of medium enterprises and start-ups involved, the success rate and failure rate of application, as well as the total amount of funding so far approved under the Technology Voucher Programme since its launch.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 246)

Reply:

Since the launch of the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) in November 2016 up to end February 2020, the Innovation and Technology Commission received a total of 3 442 applications. The number of employees and duration of operation of the applicant enterprises/organisations are tabulated as follows:

<b>Number of employees</b>	<b>Number of applications</b>
1-9	2 098
10-19	702
20-29	251
30-39	124
40-49	91
50-99	101
100 or above	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 442</b>

<b>Duration of operation</b>	<b>Number of applications</b>
2 years or below	643
More than 2 years to 5 years	755
More than 5 years to 10 years	716
More than 10 years	1 328
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 442</b>

So far, of the 2 318 applications assessed by the TVP Committee, 2 117 were approved, representing a success rate of over 91%, and involving a total funding of about \$320 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB058**

**(Question Serial No. 6761)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please set out in detail the expenditures and numbers of staff involved in the new initiatives announced in this year's Budget:

1) The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) is exploring the feasibility of Phase II of the Science Park Expansion Programme (SPX2) and \$3 billion will be earmarked for the SPX2. What are the locations involved of the land concerned? A few years ago, the Government planned to establish another science park near the Liantang Boundary Control Point. Is the relevant plan equivalent to the SPX2? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the current progress and estimated expenditure of the science park near the Liantang Boundary Control Point?

2) The Data Technology Hub and the Advanced Manufacturing Centre being developed by the HKSTPC in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate will be completed as scheduled in the first half of this year and in 2022 respectively. What are the locations involved of the land concerned? What are the progress, expenditure and manpower of the construction so far?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

A reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) With a view to meeting the keen local demand for research and development facilities and enhancing support for the innovation and technology development, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) commissioned a consultant in late 2019 to conduct a master planning study on the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park) and has kick-started its Phase II expansion programme to explore on-site and off-site development options. The HKSTPC has preliminarily proposed to build 2 laboratory annex buildings of a few storeys and

specialised laboratories of two to three storeys at podiums in Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Science Park, involving a gross floor area of about 28 000 square metres.

As for the reserved site of about 56 hectares near the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point, the HKSTPC is carrying out a visionary study to explore the development of the site as an industrial estate (IE) and to formulate an appropriate land use proposal, with the view to conducting the engineering and technical feasibility study in due course. The site, which requires site formation and construction of infrastructural facilities, etc would be part of the HKSTPC's long-term development plan. Since the initiative is only at the planning stage, figures on the estimated expenditure are not available at the moment.

- (2) The HKSTPC is developing a Data Technology Hub (DT Hub) and an Advanced Manufacturing Centre (AMC) in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved in May 2016 an injection of \$6.598 billion and a government loan of \$1.65 billion to the HKSTPC for the development of these 2 projects. The DT Hub is located at the corner of Chun Yat Street and Chun Cheong Street. Construction work is on schedule with completion expected in the first half of this year. The AMC is located at a site abutting Chun Kwong Street, Chun Cheong Street and Chun Yat Street. Construction of the building commenced in September 2019 and the project is expected to be completed in 2022.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB059**

**(Question Serial No. 1063)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Chief Executive mentioned in her 2018 Policy Address the allocation of \$500 million for organising an annual City Innovation and Technology Grand Challenge (City I&T Grand Challenge) in the following 5 years, with a view to encouraging the community to use innovation and technology to tackle issues that are closely related to our daily lives. It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Innovation and Technology Bureau will oversee the launch of the City I&T Grand Challenge. Will the Secretary inform this Committee of:

- 1) the timetable for the launch of the City I&T Grand Challenge and the estimated manpower and expenditure involved; and
- 2) the manpower involved in the preparation and co-ordination since the announcement of the plan more than 1.5 years ago; whether the progress of the abovementioned plan follows the timetable originally set; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is given below:

In order to boost the innovation and technology (I&T) atmosphere and culture in Hong Kong, the Government allocated \$500 million to organise the annual City Innovation and Technology Grand Challenge (Grand Challenge). We will set a theme of the competition having regard to issues that are closely related to daily lives, such as environmental protection, medical and health, public hygiene and transportation, etc., and openly invite members from all walks of life in the community to put forward solutions with I&T elements. In addition to cash prize and other awards, winners may be offered the opportunity to receive funding support for the adoption, enhancement and trials of the selected solutions in suitable public sector organisations/communities.



We have invited the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation to be the key partner in charge of organising and implementing the competition. Planning of the implementation details is now underway. It is hoped that the first competition can be launched within this year. We have to arrange for organising the Grand Challenge at a suitable juncture, with a view to positively engaging more members of the general public in concerted efforts to promote the I&T atmosphere in Hong Kong.

The manpower of the Innovation and Technology Commission involved in the preparation for the Grand Challenge is met by existing departmental resources.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB060**

**(Question Serial No. 1069)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP), the actual number of applications received and processed in 2019 dropped by almost 30% when compared with that in 2018. Will the Secretary explain:

- 1) the reasons for the drop in the above number and whether there is any change in the manpower involved in processing the above applications;
- 2) the channels and methods used by the Bureau to publicise the ITSP as well as the manpower and expenditure involved; and
- 3) whether the effectiveness of the ITSP has been regularly reviewed; if yes, the review mechanism and the manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) In January 2019, we merged the collaborative stream of the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) and the University-Industry Collaboration Programme into a new Partnership Research Programme (PRP). Since then, applications of the relevant collaborative projects would be counted into the PRP, so there was a drop in the number of applications received and processed under the ITSP in 2019 when compared with that in 2018. Besides, the number of applications received under each funding scheme varies from year to year as it is also affected by other factors (such as the available resources, work plans and workload, etc. of the applicants).

Officers handling the ITSP applications are also responsible for duties in other areas. We do not have the relevant breakdown figures.

- (2) The ITSP supports research and development (R&D) projects undertaken by designated local public research institutes and R&D Centres. These institutions have been collaborating closely with the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) and are very familiar with the details and requirements of the ITSP. Meanwhile, we will promote the ITSP through channels like briefing sessions, etc. Besides, we will disseminate the latest information of each funding scheme, including the ITSP, as well as summary of funded projects and relevant statistics on the Innovation and Technology Fund website (<http://www.itf.gov.hk>). We do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion of the ITSP.
- (3) We have been closely monitoring the implementation of the ITSP, and will conduct review from time to time to introduce enhancement measures as appropriate. The relevant work will be met by existing manpower and resources of ITC.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB061**

**(Question Serial No. 1070)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

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

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The estimate for Programme (6): Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI) under the Innovation and Technology Commission is \$382.1 million. It is stated in Brief Description paragraph 43 that ASTRI is designated as the Research and Development (R&D) Centre for information and communications technologies which transfers the technologies and results developed from its R&D projects to the industry and elevates the technology level of Hong Kong industry, with a view to creating new employment opportunities and enhancing competitiveness. Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21, it is mentioned that ASTRI will continue to transfer technologies developed from its R&D projects to industry and commercialise project deliverables through implementing corporate-level initiatives and encourage more collaborative projects. Would the Government please elaborate on the following:

- (1) Which targeted industries (organisations) will ASTRI collaborate with in the coming year? What are the specific collaborative projects?
- (2) It is also mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention that ASTRI will collaborate with enterprises and research institutions in the Mainland and overseas and explore development potential in the Greater Bay Area. What are the specific collaborative projects in the Greater Bay Area in the past year and in the coming year?
- (3) Are additional manpower and expenditure required for the relevant work mentioned in (1) and (2) above?

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

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) In the coming year, the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI) will continue to conduct research and development (R&D) focusing on 5 technology areas, namely intelligent manufacturing, financial technologies, health technologies, smart city and application specific integrated circuits. Among which, ASTRI will collaborate with organisations from various industries on R&D projects, for instance:
  - For intelligent manufacturing, ASTRI will develop a next-generation robotic visual inspection platform with wider applicability and conduct R&D on surface defect inspection for smartphone products jointly with a large-scale product manufacturer;
  - On promoting the development of the financial technologies, ASTRI will continue to collaborate with regulatory authorities and financial institutions to create an alternative credit assessment framework for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Its intelligent matching platform will enable banks and credit agencies to perform credit assessment and credit performance monitoring more effectively;
  - On health technologies, ASTRI will also collaborate with various healthcare technology companies to develop capsule endoscopy and cervical cancer screening inspection technologies, as well as conduct R&D on the hardware and software for intelligent health technologies and a data analysis platform;
  - On dovetailing with the development of smart city, ASTRI will collaborate with a telecommunications company and a telecom equipment provider to construct a 5G smart city testing platform via edge computing, enhanced positioning function and high-definition digital map interface technology, so as to support the infrastructural construction of smart mobility; and
  - On application specific integrated circuits, ASTRI will collaborate with a world-renowned semiconductor licensing company and an electronic technology R&D company to develop a sensor signal processing system on chip (SoC) platform embedded with Narrowband Internet of Things (NB-IoT) connectivity to provide a low cost and small size solution for meeting the huge demand of sensing applications. Besides, ASTRI will collaborate with a company specialising in the R&D and production of high-voltage equipment to develop an alternating current-direct current (AC-DC) power delivery solution with ultra-high density and efficiency through a series of generic platform technologies relating to parts packaging, module and sub-systems.
- (2) To capitalise on the opportunities brought about by the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area), ASTRI assists Hong Kong enterprises to expand their businesses in the Greater Bay Area in light of their demands on applied research. For instance, on the front of financial technologies, ASTRI's partners include Hong Kong cross-border financial institutions operating businesses in the Greater Bay Area and the Mainland, with an on-going R&D project on a smart advertisement management system, and new projects in the coming year such as blockchain-based smart contract platform and smart financial service assistant, etc. ASTRI will

continue collaborating with enterprises operating businesses in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area and assisting the industry in technology application for opening up business opportunities.

- (3) The R&D expenditure of ASTRI is primarily funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund on a project basis with sponsorships provided by the industry. The expenditure and manpower involved each year are subject to the needs of the R&D projects in the year concerned. In 2020-21, the estimated R&D expenditure of ASTRI is \$361 million and the estimated number of R&D personnel is 621.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB062****(Question Serial No. 4904)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the 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 the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by ITC from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.



2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(a)

Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(b) cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(c) cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

5) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 474)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) From October 2018 to September 2019, among the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), there was just 1 request for which only some of the information was provided. The request involved the access to the master agreement under the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund. Given that the relevant master agreement involved commercial and confidential information, and that the disclosure of the requested information would harm or prejudice negotiations, commercial or contractual activities by the department, only the major terms of the master agreement were provided to the applicant by ITC in accordance with clause 2.9(a) of the Code. The decision was made at the directorate (D2) level subject to the “harm or prejudice test”, under which the public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
- (2) From October 2018 to September 2019, among the requests for information under the Code received by ITC, there was no request for which the required information was not provided.
- (3) From 2015 to September 2019, ITC did not receive any cases requesting for review.
- (4)(a) From 2016 to September 2019, ITC managed to provide the requested information for 7 requests within 10 days, 6 requests within 11 to 21 days, and 2 requests within 22 to 51 days from dates of receipt of the written requests for information.
- (b) From 2016 to September 2019, ITC could not provide the requested information within 21 days from dates of receipt of the requests mainly because it took time to process the complex information requested.
- (c) From 2016 to September 2019, there was no case in which ITC could not provide the requested information within 51 days from dates of receipt of the requests.
- (5) From 2016 to September 2019, ITC did not consult the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on cases in which requests for information were refused.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB063**

**(Question Serial No. 6708)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Government's measures for supporting innovation and technology:

(1) Will the Government provide the statistics on government departments' procurement and conducting of trials of the local research and development products from local start-ups and micro-enterprises, including the number of products used, as well as the quantity and value of procurement, in each of the past 10 years?

(2) Will the Government advise on the effectiveness of the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) launched in 2011; the annual changes in the estimated expenditures involved so far; whether the PSTS can really help the related companies to grow and promote their products during the years; whether the Government has followed up on the subsequent development of these companies; and the number of companies which are still in operation?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 377)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) As the government departments have been individually inviting tenders for the products and services they need, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) does not have information on government departments' procurement or conducting of trials of the products from local start-ups and micro-enterprises.
- (2) To encourage more public sector organisations to receive trials on technology solutions developed locally, ITC launched the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) in 2011 to provide funding to research and development (R&D) projects under the Innovation and Technology Fund for producing prototypes/samples of their R&D outcomes and conducting trials in the public sector (including government bureaux and departments). Since December 2016, the PSTS has been extended to cover

incubatees and graduate tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport.

Since the inception of the PSTS in 2011 up to end-January 2020, 238 projects have been supported with funding of around \$431 million, benefitting over 140 different organisations in the conduct of more than 320 trials. The numbers of projects and funding amounts approved under the PSTS in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of projects approved</b>	<b>Funding amount approved (\$ million)</b>
2015-16	30	64.6
2016-17	25	37.3
2017-18	31	56.7
2018-19	38	79.8
2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)	27	65.3

Most of the funded companies indicate that they have gained a wealth of experience and user feedback through the PSTS, enabling them to further improve their products for commercialisation.

We further extended the funding scope of the PSTS at the end of March this year to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, so as to assist more local technology companies in realising and commercialising their R&D outcomes, and to promote the adoption of more local R&D outcomes by the public sector.

In addition to ITC, the Government has also put in place measures to encourage or facilitate bureaux/departments' application of technologies from local small and medium enterprises.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB064****(Question Serial No. 5727)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What are the number of applications received from venture capital (VC) funds for selection as co-investment partners (CP) under the fund (the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF)) of the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund Corporation, and the number of applications approved so far?

Table 1: Number of applications for selection as CPs from VC funds and number of applications approved

Year	Number of CPs	Number of applications approved

Besides, please advise this Committee on (1) the specific work details and amount of provision every year since the launch of the ITVF; and (2) the work plan and actual provision for 2019

Table 2: Work details of the ITVF since its launch

Year	Work details	Amount of provision

Table 3: Actual work plan for 2019

Year	Work plan

Table 4: Estimate for the actual work projects for 2019

Year	Project	Actual amount

Lastly, please advise this Committee what organisations have received funding support from the ITVF since its launch if external funding is required for a project.

Table 5: Projects for which the organisations receiving funding support are responsible and the amount of funding support

Year	Project	Amount of funding support	Organisations that have received funding support

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 554)

Reply:

The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) entered into agreements on co-investment with 6 selected venture capital funds (please refer to [Annex 1](#)) in the third quarter of 2018. As at mid-March 2020, the ITVF has received 19 investment proposals, of which 16 have been vetted and the remaining 3 are still under vetting. Among the investment proposals already vetted, we have completed capital injection into 11 investment projects and invested in 10 local innovation and technology (I&T) start-ups with a total investment of about \$66 million, attracting private investment of over \$200 million in the companies concerned during the same round of financing. Those start-ups are engaged in a wide variety of businesses, including financial technology, e-commerce, supply chain management, biotechnology and artificial intelligence (AI). Details of the investment projects concerned are listed in [Annex 2](#). For the other 2 investment proposals, we are now compiling the related legal documents in preparation for completing the capital injection into the investment projects. For the remaining 3 investment proposals, we have decided not to co-invest.

In search of more co-investment projects to support the development of local I&T start-ups, we have launched a new round of applications for co-investment partners (CP) under the ITVF in mid-January 2020. The vetting results are expected to be available around mid-2020.



Name of the funds	Name of the CPs
Beyond Ventures I Fund L.P.	Beyond I Capital Ltd.
BVCF IV, L.P.	BVCF IV GP, Ltd.
Hendale Fund, L.P.	Hendale GP Ltd.
Mindworks Ventures Fund 3 SPC	MindWorks Ventures Investment Management (Cayman)
Construction-Radiant Tech Ventures Fund LP	Radiant Tech Ventures Limited
X Technology Fund, L.P.	X Tech Holdings Ltd.

<b>Investee Company</b>	<b>Investment Amount (Note)</b>	<b>Investment Date</b>	<b>Business Nature</b>
CYC Motor Holding Limited	HK\$3.6M	March 2020	Design and manufacturing of components of electric mountain bike, such as motor system, drivetrains, smart controller system, peripherals and batteries, and bike frame
WBD101 Holdings (BVI) Limited	US\$0.75M	February 2020	Provision of sensing semiconductor solution to wearables brands in the sport, fitness and healthcare markets
enabot	US\$0.5M	January 2020	Research and development of smart robots for home using robotics and AI technologies
CW Capital Holdings	US\$333.3K*	January 2020	Provision of an integrated supply chain and receivables financing platform that helps small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and e-commerce businesses across the Greater China Region to meet cash flow and scaling needs
Maphive Technology Investment Limited	US\$1.0M	November 2019	Provision of indoor mapping and positioning technology platform that supports city-wide location-based applications
Yoho Group Holding Limited	HK\$6.5M	November 2019	Provision of online-to-offline (O2O) e-commerce services through online shopping platform
Genvida Technology Company Limited	US\$166.7K*	October 2019	Research and development of fourth-generation solid-state nanopore based DNA sequencing technologies and production of the associated portable sequencer
FP International Limited	US\$0.5M	September 2019	Provision of financial services platform focusing on trade and supply chain financial liquidity of SMEs
Salvio Holdings Limited	HK\$18.0M	August 2019	Provision of omni sales channels and order management “Software-as-a-Service” platform for “food and beverage” and new retail industry
Yoho Group Holding Limited	HK\$6.5M	April 2019	Provision of O2O e-commerce services through online shopping platform
International Compliance Workshop (BVI) Limited	US\$0.7M	April 2019	Provision of a platform on Testing, Inspection and Certification resources to facilitate product compliance assessment in the supply chain

Note: \*The investment amount(s) is rounded to one decimal place.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB065****(Question Serial No. 5728)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP) was launched in 2016. Regarding the organisations and patent distribution involved under the MRP, please advise this Committee on the following:

(1) Please list in tabular form the number of applications received from organisations and the number of applications accepted, as well as the amount of funding support for each project under the MRP since its launch.

Year	Number of applications	Number of applications approved	Projects approved	Amount of funding support

(2) Please list in tabular form the details of the domestic organisations involved under the MRP since its launch, with a breakdown by (i) government departments/public bodies, (ii) companies/industry or trade associations, (iii) universities, (iv) other research institutions, (v) others (e.g. charitable trusts or prominent personalities in the field), and specify whether they are a (a) co-applicant, (b) sponsor or (c) supporting party.

Project title	(i) Government departments/ public bodies	(ii) Companies/ industry or trade associations	(iii) Universities	(iv) Other research institutions	(v) Others (e.g. charitable trusts or prominent personalities in the field)

(3) Please list in tabular form the details of the foreign organisations involved under the MRP since its launch, with a breakdown by (i) government departments/public bodies, (ii) companies/industry or trade associations, (iii) universities, (iv) other research institutions, or (v) others (e.g. charitable trusts or prominent personalities in the field), and specify whether they are a (a) co-applicant, (b) sponsor or (c) supporting party.

Project title	(i) Government departments/ public bodies	(ii) Companies/ industry or trade associations	(iii) Universities	(iv) Other research institutions	(v) Others (e.g. charitable trusts or prominent personalities in the field)

(4) Please list in tabular form the details of patent rights of each project, including (i) whether a patent is successfully obtained, and (ii) patent ownership.

Year	Project title	(i) Whether a patent is successfully obtained	(ii) Patent ownership

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 555)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

(1) to (3) Launched in 2016, the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP) encourages universities funded by the University Grants Committee to conduct more theme-based midstream research and development projects, and promotes collaboration between these universities and other research institutes in Hong Kong and around the world. Funded projects consist of standalone projects and collaboration projects involving multiple disciplines or research institutes.

Since the launch of the MRP, 2 rounds of project solicitation exercise have been completed. Applications for the first 2 rounds were closed in 2017 and 2018 respectively, with details of application and approval as follows:

Project solicitation	Number of applications	Number of applications approved	Total amount of funding
First round	111	8	About \$33.6 million
Second round	58	17	About \$87.4 million
Total	169	25	About \$121 million

The third round of the MRP is now open for applications until 20 April 2020.

References of the above approved projects are listed in the Annex. Once the project agreement is duly signed by the applicant and the Innovation and Technology Commission, the project summary (including the applicant organisation, project title, amount of funds approved, collaborating research institute(s) and sponsorship (if any), etc.) will be available on the Innovation and Technology Fund website ([https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp)) for public inspection.

(4) As all projects are still underway, information on the patent rights of the projects is not available at this stage.

**Approved projects under the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP)**

Number	Project Reference
1	MRP/011/17X @
2	MRP/020/17 *
3	MRP/037/17X #
4	MRP/056/17X @
5	MRP/066/17X @
6	MRP/072/17X @
7	MRP/092/17X @
8	MRP/101/17X #
9	MRP/001/18X @#
10	MRP/008/18X #
11	MRP/010/18 *
12	MRP/011/18 *
13	MRP/012/18X #
14	MRP/015/18 *
15	MRP/018/18X @
16	MRP/022/18X @
17	MRP/026/18 *
18	MRP/029/18 *
19	MRP/036/18X @
20	MRP/037/18 *
21	MRP/039/18X #
22	MRP/040/18X @
23	MRP/042/18X @#
24	MRP/053/18X @
25	MRP/055/18 *

@ Collaboration projects involving local institutes

# Collaboration projects involving non-local institutes

\* Standalone projects

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB066**

**(Question Serial No. 6757)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

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

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What is the estimated additional annual expenditure to be incurred by the Government upon the enhancement of the Technology Voucher Programme this April? Why the number of applications to be received and processed by the Commission for the coming year is 1 049 only, which represents a lower increase rate compared to last year's increase by 247 to 954?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The Financial Secretary announced in the 2020-21 Budget that from April 2020 onwards, the funding ratio of the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) would be raised from two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling would be increased from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The maximum number of approved projects for each applicant would also be increased from 4 to 6. The estimated additional annual expenditure involved for the measures concerned is about \$20 million.

In general, the actual number of applications received and processed under the TVP in the previous year is used to estimate the relevant figure in the coming year. We originally estimated that about 1 050 applications would be received and processed in 2020. With the launch of the said enhancement measures from 1 April 2020 onwards to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions by local enterprises, we expect that the TVP will attract more applications from enterprises/institutions and the relevant figure is likely to further increase.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB067****(Question Serial No. 0451)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Under this Programme, one of the responsibilities of the Innovation and Technology Commission is to administer the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) to provide a fast-track arrangement for eligible companies to admit overseas and Mainland technology talent to undertake research and development (R&D) work for them in Hong Kong. Please inform this Committee of the efforts made by the Government on TechTAS in 2019-20 and their effectiveness. What was the expenditure? What is the number of eligible companies or institutes for which TechTAS has admitted overseas and Mainland technology talent to work in Hong Kong so far? Which sectors are mainly involved? Please provide a breakdown. Meanwhile, the Government will extend the coverage of TechTAS to all companies undertaking R&D activities in 13 technology areas in 2020-21. What are the implementation details of the relevant plan? How to publicise and promote it to small and medium enterprises? What are the estimated expenditure and effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) launched the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) in June 2018. Upon review, with effect from 30 January 2020, ITC has extended the applicable technology areas of TechTAS from 7 (i.e. biotechnology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, robotics, data analytics, financial technologies and material science) to 13 (the 6 new areas are 5G communications, Internet-of-Things, integrated circuit design, microelectronics, digital entertainment and green technology). It has also extended the coverage of TechTAS from tenants and incubatees of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and the Cyberport to all companies undertaking research and development (R&D) activities in these 13 technology areas in Hong Kong. In view that the recruitment cycle for non-local talent is generally relatively long, the quota validity period has also been extended from 6 to 12 months.



We anticipate that the enhancement measures will benefit more companies, thus contributing to the admission of technology talent from different parts of the world to undertake R&D work in Hong Kong. However, amid uncertain global economic situation and the recent novel coronavirus epidemic, the business development, manpower deployment and recruitment plans of many companies have been affected.

Nevertheless, we will continue our publicity and promotion through various channels, such as websites, e-newsletters and videos, etc. We are preparing to conduct an online briefing in April, targeting at small and medium enterprises and start-ups, etc. More briefings will be organised in future as necessary. Besides, the HKSTPC and the Cyberport will also continue to offer advisory services and briefings on TechTAS to interested tenants and incubatees.

The aforementioned review and promotional work is absorbed by existing resources and manpower. There is no separate breakdown for the expenditure.

As at end-February 2020, ITC has allotted a total of 325 quotas; whereas the Immigration Department has approved a total of 102 applications of visa/entry permit in accordance with the relevant quotas, involving 51 companies which were either tenants or incubatees of the HKSTPC or the Cyberport. The persons approved for entry under TechTAS are categorised as follows:

Technology area	Number of non-local persons approved for entry under TechTAS
Artificial intelligence	22
Biotechnology	8
Cybersecurity	8
Data analytics	11
Financial technologies	23
Material science	20
Robotics	10
Total	102

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB068**

**(Question Serial No. 0502)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 69 of his Budget Speech that “the Government has been promoting re-industrialisation in Hong Kong through the provision of infrastructural, financial, technological and talent support. We will inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to provide financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. We will also provide the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) with an additional funding of \$2 billion for converting an old factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into a Microelectronics Centre to provide modern manufacturing facilities.”

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government also launched the \$2 billion RFS last year. Please inform this Committee of the implementation progress and effectiveness of the \$2 billion RFS in 2019-20. What are the specific work and the expenditure for the coming year of 2020-21? What is the anticipated effectiveness? Has the Government set up a timetable for the work on promoting re-industrialisation in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

In addition, the Government will provide the HKSTPC with an additional funding of \$2 billion for converting the old factory into the Microelectronics Centre to provide modern manufacturing facilities. What are the details of the plan? What commercial and industrial sectors or small and medium enterprises will be benefitted?

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

The Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up smart production lines in Hong Kong, and allocate an additional \$2 billion for the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) to identify suitable land in industrial estates (IEs) for building manufacturing facilities required by the dedicated manufacturing sector, thereby facilitating more manufacturers to set up operations in Hong Kong. The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal concerned in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020 and commencing the works concerned as soon as practicable.

The RFS subsidises manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. Currently, it is difficult to estimate the numbers of applications to be received and approved under the RFS. The actual expenditure will depend on the number of projects and amount of funding to be approved. Given a maximum funding of \$15 million for each application, about 130 applications can be supported with \$2 billion.

Developing high-end production in Hong Kong will help diversify Hong Kong's economy, reduce our reliance on service industries, provide new impetus to economic growth, and rejuvenate the "Made in Hong Kong" brand. The RFS will assist local manufacturers in moving towards high value-added production and upgrading to "Industry 4.0".

The setting up of smart production lines in Hong Kong can provide direct job opportunities, especially quality innovation and technology jobs for young people. It can also encourage relevant enterprises to set up supporting business operations in Hong Kong (such as marketing and promotion, sales and accounting, supply chain management, wholesale and distribution), and create demand for services from other sectors (such as advertising, testing and certification), thereby creating further job opportunities and bringing wider benefits to different sectors in Hong Kong.

In addition, HKSTPC plans to modify an old factory in Yuen Long IE into the Microelectronics Centre. With a gross floor area of 36 180 square metres upon modification, the Microelectronics Centre will adopt flexible design and be equipped with dedicated facilities that are normally unavailable in multi-storey industrial buildings, such as clean rooms, dangerous goods storage and waste treatment facilities. It will also provide shared ancillary facilities such as offices, conference rooms, shared work spaces, and shared laboratories for product quality and reliability testing analysis.

Microelectronics is a key element in new product development, and has now been widely used in fields such as 5G communications products, advanced medicine and new energy technologies. The Government's support for the microelectronics industry is conducive to facilitating the research and development as well as technological applications in the relevant high value-added industries. It is expected that the Microelectronics Centre, upon its completion, will be able to meet the demands for such kind of manufacturing facilities among the manufacturers in microelectronics or related industries (e.g. advanced materials), and be conducive to further promoting the local development of artificial intelligence, biotechnology, smart city and financial technologies.

Promoting “re-industrialisation” is the Government’s ongoing efforts. The Government has been playing a proactive role as a facilitator in supporting the development of “re-industrialisation” through the provision of infrastructural, technological, financial and talent support. We will continue our efforts on this front and maintain communication with various stakeholders, with a view to creating favourable conditions for “re-industrialisation”.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB069**

**(Question Serial No. 0503)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in a paragraph under “Re-industrialisation and Industry Development” in the Financial Secretary’s Budget Speech that “from April 2020 onwards, the Government will enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions among local enterprises for increasing their productivity or upgrading and transforming business processes. The Government’s funding ratio will increase from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The ceiling on the number of approved projects will also rise from 4 to 6.” Please inform this Committee of the implementation and utilisation of the TVP in the past 2019-20. What is the estimated expenditure for enhancing the TVP in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 55)

Reply:

The Innovation and Technology Commission received a total of 1 883 applications under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) in 2019-20 (as at end February 2020). A cumulative total of 3 442 applications have been received since the launch of the TVP in November 2016. Of the 2 318 applications assessed by the TVP Committee, 2 117 were approved, representing a success rate of about 91%, and involving a total funding of about \$320 million and an average funding of about \$150,000. From April 2020 onwards, we have enhanced the TVP by raising the Government’s funding ratio from two-thirds to three-fourths and increasing the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and the maximum number of approved projects from 4 to 6 for each enterprise/organisation, so as to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions among local enterprises to improve their productivity or upgrade or transform their business processes. It is estimated that the annual expenditure on the TVP will increase by about \$20 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB070**

**(Question Serial No. 3454)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

From 2015-16 to 2019-20:

1. Please list, by funded university and year, the patents granted to the relevant Technology Transfer Offices, the territory of registration and names of the patents, as well as the funding amount received from the Government.
2. Under the Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities launched in 2014, what are the respective numbers of funded start-ups of the 6 universities? Please list the names of the funded enterprises and the funding amounts by university and year.
3. Please list the funding amount received by each State Key Laboratory and Hong Kong Branch of Chinese National Engineering Research Centre by year.
4. Please list the numbers of interns recruited under the Internship Programme (Innovation and Technology Fund) and the Internship Programme (Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited) by year and academic qualifications (Bachelor's degree, Master's or higher degree of a local university).

Asked by: Hon IP Kin-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 206)

Reply:

The requested information is as follows:

- (1) We provide, through the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), extra funding to Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of the designated universities to enhance these institutions' efforts in transferring technology and realising research and development (R&D) results, which include building up the necessary professional support services (e.g. contract negotiation, protection of intellectual property rights, promotion and publicity, etc.) and facilitating liaison with the research community and industry. The funding provided to TTOs of the designated universities through the ITF from 2015-16

to 2019-20 is as follows:

University	Funding amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) <sup>(Note 1)</sup>
The University of Hong Kong	4	4	4	4	8
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	3.99	4	3.83	3.99	8
City University of Hong Kong	4	4	4	4	8
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	4	4	4	4	8
Hong Kong Baptist University	4	4	4	4	8
The Education University of Hong Kong <sup>(Note 2)</sup>	-	-	-	-	8
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	3.86	3.99	4	3.99	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.85</b>	<b>23.99</b>	<b>23.83</b>	<b>23.98</b>	<b>56</b>

Note 1: The estimated funding amounts in 2019-20 are the maximum funding. Since the above funding is provided on an annual reimbursement basis, the universities will submit funding applications to the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) after the end of each financial year. Therefore, the actual funding amounts are subject to confirmation upon ITC's approval of the applications concerned.

Note 2: Starting from 2019-20, the relevant funding is provided to the Education University of Hong Kong .

The numbers of patents granted to the TTOs of the 6 universities from 2015-16 to 2019-20 are provided below (we do not have information on the titles and territory of registration of the patents granted to the universities):

University	Number of patents granted				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
The University of Hong Kong	60	64	67	66	(Note 3)
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	83	132	185	202	
City University of Hong Kong	44	57	70	45	
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	162	134	143	104	
Hong Kong Baptist University	41	31	40	45	
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	54	43	52	55	
<b>Total</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>517</b>	

Note 3: Each university (including the Education University of Hong Kong) will provide the numbers of patents granted in 2019-20 to the Government only after the end of the year. The relevant figures are not available for the moment.

- (2) The Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU) was launched in 2014 to provide funding to the scientific research teams of 6 local universities in starting businesses. From 2015-16 to 2019-20, a total of 240 start-ups associated with the universities were funded under the TSSSU. Details are as follows:

University	Number of funded start-ups				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
The University of Hong Kong	11	13	9	16	24
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	14	17	15	16	17
City University of Hong Kong	11	7	9	10	15
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	9	10	9	11	11
Hong Kong Baptist University	4	4	4	4	17
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	17	16	12	7	9
<b>Total</b> <sup>(Note 4)</sup>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>93</b>

Note 4: Each start-up would be funded for no more than 3 years. In the past 5 years, a total of 76 start-ups were funded in more than 1 year.

The names and amounts of approved funding of the funded enterprises listed by university and year are in Annex A.

- (3) The amounts of funding provided to 16 State Key Laboratories and 6 Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres from 2015-16 to 2019-20 are listed in Annex B.
- (4) The numbers of applications approved from 2015-16 to 2019-20 under the 2 sub-programmes of the Researcher Programme, namely the “Researcher Programme (Innovation and Technology Fund) (RP-ITF)” and the “Researcher Programme for Incubatees and Innovation and Technology (I&T) Tenants of the Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and the Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport) (RP-SPC)”, are listed below (by the academic qualifications of the researchers):

	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)	
RP-ITF										
Academic qualification of researchers	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree
Number of applications approved	108	221	128	224	155	223	160	208	171	236



	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)	
RP-SPC (Note 5)										
Academic qualification of researchers	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree
Number of applications approved	N.A.	N.A.	19	18	188	106	244	113	280	168
Total	108	221	147	242	343	329	404	321	451	404

N.A. denotes "Not Applicable".

Note 5: ITC launched this sub-programme in December 2016 to cover incubatees as well as small and medium enterprises tenants of the HKSTPC and the Cyberport initially. In December 2017, it was further extended to cover all I&T tenants of the HKSTPC and the Cyberport.

### **Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities**

[Note: N.A. denotes “Not Applicable”]

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
<b>The University of Hong Kong (HKU)</b>							
1	AICity Technology Holding Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	460	<b>460</b>
2	Appedu (Holding) Limited	150	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>150</b>
3	Brain Investing Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	150	252.5	<b>402.5</b>
4	CISC Limited	N.A.	500	400	260	N.A.	<b>1,160</b>
5	Comma Technology Limited	100	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
6	Conzeb Limited	N.A.	500	500	100	N.A.	<b>1,100</b>
7	Corvidae Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	150	N.A.	<b>150</b>
8	CYC Motor Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	360	<b>360</b>
9	Datax Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	150	252.5	<b>402.5</b>
10	DigiDent AI Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	260	<b>260</b>
11	EchoX Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
12	EN Technology Limited	N.A.	500	500	150	N.A.	<b>1,150</b>
13	Enzyme Design Limited	N.A.	N.A.	450	N.A.	N.A.	<b>450</b>
14	Eonzen Technology Company Limited	N.A.	250	N.A.	150	N.A.	<b>400</b>
15	Fano Labs Limited (formerly known as Accosys Limited)	600	150	250	N.A.	N.A.	<b>1,000</b>
16	Farmacy HK Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	252.5	<b>252.5</b>
17	Flectrode Technology Limited	N.A.	250	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>250</b>
18	Hactis Limited	N.A.	350	350	150	N.A.	<b>850</b>
19	High Performance Solution Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	725	<b>1,175</b>
20	Hong Kong Unific Publishing Limited	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
21	Immuno Cure Limited	800	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>800</b>
22	ImmunoDiagnostics Limited	N.A.	500	500	465	N.A.	<b>1,465</b>
23	InterLitho Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	725	<b>725</b>
24	Kin Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
25	Lifespans Limited	N.A.	N.A.	750	465	575	<b>1,790</b>
26	Living Tissues Company Limited	600	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>900</b>
27	m-Chinese Solution Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	150	N.A.	<b>150</b>
28	Mega Whiz Education Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
29	Movabar Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>100</b>
30	Next Insurtech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	252.5	<b>252.5</b>
31	Novel Sonics Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	460	<b>910</b>
32	Novoheart Limited	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>
33	OncoSeek Limited	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>300</b>

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
34	OrthoSmart Limited	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>
35	Ossfila Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
36	Passber Limited	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
37	PHRMASEC LIMITED	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	260	<b>260</b>
38	PhySight Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	460	<b>460</b>
39	Printact Limited	250	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>350</b>
40	QuantumFabless Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	250	725	<b>975</b>
41	Regtics Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
42	Serinno Holdings Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	490	<b>490</b>
43	SkinData Limited	N.A.	400	300	260	N.A.	<b>960</b>
44	Spiral Capital Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
45	Swifthon Technology Consultancy Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	110	<b>110</b>
46	Tale Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	360	<b>360</b>
47	WEAVATOOLS LIMITED	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	250	360	<b>610</b>
<b>The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)</b>							
48	A-Biotech (Hong Kong) Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	200	100	500	<b>800</b>
49	Accukit Technology Limited	N.A.	400	200	200	N.A.	<b>800</b>
50	ACE VR Limited	N.A.	100	300	150	N.A.	<b>550</b>
51	Advanced Plasmon Technologies Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	600	<b>600</b>
52	Bay Jay Ray Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	700	<b>700</b>
53	BINOVIZ Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	400	<b>900</b>
54	Bootstrap HK Limited (formerly known as RegCourse Limited)	N.A.	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>
55	BrainNow Medical Technology Limited	300	100	100	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
56	C4Cat Entertainment Limited	300	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
57	CocoRobo Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	300	N.A.	<b>800</b>
58	Codex Genetics Limited	300	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
59	CURehab Limited	N.A.	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>
60	DecaSense Technology Limited	N.A.	400	200	100	N.A.	<b>700</b>
61	DG Care Limited	N.A.	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>300</b>
62	Dragon Way Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	400	<b>900</b>
63	Edvant Company Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>100</b>
64	Foresight Language and Learning Solutions Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	400	<b>800</b>
65	GEMVCare Limited	340	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>340</b>
66	Gnetwork Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	200	400	<b>600</b>
67	Hawkeyes Solutions Limited	N.A.	300	100	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
68	Health View Bioanalytic Limited	300	100	100	N.A.	N.A.	500
69	HippoTuring Technologies Company Limited	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300
70	HSK GeneTech Limited	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300
71	Im sight Medical Technology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	100	400	1,000
72	Intelligent Sensing Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	200	300	1,000
73	Lione Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
74	LOOP Sports Technology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300	300
75	Mechawaves Manufacturing Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	500
76	MTcure Biotech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	500
77	Mushroom-X Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	400
78	n-hop technologies Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	700	700
79	Opinion Network Limited	N.A.	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300
80	Precision Instrument and Optics Limited	432	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	532
81	Pureform Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	250	N.A.	250
82	R-Guardian Limited <sup>(Note)</sup>	N.A.	N.A.	200	N.A.	N.A.	200
83	Shape Driven Tech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	700	700
84	SicureLabs Company Limited	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300
85	SmarteYE Tech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	400	100	300	800
86	Stapworks Stem Cell Limited	300	100	100	N.A.	N.A.	500
87	Sucabot MedTech International Limited (formerly known as CuttingEdge MedTech Limited)	300	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400
88	Titanology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	500
89	Unitinno Architectural Technology Development Company Limited	N.A.	400	200	100	N.A.	700
90	VisionNav Robotics Limited	300	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400
91	WIT Enterprises Limited	N.A.	N.A.	400	300	500	1,200
<b>City University of Hong Kong (CityU)</b>							
92	6J Biotechnology (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	747	820	1,567
93	AI Motion Sports Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	400
94	Air Button Technology Limited	167	770	233	N.A.	N.A.	1,170
95	AmaZinc Energy Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	820	820
96	Baomatics Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	200	200
97	Beon Ad Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	350	350
98	BeVoid Limited	250	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	250
99	B-Route Limited	N.A.	N.A.	233	N.A.	N.A.	233

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
100	Cellomics International Limited (formerly known as Cellomics Holdings Limited)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	820	<b>820</b>
101	Cinme Tech Limited	514	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>514</b>
102	Eafe Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	140	N.A.	<b>140</b>
103	Freedrop Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	350	<b>350</b>
104	Genie6 Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	<b>500</b>
105	Hands Life Science Limited	N.A.	830	850	746	N.A.	<b>2,426</b>
106	Hong Kong ATIS Healthcare Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	N.A.	<b>400</b>
107	HYDD Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	200	<b>200</b>
108	Initial Innovation Limited	N.A.	N.A.	234	140	N.A.	<b>374</b>
109	J&K Brassiere Co., Limited	N.A.	N.A.	525	400	500	<b>1,425</b>
110	Jacky Instruments Limited	337	750	700	N.A.	N.A.	<b>1,787</b>
111	Kung Fu Motion Limited	509	350	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>859</b>
112	Medi Biotech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	720	<b>720</b>
113	MindAmp Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	<b>450</b>
114	MindLayer Limited	N.A.	400	525	400	N.A.	<b>1,325</b>
115	Nautilus Software Technologies Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	747	N.A.	<b>747</b>
116	New System Technologies Limited	360	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>360</b>
117	NoPhish Technology Limited	514	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>1,014</b>
118	PATECH LIMITED	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	<b>450</b>
119	Portalyze Point of Care Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	710	<b>710</b>
120	ProHub Limited	339	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>339</b>
121	Scooter (Technology) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	350	140	N.A.	<b>490</b>
122	Spreadfast Interactive Limited	291	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>291</b>
123	Teorema Limited	358	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>358</b>
124	The Worldpath Limited	360	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>360</b>
125	V&R Laboratory Limited	N.A.	400	350	140	N.A.	<b>890</b>
126	Xiaomo Biotech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	710	<b>710</b>
<b>The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)</b>							
127	3DK Tech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	650	N.A.	<b>650</b>
128	Acoustic Metamaterials Company Limited	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
129	AIEgen Biotech Co., Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
130	AUISET Biotechnology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	600	<b>600</b>
131	beNovelty Limited	N.A.	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
132	Bio-Trick Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
133	Blue Innwater Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	650	N.A.	N.A.	<b>650</b>
134	CoilEasy Technologies Limited	N.A.	500	400	N.A.	N.A.	<b>900</b>

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
135	Compathnion Technology Limited	N.A.	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>400</b>
136	Cytofluidics Biotechnology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	300	N.A.	N.A.	<b>300</b>
137	Dayta AI Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	<b>400</b>
138	DelTron Intelligence Technology Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
139	D-Engraver Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	<b>400</b>
140	DIRECT DRIVE TECHNOLOGY LIMITED	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	600	<b>600</b>
141	DropX Biotech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	N.A.	<b>450</b>
142	eFlexPV Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	800	<b>800</b>
143	ETH Smart Contract Tech Ecosystem Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	<b>400</b>
144	eTron Electronic Materials (Hong Kong) Co. Limited	700	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>700</b>
145	Everest Innovation Technology Limited	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>300</b>
146	Free Flow Technology Limited	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
147	Gense Technologies Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	350	300	<b>650</b>
148	Hong Kong Innovative Display Technology Limited	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
149	Hongkong Oasis Future Technology Development Co., Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	<b>400</b>
150	Horizon Biochip Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	800	<b>800</b>
151	Incus Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	650	N.A.	N.A.	<b>650</b>
152	Infitech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	400	200	<b>600</b>
153	INNOWAT Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	N.A.	<b>450</b>
154	I-Square Technology (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450	N.A.	<b>450</b>
155	iSTEM Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	200	N.A.	<b>200</b>
156	Jetcomm Technologies Limited	450	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>450</b>
157	Levolution Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	800	<b>800</b>
158	Light Innovation Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
159	Lisee Technology Corporation Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300	<b>300</b>
160	Mindvidid Limited	N.A.	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
161	MultiMedia Big Data Analytics Limited	N.A.	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>200</b>
162	NanoBioImaging Limited	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
163	Ocean Science (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	200	<b>200</b>
164	Opharmic Technology (HK) Limited (formerly known as Sonikure Technology Limited)	700	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>700</b>
165	Oxpecker Labs Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	300	<b>800</b>
166	Pear Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>
167	Pleryon Therapeutics Limited (formerly known as NovaMatrix	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>500</b>

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
	Limited)						
168	P-Sense Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	300	N.A.	300
169	SeaSafe Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500
170	Set Sail Venture Limited	N.A.	N.A.	200	N.A.	200	400
171	Sinocore Biotechnology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500	500
172	Sourcebrella Inc Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	250	N.A.	250
173	SPES Tech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	800	800
174	Sundial Technology Development Limited	N.A.	N.A.	300	N.A.	N.A.	300
175	WEXTech HK LIMITED	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	350	N.A.	350
176	Without Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	150	N.A.	150
177	Yfisoft Limited	450	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	450
<b>Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU)</b>							
178	ANA Artwork Material Analysis Company Limited	1,080	960	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2,040
179	Booguu Company Limited	N.A.	800	1,030	N.A.	N.A.	1,830
180	BP InnoMed Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,060	1,060
181	Cathay Photonics Limited	1,080	1,160	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2,240
182	CD133 Innovation Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,060	1,060
183	Crimson Vision Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,060	1,060
184	Gihon Biotech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	910	1,030	880	2,820
185	Hong Kong Authentication Centre of Dendrobii Officinalis Caulis Limited	N.A.	N.A.	1,030	1,030	850	2,910
186	Mat-A-Cell Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	910	900	1,810
187	MIND and Tech Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,060	1,060
188	New Life Medicine Technology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	1,030	1,030	890	2,950
189	OPER Technology Limited	1,100	1,080	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2,180
190	R&P Technology Limited	740	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	740
191	Smilie Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	240	240
<b>The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU)</b>							
192	Acoustics Innovation Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
193	Acquaintance Enterprises Limited	N.A.	N.A.	700	N.A.	300	1,000
194	Airwood Technology (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	1,000
195	Advwhere Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
196	AlikeAudience (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	500	N.A.	1,000
197	Alps Robot Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
198	Amazing Trace Technologies Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
199	ASA Innovation & Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	500	500	1,100

Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
200	Asiabots Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	730	N.A.	730
201	CoDeco Technology Limited (Formerly known as Hocfu Technology Limited)	N.A.	500	500	N.A.	N.A.	1,000
202	Cognix Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
203	Control Free Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
204	Creazine Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
205	Degree (Hong Kong) Education Consulting Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	710	290	1,000
206	dEYey InnoTech Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
207	Dr Coach Education Technology Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
208	Easiread Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	100
209	eSight Technology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	100
210	Eternal Billion (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	560	410	970
211	Hercz Rehabilitation Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	1,000
212	Holumino Limited	100	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	600
213	I Pet Interactive Technology (HK) Co., Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
214	Inno Frontage Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
215	Innoplay Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	500
216	InReader Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
217	JabJabX Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	100
218	Jobdoh Limited	1,000	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,500
219	Kubot Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	700	N.A.	N.A.	700
220	Look Incorporation Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
221	Marketeer Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	100
222	MCTIPSS Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
223	Microenergy Development Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
224	MineCos Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
225	Nearko Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
226	Next WiFi Technologies Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	500	N.A.	1,000
227	Parallax Technologies Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
228	Phi Info (Hong Kong) Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
229	Plusd Technology Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
230	NoMatterWhat Technologies Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	1,000
231	Okay Healthcare Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	1,000
232	Pokeguide Limited	N.A.	N.A.	500	N.A.	500	1,000
233	Qualife Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	1,000
234	R-Guardian Limited <sup>(Note)</sup>	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
235	Superluminal Technology Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100
236	Techlabs Holdings Limited	N.A.	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	500



Name of Start-ups		Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
237	TOZI Technology Company Limited	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1,000	<b>1,000</b>
238	Ultimate Sports Hub Limited	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>100</b>
239	Vision Science and Technology Company Limited	N.A.	100	500	500	N.A.	<b>1,100</b>
240	Vox Technology Limited	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	<b>100</b>
241	Zunosaki Limited	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<b>100</b>
<b>Total</b>							<b>142,571</b>

Note: The start-up submitted its funding application via a different university in the second year (2017-18).

**State Key Laboratories (SKLs) and  
Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs)**

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
<b>SKLs</b>					
1. SKL of Emerging Infectious Diseases (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
2. SKL of Brain and Cognitive Sciences (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
3. SKL of Translational Oncology (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
4. SKL of Terahertz and Millimeter Waves (City University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
5. SKL of Agrobiotechnology (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
6. SKL of Ultra-precision Machining Technology (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)	5	5	5	5	10
7. SKL of Molecular Neuroscience (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)	5	5	5	5	10
8. SKL of Marine Pollution (City University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
9. SKL of Research on Bioactivities and Clinical Applications of Medicinal Plants (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
10. SKL of Liver Research (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
11. SKL of Synthetic Chemistry (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
12. SKL of Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)	5	5	5	5	10
13. SKL of Environmental and Biological Analysis (Hong Kong Baptist University)	5	5	5	5	10

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
14. SKL of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
15. SKL of Digestive Disease (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
16. SKL of Advanced Displays and Optoelectronic Technologies (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)	5	5	5	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs</b>					
1. Hong Kong Branch of the National ASIC System Engineering Research Center (Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute)	4.56	4.82	4.93	4.86	10
2. Hong Kong Branch of National Engineering Research Center for Steel Construction (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	5	10
3. Hong Kong Branch of National Rail Transit Electrification and Automation Engineering Technology Research Center (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	4.79	10
4. Hong Kong Branch of National Precious Metals Material Engineering Research Center (City University of Hong Kong) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	5	10
5. Hong Kong Branch of National Engineering Research Center for Tissue Restoration & Reconstruction (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) (Note 2)	2.49	5	5	5	10

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
6. Hong Kong Branch of Chinese National Engineering Research Center for Control & Treatment of Heavy Metal Pollution (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) <sup>(Note 2)</sup>	2.5	4.98	5	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.05</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>29.93</b>	<b>29.65</b>	<b>60</b>

Note 1: The estimated funding amounts in 2019-20 are the maximum funding for the relevant institutions. Since the funding is provided on an annual reimbursement basis, the funded institutions will submit funding applications to the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) after the end of each financial year. Therefore, the actual funding amounts are subject to confirmation upon ITC's approval of the applications concerned.

Note 2: As 5 of the Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs were established in October 2015, the maximum annual funding for each of them in 2015-16 was adjusted from the original \$5 million to \$2.5 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB071****(Question Serial No. 0341)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Researcher Programme and the Postdoctoral Hub, will the Government inform this Committee of:

1. the breakdown of the some 5 700 scientific research talent that the 2 programmes together have nurtured so far by area of scientific research; and
2. the details of the plan to expand the 2 programmes to cover all technology companies conducting research and development activities in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) As at end-January 2020, a total of 5 649 applications were approved under the Researcher Programme (RP) and the Postdoctoral Hub (PH), among which the RP accounted for 4 759. A breakdown of the researcher positions approved by research area is as follows:

<b>Research area</b>	<b>Number of researcher positions approved</b>
Biotechnology	<b>756</b>
Chinese medicine	<b>148</b>
Electrical and electronic engineering	<b>634</b>
Environmental technology	<b>382</b>
Information technology	<b>1 517</b>
Manufacturing technology	<b>719</b>
Material science	<b>155</b>
Nanotechnology	<b>400</b>
Others	<b>48</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 759</b>

On the other hand, a total of 890 applications were approved under the PH. A breakdown by technology area is as follows:

<b>Technology area</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of applications of postdoctoral talent approved</b>
Engineering and technology	<b>488</b>
Life science and medicine	<b>192</b>
Natural science	<b>205</b>
Others	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>890</b>

<sup>Note</sup>: The technology areas are categorised based on the Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings by Subject. Subjects under engineering and technology include computer science and information systems, chemical engineering, civil and structural engineering as well as electrical and electronic engineering, etc.

- (2) With effect from 9 March 2020, the funding scopes of the RP and the PH have been expanded from organisations or companies undertaking research and development (R&D) projects funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund, incubatees and innovation and technology tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport as well as start-ups selected for investment under the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. Enterprises which intend to apply for funding shall state in the application the R&D activities they are conducting or plan to conduct in Hong Kong and the R&D duties to be assigned to the relevant researcher or postdoctoral talent. Each eligible enterprise can engage a maximum of 2 researchers and 2 postdoctoral talents at any one time. We will consolidate the 2 programmes in July this year to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB072**

**(Question Serial No. 0385)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government will enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) by increasing the funding ratio from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The ceiling on the number of approved projects will also rise from 4 to 6. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- Please list in tabular form the information of the successful applicant companies, as well as the information and number of approved projects of each company since the launch of the TVP in November 2016.

Successful applicant companies	Number of approved projects	Information of approved projects

- Has the Government formulated any performance indicators for the TVP to review whether the funding meets the expected targets? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- Are there any mechanisms established to objectively assess the effectiveness brought about by the funding?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

Since the launch of the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) in November 2016 up to end February 2020, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) received a total of 3 442 applications. Of the 2 318 applications assessed by the TVP Committee (the Committee), 2 117 were approved, involving 2 072 enterprises/organisations. Among them, 2 028 were approved for undertaking 1 project, 43 for 2 projects, and 1 for 3 projects. The remaining 1 124 applications are either awaiting supplementary information from the applicants or under preliminary assessment by ITC. The summary of projects approved

(including enterprise/organisation names, project titles, technology areas and funding amounts, etc.) is available on the following website: [https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/TVP\\_ApprovedPrj.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/TVP_ApprovedPrj.asp).

The applicant is required to submit a final project report within 2 months after completion of the TVP project for ITC to assess whether the project has achieved its expected objectives. ITC will arrange for the disbursement of the remaining funding to the applicant subject to the Committee's acceptance of the final report.

In addition, the applicant is required to submit an evaluation report to ITC 6 months after project completion on the extent of the project in enhancing its competitiveness through achieving the objectives to improve productivity or upgrade or transform its business processes. So far, 398 beneficiary enterprises/organisations have already completed their projects and submitted evaluation reports to ITC. 97% of them were of the view that the projects were conducive to enhancing their competitiveness while the remaining 3% expressed that they already enjoyed competitive edges in the mainstream or specific markets, or that they implemented the projects mainly to enhance efficiency or save cost rather than to make higher profits. Almost all of them indicated that ITC should continue to implement the TVP.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB073**

**(Question Serial No. 0396)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government will inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS), and provide the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation with an additional funding of \$2 billion for converting an old factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into a Microelectronics Centre. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Will the production lines to be subsidised under the RFS be operated by the Government or public bodies, or kept running by private enterprises?
- (2) What is the estimated number of projects to be approved under the RFS?
- (3) What is the specific location of the old factory selected for conversion under the Microelectronics Centre project?
- (4) What are the “modern manufacturing facilities” to be provided under the Microelectronics Centre project?
- (5) Has the Government formulated any performance indicators for the RFS and the Microelectronics Centre project to review whether the funding meets the expected targets? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (6) Are there any mechanisms established for the RFS and the Microelectronics Centre project to objectively assess the effectiveness to be brought about by the funding?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up smart production lines in Hong Kong, and allocate an additional \$2 billion for the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) to identify suitable land in industrial estates (IEs) for building manufacturing facilities required by the dedicated manufacturing sector, thereby facilitating more manufacturers to set up operations in Hong Kong. The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce

and Industry on the proposal concerned on 21 May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020 and commencing the works concerned as soon as practicable.

The reply to various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) and (2) The RFS will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. The production lines will still be owned and operated by private enterprises upon project completion. Currently, it is difficult to estimate the number of applications to be received and approved under the RFS. Given a maximum funding of \$15 million for each application, about 130 applications can be supported with \$2 billion.
- (3) and (4) HKSTPC plans to modify an old factory at 1 Fuk Wang Street, Yuen Long IE into the Microelectronics Centre. The factory to be modified will adopt flexible design and be equipped with dedicated facilities that are normally unavailable in multi-storey industrial buildings, such as clean rooms, dangerous goods storage and waste treatment facilities. It will also provide shared ancillary facilities such as offices, conference rooms, shared work spaces, and shared laboratories for product quality and reliability testing analysis.
- (5) and (6) We anticipate that both projects will not only offer assistance to local manufacturers and provide direct job opportunities, but also encourage relevant enterprises to set up supporting business operations in Hong Kong (such as marketing and promotion, sales and accounting, supply chain management, wholesale and distribution) and create demand for services from other sectors (such as advertising, testing and certification), thereby creating further job opportunities and bringing wider benefits to different sectors in Hong Kong. In addition, high-end manufacturing will stimulate research and development (R&D) needs and encourage private enterprises to invest more resources in R&D, thus contributing to the robust and sustainable development of local R&D work. This would help Hong Kong develop into an international innovation and technology hub.

The enterprises funded under the RFS will be required to provide information to the Government upon project completion on the benefits of the relevant production lines, such as the business turnover after the commissioning of the production lines, and the number and types of new jobs created. To ensure that the funded projects can bring substantive economic benefits to Hong Kong for a reasonable period, unless with prior written approval from the Government, the production lines funded cannot be transferred to other companies or to any places outside Hong Kong within a specified period after project completion. Successful applicant enterprises will be required to sign a project agreement with the Government, which will set out the above restrictions and that the Government has the right to recoup the funding disbursed in case of non-compliance.

In addition, according to an economic impact assessment conducted by a consultant engaged by HKSTPC, the Microelectronics Centre will create about 420 direct job opportunities and generate an added value of over \$600 million annually upon its full operation. The Board of Directors of HKSTPC (including the government representative) and its relevant committees will monitor the progress of the modification works and the operation upon works completion.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB074**

**(Question Serial No. 1150)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What are the details of the ongoing projects in the InnoHK research clusters and the amount of funding provided for each project? How many research projects have already had actual application in the market?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, have received enthusiastic response from world renowned universities and research institutes. A total of 65 proposals have been received. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB075**

**(Question Serial No. 1838)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government has launched a number of funding programmes to promote and support research and development (R&D) activities using innovative technologies. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

(i) titles; (ii) R&D scopes; (iii) company/organisation names; and (iv) funding amounts of the projects funded by the Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Co-operation Funding Scheme (TCFS) in the past 3 years, as well as the performance indicators for the TCFS; and

(i) R&D projects; (ii) project periods; and (iii) funding amounts from the Innovation and Technology Fund of the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre, R&D Centre for Information and Communications Technologies, Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre, Nano and Advanced Materials Institute and Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Co-operation Funding Scheme (TCFS) aims to enhance the collaboration on technological research and development (R&D) among institutes in Hong Kong and Guangdong/Shenzhen. From January 2017 to December 2019, a total of 43 projects were approved with a total funding amount of about \$63.56 million. The technology areas involved include biotechnology, information technology, manufacturing technology, environmental technology, and electrical and electronic engineering, etc. The applicants shall be local R&D Centres and designated local public research institutes, including local universities and the Hong Kong Productivity Council. As for the applications under Category B (projects which are solicited, vetted and funded solely by Guangdong or Shenzhen), they are submitted directly to the relevant Guangdong or Shenzhen authorities, and thus the Innovation and Technology Commission does not have the relevant statistical figures. In general, the indicators used to assess the performance of funding programmes mainly include the numbers of applications received

and approved, as well as the total amount of funding, etc. We will review the implementation and effectiveness of the TCFS from time to time to introduce enhancement measures as appropriate.

From January 2017 to December 2019, a total of 372 R&D projects of the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre (APAS), Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute which was designated as the R&D Centre for Information and Communications Technologies (ASTRI), Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre (LSCM), Nano and Advanced Materials Institute (NAMI), and Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA) were funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), with a total funding of about \$1.78 billion and an average project period of around 18 months. The information related to the funding is as follows:

<b>R&amp;D Centre</b>	<b>Number of R&amp;D projects approved from 2017 to 2019</b>	<b>Amount of funding approved from 2017 to 2019 (\$ million)</b>
APAS	33	103.3
ASTRI (designated as the R&D Centre for Information and Communications Technologies)	136	968.3
LSCM	41	246.2
NAMI	120	299.0
HKRITA	42	159.5
Total	372	1,776.3

Information on the projects funded by the ITF (including the titles and funding amounts, etc.) is available on the following website:  
[https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp).

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB076**

**(Question Serial No. 1912)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government will provide the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation with an additional funding of \$2 billion for converting an old factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into a Microelectronics Centre. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

- (a) the detailed breakdown on the estimated expenditure in respect of the \$2 billion, including equipment, materials, wages, etc.;
- (b) the completion schedule of the Microelectronics Centre; how the development of local sectors can be facilitated and supported upon its completion; the specific benefits to be brought about for the public;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to continue financing the conversion of other old factories; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (a) The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) plans to modify an existing factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into the Microelectronics Centre. With a gross floor area of 36 180 square metres upon modification, the Microelectronics Centre will adopt flexible design and be equipped with dedicated facilities that are normally unavailable in multi-storey industrial buildings, such as clean rooms, dangerous goods storage and waste treatment facilities. The proposed Microelectronics Centre will also provide shared ancillary facilities such as offices, conference rooms, shared work spaces, and shared laboratories for product quality and reliability testing analysis. The estimated construction cost of the Microelectronics Centre is about \$2 billion, of which about 65% will be used for the

building modification works, and the remainder of about 35% will be used for purchasing and installing the dedicated manufacturing equipment required by the microelectronics industry.

- (b) We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the modification proposal in May 2019, and have submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the FC's funding approval, HKSTPC will commence the modification works concerned as soon as practicable, with a view to completing this project by end 2021 at the earliest.

As a key element in new product development, microelectronics has now been widely used in fields such as 5G communications products, advanced medicine and new energy technologies. Local universities and research institutes possess the research capabilities in the related fields. The Government's support for the microelectronics industry is conducive to facilitating the research and development (R&D) as well as technological applications in the relevant high value-added industries.

The economic impact assessment conducted by a consultant engaged by HKSTPC indicates that the Microelectronics Centre will create about 420 direct job opportunities and generate an added value of over \$600 million annually. It is expected that the Microelectronics Centre, upon its completion, will be conducive to further promoting the growth of local industries in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, smart city and financial technologies.

- (c) HKSTPC will keep in view the development trends of the industries, with a view to planning for the need to provide other manufacturing facilities in the future to support the development of re-industrialisation.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB077**

**(Question Serial No. 1913)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government states that it will continue to implement the Re-industrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) in 2020, which provides subsidies to local enterprises for training their staff in high-end technologies. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the respective areas of the training received by the 1 795 trainees funded in 2019, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, data? Please list in tabular form the number of trainees in each area.
- (b) The estimated number of trainees to be funded in 2020 is 1 550 only. What are the reasons for the decrease as compared with 2019? Will the decrease in number impose adverse impact on the promotion of re-industrialisation?
- (c) Does the Government plan to provide additional funding to the Innovation and Technology Fund in the future for expanding the RTTP and promoting re-industrialisation?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

The required information is as follows:

- (a) Launched in August 2018, the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) subsidises local enterprises on a 2 (Government):1 (enterprise) matching basis for their staff to receive technology training. The 1 795 trainees funded in 2019 tabulated by the technology types of the courses they attended are as follows:

	<b>Technology type</b>	<b>Number of approved trainees</b>
1.	Manufacturing	459
2.	Information Technology	355
3.	Biomedical & Healthcare	319
4.	Automation Control	252
5.	Textile & Clothing	120
6.	Hospitality & Catering	104
7.	Environmental	47
8.	Wholesale/Retail & Import/Export Trades	42
9.	Logistics Industry Related	32
10.	Banking	28
11.	Digital Media	17
12.	Printing & Publishing	10
13.	Electronic Engineering	5
14.	Sustainability	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1 795</b>

(b) We estimate that 1 550 trainees will be funded under the RTTP in 2020. The figure is estimated on a pro rata basis based on the actual numbers of trainees funded under the RTTP in 2018 and 2019 (i.e. 275 and 1 795 respectively). The RTTP Secretariat (the Vocational Training Council) will monitor the implementation of the RTTP and continue to maintain liaison with different trade associations, industry organisations, professional bodies and training providers to enhance the promotion of the RTTP.

(c) The Government will continue to, through the Innovation and Technology Fund, provide funding to support local research and development work and finance projects that can contribute to the technological upgrading of industries and promotion of innovation, so as to promote re-industrialisation. The relevant funding programmes include the Innovation and Technology Support Programme, the Partnership Research Programme, and the Enterprise Support Scheme, etc. We will also continue to implement the RTTP to subsidise more staff of local enterprises to receive training in advanced technologies, especially those related to “Industry 4.0”.

In addition, the Government will launch a \$2 billion Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (Government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the FC’s approval, we hope to launch the RFS in the second quarter of 2020.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB078**

**(Question Serial No. 1914)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The funding ceiling under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) was increased by the Government from \$200,000 to \$400,000 last year, and will be further increased to \$600,000 this year; the number of approved projects also rose from 3 to 4 last year, and will further rise to 6 this year. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the reasons for increasing the funding ceiling and the number of approved projects under the TVP for 2 consecutive years?
- (b) Does the Government currently plan to continue increasing the funding ceiling and the number of approved projects?
- (c) The Government estimates that 1 049 applications will be received and processed in 2020, representing an increase of 95 from 954 in 2019. However, the number in 2019 increased by 247 as compared with that of 2018, much higher than the increase rate in 2020. What are the reasons for the lower rate in 2020 as estimated by the Government?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (a) The Government aims to encourage local enterprises to conduct more projects or projects of larger scale through the increase in funding ceiling and maximum number of approved projects under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). Those who have already used up all the subsidy under the previous funding ceiling may continue to obtain funding support from the TVP to further enhance productivity and efficiency or upgrade or transform their business processes by the use of technology.

- (b) The Government has been paying attention to the industry's views on the TVP. The enhancement measures are a timely response from the Government after taking into account the recommendations of the industry. We will continue to take heed of the industry's views, review the operation of the TVP from time to time, and further introduce enhancement measures where necessary.
- (c) In general, the actual number of applications received and processed under the TVP in the previous year is used to estimate the relevant figure in the coming year. We originally estimated that about 1 050 applications would be received and processed in 2020. With the launch of the said enhancement measures from 1 April 2020 onwards to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions by local enterprises, we expect that the TVP will attract more applications from enterprises/institutions and the relevant figure is likely to further increase.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB079**

**(Question Serial No. 1922)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget that the Government will set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (a) the details of the programme, including the eligibility criteria and the earliest date of implementation; the estimated number of short-term internship positions to be provided, as well as the estimated number of students to be benefitted; and
- (b) whether the relevant allocation will be regularised in the future to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

In the 2020-21 Budget, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Through the STEM Internship Scheme, we hope to encourage STEM students to gain I&T-related work experience during their studies, and to develop an interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool. We are drawing up the details of the scheme and consulting relevant universities on operational matters. We will consult the Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry in due course, with a view to launching the scheme within 2020.

We will review the effectiveness of the scheme one year after its implementation, so as to decide whether or not to regularise or enhance the relevant measures.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB080**

**(Question Serial No. 2903)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 68 of the Budget Speech that the Government's anti-epidemic work in respect of research and development (R&D) and application of technology includes using the electronic wristbands developed by the Logistics and Supply Chain Multi-tech R&D Centre to facilitate home quarantine, and exploring the technology solutions related to reusable masks. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. Apart from the abovementioned electronic wristbands and reusable masks, has the Government supported, promoted or applied any other local research outcomes, such as those related to virus testing systems and R&D of vaccines, in the current anti-epidemic work; if yes, what are the details and expenditure involved; if not, what are the reasons?
2. Has the Government earmarked any provision for subsidises or funding to support research projects that can facilitate anti-epidemic work in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

Since its launch in 1999, the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) administered by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) has been supporting applied research projects in different technology areas, including projects related to preventing and combatting epidemics. For example, the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) and the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) under the ITF have provided funding for the research and development (R&D) and trial work of a multilevel anti-bacterial and anti-viral coating developed by a local university. Various Government departments will utilise this coating to facilitate anti-epidemic work. Moreover, the outcomes of an R&D

project funded under the ITF previously have been adopted in the core technology of a coronavirus detection device successfully developed by a local university as announced in early February 2020.

Besides, the Smart Fever Screening System developed by a local university was built upon the outcomes of 2 R&D and trial projects relating to big data analysis which were funded under the ITSP and PSTS respectively. The system has been adopted at a number of boundary control points and Government buildings to combat the epidemic. Moreover, 2 textile-related R&D projects have been supported by the ITF to develop an anti-bacterial and anti-viral protective clothing, of which a trial is now being conducted in hospitals under the Hospital Authority. Also, the R&D Centres under the ITC have also developed applied technologies related to combating epidemics. For example, the nanofibre technology jointly developed by the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute and an enterprise has been applied to the production of a face mask that has anti-bacterial function as well as to a high efficiency particulate air filter for air purification systems in hospitals.

Besides, to tackle the coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) epidemic, ITC launched a special call for projects under the PSTS of the ITF in early March 2020 to support product development and application of technologies for the prevention and control of the epidemic. The target funding recipients cover local R&D Centres, universities and other designated public research institutes, as well as all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, so as to promote the realisation and commercialisation of local R&D outcomes related to combatting the epidemic and to encourage the public sector to use technologies for tackling the epidemic.

In addition, the Health and Medical Research Fund administered by the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) invites applications each year for investigator-initiated projects, covering the broad theme of infectious diseases. In response to the health threats posed to public health by the spread of COVID-19 in Hong Kong, the FHB has invited the 2 medical schools to submit preliminary proposals to enhance our understanding of virus transmission and infection and capabilities in various areas including effective testing and control, effective clinical management, as well as enhancement of infection control and preventive strategies. The FHB is now reviewing the project proposals.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB081**

**(Question Serial No. 2909)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Nurturing innovation and technology (I&T) talent is essential to the I&T development in Hong Kong. The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) launched the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) in August 2018 to subsidise local enterprises for training their staff in high-end technologies. According to the indicators for the RTTP, the estimated number of applications to be received and processed and the number of trainees to be funded in 2020 are 660 and 1 550 respectively, showing a decrease when compared with the actual number of 744 applications and 1 795 trainees in 2019. RTTP is the only one that demonstrates a decrease among the 4 programmes for nurturing and pooling together I&T talent under ITC.

In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the reasons for the estimated decreases in 2020;
- (2) the effectiveness of the RTTP since its implementation for one and a half year; whether the training programmes will be enhanced based on the effectiveness; whether the Government has any initiative to offer additional incentives for enterprises to strengthen the provision of technology training for their staff, given that they may adopt a more prudent stance towards technology training amid economic downturns;
- (3) the relation between the RTTP and the new \$2 billion Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS), which will be launched by the Government in 2020-21 to provide financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up smart production lines in Hong Kong; whether enterprises will be eligible for subsidy under both the RTTP and RFS at the same time.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:



The required information is as follows:

(1) Launched in August 2018, the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) subsidises local enterprises on a 2 (Government):1 (enterprise) matching basis for their staff to receive technology training, especially those relating to “Industry 4.0”. We estimate that 1 550 trainees will be funded under the RTTP in 2020. The figure is estimated on a pro rata basis with reference to the actual numbers of trainees funded under the RTTP in 2018 and 2019 (i.e. 275 and 1 795 respectively).

(2) The RTTP was launched in August 2018. As at the end of January 2020, 383 public courses have been registered under the RTTP, and 885 training grant applications submitted by enterprises have been approved to subsidise 2 116 staff of local enterprises to receive technology training with a total funding amount of about \$13.17 million. The RTTP Secretariat (the Vocational Training Council (VTC)) has been maintaining liaison with trade associations, industry organisations, professional bodies and training providers to keep abreast of the latest trend in technology training, and encouraging training providers to enhance communication with applicant enterprises and industry organisations, etc., and to take into account trainees’ feedback to introduce training courses that better suit enterprises’ needs.

To encourage enterprises to arrange their employees to receive technology training, we have implemented a new arrangement starting from 30 March 2020. The Innovation and Technology Commission will disburse in advance partial funding of up to 50% of the approved training grant to the applicant enterprises upon their request, subject to approval of their training grant applications. The remaining funding amount will be disbursed upon the completion of the training courses by the staff concerned as per the existing arrangement. VTC will continue to monitor the implementation of the RTTP and enhance the promotion of the RTTP.

(3) The RTTP and the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) support re-industrialisation in Hong Kong in terms of talent and capital funding respectively. The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal of setting up the RFS in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the FC’s approval, we hope to launch the RFS in the second quarter of 2020.

The RFS will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (Government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. The funding under the RFS will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production line, including the costs of procurement, installation and commissioning of the machinery/equipment/apparatus, as well as fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned (including testing, and staff training that focuses on the application of the new smart production line). An enterprise may apply for both RTTP and RFS at the same time. However, if the staff training concerning the application of the new smart production line has already been subsidised under the RFS, further application for funding for the training concerned under the RTTP will not be accepted.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB082**

**(Question Serial No. 2917)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The matters requiring special attention in 2020-21 include enhancing Hong Kong Productivity Council's support to Hong Kong companies operating in the Mainland through subsidiary consulting firms set up in Shenzhen and Dongguan and the HKPC Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Centre (Futian).

In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (1) What types of operating difficulties have the Hong Kong companies operating in the Mainland reflected to the above 3 companies? What are the number of cases and the effectiveness of the support?
- (2) What are the manpower allocation and details of the measures on enhancing the support?

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) The subsidiary consulting firms set up by the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) in Shenzhen and Dongguan, together with the HKPC Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Centre (Futian) (the Centre), assist Hong Kong-owned enterprises operating in the Mainland to enhance productivity as well as upgrade and transform their business through the provision of technical support, training, study missions, and consultancy service helping them to apply for funding from the Mainland government. To our understanding, rather than seeking the HKPC's assistance to reflect their

operating difficulties, these enterprises approached the HKPC mainly for its professional services and advanced technical support with a view to enhancing and improving their operations and production capabilities. For instance, in the past 10 years, the HKPC's subsidiary firm in Dongguan assisted over 420 Hong Kong-owned enterprises operating in Dongguan to complete various transformation and upgrading projects via the TURN programme implemented by the Dongguan Municipal Government.

Besides, through implementing the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme of the Environmental Protection Department, the HKPC has provided environmental protection and energy saving services for more than 1 000 Hong Kong-owned factories located in Hong Kong and Guangdong. In 2019-20, the above 3 companies also assisted 28 Hong Kong-owned enterprises to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the Mainland market through other consultancy service projects.

- (2) In 2020-21, the 2 subsidiary consulting firms set up in the Mainland by the HKPC, together with the Centre, will continue to provide the above integrated support services for the industry and step up collaboration with the Mainland government departments, organisations and associations, with a view to promoting the application of advanced production technologies by Hong Kong-owned enterprises operating in the Mainland as well as assisting them to enhance productivity and capture the development opportunities in the Greater Bay Area. In mid-2020, the HKPC will set up the "HKPC 5G Demo Centre" at the Centre, providing Hong Kong-owned enterprises in the Greater Bay Area with a 5G technology exchange platform for demonstrating applications and solutions of Industry 4.0 and Enterprise 4.0 via 5G technology.

The work plans of the HKPC's subsidiary consulting firms in the Mainland and the Centre for 2020-21 will be implemented by the existing 37 staff members of the HKPC.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB083**

**(Question Serial No. 0986)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states in paragraph 67 of the Budget that the Government will continue to provide enhanced tax deduction for qualifying research and development (R&D) expenditure incurred by enterprises and extend the coverage of the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong the following month. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the respective number of applications received, actual number of applications approved and the amount involved in the past 2 financial years;
2. whether the Government has conducted a preliminary assessment on the amount of funding involved each year upon the extension of the coverage to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong; and
3. whether the Government has considered extending the PSTS to cover R&D areas such as environmental protection and design, etc., so as to enhance the support for small and medium enterprises engaging in creative and green production; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) The Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) provides funding to research and development (R&D) projects under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) as well as incubatees and graduate tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and the Cyberport for producing prototypes/samples from their R&D outcomes and conducting trials in the public sector. In 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as at end-January 2020), the numbers of applications received and approved, as well as the funding amounts under the PSTS are tabulated as follows:

	<b>Number of applications received</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b> (as at end-January 2020)	<b>Funding amount (\$ million)</b>
2018-19	41	41	94.2
2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)	39	17 (the remaining 22 applications are still under processing)	40.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>134.4</b>

- (2) We extended the funding coverage of the PSTS at the end of March this year to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, with the funding ceiling per project being \$1 million. Based on preliminary estimation, upon the extension of the funding coverage of the PSTS, about 15 additional new applications will likely be received each year.
- (3) The PSTS imposes no restrictions on the technology area of the R&D outcomes under application for trials. Small and medium technology enterprises are welcome to participate in the PSTS with R&D outcomes on various areas.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB084**

**(Question Serial No. 0987)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states in paragraph 109 of the Budget that the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) in the Lok Ma Chau Loop is not only the largest innovation and technology platform in Hong Kong so far, but also an important infrastructure for promoting local research and development and re-industrialisation. In fact, the governments of Hong Kong and Shenzhen signed a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2017 to jointly develop the Park, and it was also announced in the 2018-19 Budget that \$20 billion to set aside for use on the first phase of the Park, so far the trade considers that it has just heard the noise of the engine but seen no forward motion. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the actual resources allocated to the work, the major efforts made, the major progress achieved, and the major difficulties encountered since the financial year of 2018-19; and
2. whether the Government will consider enhancing the allocation of resources and efforts in taking forward the project to expedite the development of the Park, with a view to building a “Silicon Valley of Shenzhen and Hong Kong” and facilitating the linkage of the Greater Bay Area to the world’s top-notch innovative resources and networks; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

The Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government is implementing various planning and infrastructural works in full swing to actively develop the Lok Ma Chau Loop (the Loop) into the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) and set up a key base for cooperation in scientific research, as well as relevant higher education, cultural and creative industries and other complementary facilities, so as to attract top-tier enterprises, research and development (R&D) institutions and higher education institutions in the Mainland and overseas to establish their presence there. The Park will be Hong Kong’s largest-ever innovation and technology (I&T) platform. For site formation and

infrastructural works, the Government obtained funding approval of about \$790 million from the Legislative Council (LegCo) in May 2018, and commenced the construction of the Advance Works as well as the detailed design and site investigation of Main Works Package 1 in June and September 2018 respectively. If everything goes smooth, the first batch of land parcels will be made available for the Loop in 2021.

Besides, with completion of the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study, the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited is now conducting the Technical Feasibility Study and the Economic Impact Analysis Study of Batch 1 development of the Park.

As the Loop is a sizeable undeveloped land without any infrastructure, its development into the Park is a large-scale and long-term project. The \$20 billion set aside by the Government is only for the support of the first phase development of the Park, including site formation, provision of infrastructure, construction of the first batch of superstructure and initial operation. We expect the funding required for the Loop development as a whole will far exceed \$20 billion. We will seek funding approval from the LegCo in a timely manner, with a view to commencing Main Works Package 1 of the Loop and the construction works of the first batch of buildings of the Park.

The SAR Government has been dedicating efforts to enhance the level of I&T development in Hong Kong, to actively facilitate the work of developing the Greater Bay Area into an international I&T hub, providing Hong Kong with a broader arena for I&T development. Hong Kong has tremendous strength in scientific research and advantages as an international and market-oriented economy, while the Greater Bay Area has a massive market and capabilities in commercialising research results and advanced manufacturing. Hong Kong can pool together innovation resources from the Mainland and across the globe and achieve synergistic development with other cities in the Greater Bay Area with regard to their comparative strengths. In this regard, the SAR Government will continue to take forward a series of initiatives which include establishing international research clusters, facilitating the flow of key factors of scientific research and providing technological supporting infrastructure including the development of the Park, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB085**

**(Question Serial No. 0989)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary stated in paragraph 70 of the Budget that from April 2020 onwards, the Government would enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). The Government's funding ratio would increase from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The ceiling on the number of approved projects would also rise from 4 to 6. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the respective number of applications received, the actual number of applications approved, the number of projects funded, and the amount of funding involved in the past 2 financial years;
2. whether the Government has conducted a preliminary assessment on the amount of funding involved every year upon the implementation of the enhanced TVP; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) In the past 2 financial years (from April 2018 to end February 2020), the Innovation and Technology Commission received a total of 2 728 applications under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). Of the 1 604 applications assessed by the TVP Committee so far, 1 436 were approved, involving a total funding of about \$230 million.
- (2) From April 2020 onwards, we have enhanced the TVP by increasing the Government's funding ratio, as well as the funding ceiling and maximum number of approved projects for each enterprise/organisation. The estimated additional annual expenditure involved is about \$20 million.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB086**

**(Question Serial No. 0990)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states in paragraph 94 of the Budget that in January this year, the Government enhanced the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) by doubling the technology areas covered by the scheme to 13 and extended its coverage to all companies engaging in relevant research and development activities in Hong Kong. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the number of applications received, the actual number of applications approved, and the actual number of relevant work visas approved since the launch of TechTAS; and
2. whether the Government has considered further enhancing TechTAS, including increasing the annual quotas to be allotted to each successful applicant technology company and the maximum number of technology talent to be admitted each year under TechTAS; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) launched the Technology Talent Admission Scheme in June 2018. As at end-February 2020, ITC received a total of 325 quota applications and all of them were approved. The Immigration Department approved a total of 102 visa/entry permit applications in accordance with the relevant quotas.

At present, each company may be allotted with a maximum of 100 quotas each year. No companies have reflected to us that the quotas are insufficient. Where there is a practical need, we will handle the cases depending on the individual circumstances.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB087**

**(Question Serial No. 2012)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

At present, under the Research and Development (R&D) Cash Rebate Scheme (CRS), companies conducting applied R&D projects with the support of the Innovation and Technology Fund or in partnership with designated local public research institutions can enjoy a cash rebate of 40% on their investments. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the number of applications received, the actual number of applications approved, and the amount of cash rebate involved in the past 2 years; and
2. whether the Government will consider expanding the scope of the CRS to cover all technology companies conducting R&D in Hong Kong with reference to other innovation and technology funding programmes; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) The Research and Development (R&D) Cash Rebate Scheme (CRS) provides cash rebate to enterprises on their expenditure on 2 types of applied R&D projects, namely R&D projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund with participation from the enterprises, as well as R&D projects commissioned by the enterprises to designated local public research institutions and funded entirely by the companies. All eligible cash rebate applications have been approved. In the past 2 years (i.e. 2018 and 2019), the total number of the relevant projects was 265 and 324 respectively, and the total amount of cash rebate was about \$101.6 million and \$105.5 million respectively.
- (2) We will review the implementation and effectiveness of the CRS and introduce enhancement measures from time to time to suitably respond to the industry demand.

Besides, we have amended the Inland Revenue Ordinance to provide a two-tier rate of enhanced tax deduction for R&D expenditure incurred by enterprises on 1 April 2018 and thereafter. The deduction is 300% for the first \$2 million of qualifying R&D expenditure and 200% for the remaining amount. There is no cap on the amount of enhanced tax deduction. This measure will benefit all technology companies conducting R&D in Hong Kong, further promoting and encouraging private sector investment in R&D.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB088****(Question Serial No. 6057)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

a. Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

b. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

c. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

d. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

e. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

f. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

g. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that the ITC obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock of goggles	Consumption

h. Did the ITC supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

i. If the ITC is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each of such decisions, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 146)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (a) to (g) In the past 3 years, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) obtained surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) and procured masks from the market for distribution to and use by colleagues and visitors.

The global demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) is soaring. The Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government is facing fierce competition over the procurement exercises. To avoid undermining the bargaining powers of the GLD and other departments during their procurement of PPE, the SAR Government does not deem it appropriate to publicly disclose at this stage more specific information on the PPE of individual departments, including the stock, origin, quantity and value of procurement, consumption, etc. in the past few years or recent times.

(h) and (i) ITC did not supply or sell PPE to other organisations over the past 3 years.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB089**

**(Question Serial No. 6808)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Last year, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) stated that part of the Government's allocation of \$10 billion would be used to develop and operate the animal research and drug testing facility, and that the HKSTPC was working out the details of the facility and would conduct market research as well as feasibility and technical studies in the first half of 2019. In this connection, what was the amount of the "part of the allocation" used by the HKSTPC last year and how much is expected to be used in the future for developing and operating the animal research and drug testing facility? What are the progresses and results of the market research as well as feasibility and technical studies?

What are the expenditures and breakdown of all expenses on the preparation, development and operation of the animal laboratories incurred by the HKSTPC in the past 2 years? What are the types, equipment, modus operandi and number of the animal laboratories, as well as the species of experimental animals? Have the laboratories been completed and officially commenced operation? If yes, what are the types and purposes of the animal experiments conducted, responsible medical/scientific research institutes, as well as the species and number of animals involved? If not, what are the expected dates of completion and official commencement of operation?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The market research on drug testing and related animal research facility completed by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) in December 2019 has confirmed the demand for animal experiments (such as drugs efficacy tests, toxicology studies and toxic metabolism studies, etc.) among technology enterprises and research and development (R&D) institutions engaging in biotechnology or healthcare R&D. HKSTPC is now conducting a technical and feasibility study to plan for the size of the testing facility, the equipment required, the species of animals to be used, etc. The study is expected to be completed by mid-2020. Depending on the study findings and the industry experts'

advice, HKSTPC plans to set up the relevant facility in phases and expects the first-phase facility to commence operation within 2021. The expenditures of the abovementioned studies are covered by HKSTPC.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB090**

**(Question Serial No. 0715)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is stated in the Budget that the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) will be provided with an additional funding of \$2 billion for converting an old factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into a Microelectronics Centre to provide modern manufacturing facilities. Will the Government advise on:

- (1) the location and original owner of the old factory; whether the factory is fully acquired by the Government; the acquisition price, number of storeys and floor area (in square feet) of the factory; the estimated number of companies with manufacturing facilities to be accommodated upon the conversion; the completion date;
- (2) the Government's justifications for its decision to build the Microelectronics Centre; why the Government is of the view that there is a demand; Hong Kong's advantages in developing such industry; whether the Government has made the decision based on the recommendations of HKSTPC/other partners (please specify); the strategic significance of such industry to Hong Kong; the objectives of building the Microelectronics Centre;
- (3) whether any enterprise has expressed its intent to set up a factory in the Microelectronics Centre; if not, why the Government has decided to implement the project; if yes, please indicate the names of the companies and advise on the details;
- (4) the admission requirements for the Microelectronics Centre (e.g. company size, business nature, number of local employees hired); the specific admission arrangements, including the details on the leasing arrangements and whether any subsidy or rental concession will be provided to the companies to be admitted, etc.;
- (5) the detailed distribution of the \$2 billion expenditure?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

Microelectronics is a key element in new product development and has now been widely used in fields such as 5G communications products, advanced medicine and new energy

technologies. Local universities and research institutes possess strong capabilities in the research of the related fields. The Government's support for the microelectronics industry is conducive to facilitating the relevant high value-added industries in their research and development of technological applications.

With a lack of relevant manufacturing facilities in Hong Kong, it is necessary to commission overseas factories to translate designs into finished products. However, as it generally takes time for the factories to fix the manufacturing schedule, coupled with subsequent product sealing and packaging as well as long delivery time, the manufacturing time is longer and cost is higher. As such, we see the need to develop a manufacturing facility with dedicated equipment in Hong Kong to meet the industry's demand for prototyping and small batch production.

In recent years, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) has received a number of enquiries from the industries, showing interest in establishing production lines for microelectronics in Hong Kong. A number of start-ups in the Hong Kong Science Park focusing on integrated circuits design have also emphasised the significance of local manufacturing facilities to the commercialisation of their designed products. In addition, HKSTPC has engaged a consultant to assess the demand for the establishment of such production lines, with relevant industry stakeholders surveyed. The study has revealed the demand for microelectronics manufacturing facilities among the industries.

HKSTPC plans to modify an old factory in the Yuen Long Industrial Estate into the Microelectronics Centre. Located at 1 Fuk Wang Street, Yuen Long and originally owned by Toppan Printing Co., (H.K.) Limited, the two-storey factory was repossessed by HKSTPC in 2018. We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the modification proposal in May 2019 and have submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the FC's funding approval, HKSTPC will commence the modification works concerned as soon as practicable, with a view to completing it by end 2021 at the earliest.

With a gross floor area of 36 180 square metres upon modification, the Microelectronics Centre will adopt flexible design and be equipped with dedicated facilities that are normally unavailable in multi-storey industrial buildings, such as clean rooms, dangerous goods storage and waste treatment facilities. The proposed Microelectronics Centre will also provide shared ancillary facilities such as offices, conference rooms, shared work spaces, and shared laboratories for product quality and reliability testing analysis. The estimated construction cost of the Microelectronics Centre is about \$2 billion, of which about 65% will be used for the building modification works and the remainder of about 35% for purchasing and installing the dedicated manufacturing equipment required by the microelectronics industry.

HKSTPC will conduct a study on the market rental rate and carry out pre-letting procedures in a timely manner. The list of enterprises to be admitted is not available at present. Depending on the size of the enterprises, we estimate that the Microelectronics Centre will be able to accommodate about 10 enterprises. HKSTPC will consider admission applications from manufacturers of different sizes, including their manufacturing business as well as the potential and benefits of the projects. In addition, HKSTPC will determine

the rental rate taking into account the market conditions and other related factors, such as the expenses for managing and repairing the shared facilities in the Microelectronics Centre.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB091****(Question Serial No. 0717)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government has provided funding of \$10 billion to establish two research clusters in the Hong Kong Science Park, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies. Will the Government advise on the following:

- (1) What are the respective numbers of application proposals for admission to the two clusters received from universities, research institutions and enterprises so far? Have any applications been approved? How long does it take from the opening of application to the completion of vetting? What are the estimated number of research and development (R&D) centres/laboratories to be approved for establishment in the first round and the directions of the R&D projects, the amount of funding/subsidy/site area or the number of laboratories available for each admission application, as well as the requirements on the academic or research qualifications of the persons to be admitted?
- (2) The Guidance Notes for Admission states that the proposed research laboratory should demonstrate a strong commitment to nurturing local research talent, in different research capacities and positions, through the latter's active involvement in the laboratory's research programmes. Is there any requirement on the ratio between the overseas researchers to be admitted and the local researchers to be nurtured? What are the specific arrangements?
- (3) What are the estimated number of admitted institutions that will admit technology talent from outside Hong Kong to undertake related R&D work through the fast-track arrangements under the Technology Talent Admission Scheme and the number of such talents to be admitted?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received enthusiastic response, with a total of 65 proposals from world renowned universities and research institutes. After

a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.

- (2) Through the establishment of *InnoHK* research clusters, the Government's vision is to develop Hong Kong as the hub for global research collaboration and to converge top-notch researchers from around the world to conduct world-class and impactful collaborative researches in Hong Kong. The institutions are required to state clearly in their submitted proposals the plans for local talent development, such as the number of post-doctoral researchers, doctoral students and interns, etc. We hope that *InnoHK* research clusters will bring about more opportunities for local talents and contribute to expanding the local research talent pool.
- (3) The R&D laboratories in the *InnoHK* research clusters can make use of the fast-track arrangements under the Technology Talent Admission Scheme to facilitate researchers from outside the territory to carry out R&D work in Hong Kong. As it is still at the preparation stage, concrete figures on this front are not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB092**

**(Question Serial No. 0719)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government will examine the setting up of the third InnoHK research cluster to further promote global research collaboration in Hong Kong. Please advise on:

- (1) the theme of the third InnoHK research cluster, as well as the details on the resources, manpower and funding involved;
- (2) the Government's justifications for its decision to set up the third cluster; why such research theme has been selected/why the Government is of the view that there is a demand; whether the Government has made the decision based on the recommendations of renowned research institutions, or because of its view that such research theme is of strategic significance to the long-term development of scientific research in Hong Kong; the objectives of setting up the third cluster;
- (3) why the Government does not wait until the official launch of "Health@InnoHK" focusing on healthcare technologies and "AIR@InnoHK" focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, so that it could observe the effectiveness and gain experience from the operation of the two clusters before setting up the next research cluster;
- (4) the amount of funding/subsidy/site area or the number of laboratories available for each application for admission to the third cluster, as well as the requirements on the academic or research qualifications of the persons to be admitted?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

Through the establishment of *InnoHK* research clusters, the Government's vision is to develop Hong Kong as the hub for global research collaboration and to converge top-notch researchers from around the world to conduct world-class and impactful collaborative researches in Hong Kong. We have allocated \$10 billion for the establishment of the first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely "*Health@InnoHK*" focusing on healthcare technologies and "*AIR@InnoHK*" focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics

technologies, in the Hong Kong Science Park. The Innovation and Technology Fund will provide funding support for research projects undertaken by research and development (R&D) laboratories to be admitted to the two clusters. We believe that the two clusters will help capture and consolidate Hong Kong's R&D strengths in the related technology areas.

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received a total of 65 proposals from many world renowned universities and R&D institutes. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. The first batch of R&D laboratories is expected to commence operation progressively in 2020.

The enthusiastic response received for the first two *InnoHK* research clusters has demonstrated that Hong Kong is well positioned to promote global research collaboration. Given that scientific research work requires long-term investment, we propose to examine the setting up of the third *InnoHK* research cluster to make early preparation for further promoting global research collaboration. We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster and formulating the criteria for admission. There is no fixed timeline for now. We will keep in view the funding position and seek new funding from the Legislative Council in a timely manner to support the continued development of *InnoHK* research clusters.

The Infrastructure Division under the Innovation and Technology Commission is responsible for the delivery of duties relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation. The Infrastructure Division is headed by an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2), and the work relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters is currently supported by 11 non-directorate staff.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB093**

**(Question Serial No. 0721)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the coverage of the Technology Talent Admission Scheme has been extended to all companies undertaking research and development activities in 13 technology areas. Please advise on the following:

(1) What are the manpower and estimated expenditure involved in the related work in 2020-21?

(2) Please list in tabular form the technology areas involved in the applications approved and the respective regions/countries of the approved applicants in the past 3 years.

(3) Please list in tabular form the types of companies (such as start-ups; and companies or small and medium enterprises participating in the incubation programmes administered by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport, etc.) of the approved applicants in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) In 2020-21, the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) will be administered with existing manpower and resources of the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC). We do not have a breakdown of expenditure for individual scope of work.
- (2) Since the launch of TechTAS in June 2018 up to end-February 2020, ITC has allotted a total of 325 quotas; whereas the Immigration Department has approved a total of 102 applications of visa/entry permit in accordance with the relevant quotas. The persons approved for entry under TechTAS are categorised by their technology areas and respective regions as follows:



Technology area	Number of non-local persons approved for entry under TechTAS
Artificial intelligence	22
Biotechnology	8
Cybersecurity	8
Data analytics	11
Financial technologies	23
Material science	20
Robotics	10
Total	102

Region	Number of non-local persons approved for entry under TechTAS
Mainland China	74
Other Asian regions	17
Europe	3
America	7
Australia	1
Total	102

- (3) As at end-February 2020, ITC has allotted a total of 325 quotas to 71 companies, of which their respective locations and types are categorised as follows:

Location \ Type	Incubatees	Tenants, grantees or occupants	Total
Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	12	35	47
Cyberport	5	19	24
			71

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB094**

**(Question Serial No. 0723)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is announced in the Budget that \$3 billion will be earmarked for taking forward Phase II of the Science Park Expansion Programme (SPX2). The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation has preliminarily proposed to build 2 laboratory annex buildings and specialised laboratories at podiums. Please advise on:

- (1) the details of the work implemented by the Government for the above project, whether the design of the 2 buildings has been completed, the specifications and scientific research facilities of the 2 laboratory annex buildings and specialised laboratories, the estimated number of companies that can be accommodated to carry out research and development activities, the average usable floor area for each company, as well as the expected dates of completion and commencement of operation;
- (2) whether the economic benefits of the project have been assessed, including the expected number of job opportunities to be brought about; if yes, the details; if not, the reasons;
- (3) the work plan, schedule, as well as manpower and resources required in 2020-21; and
- (4) the financial arrangement and distribution of expenditure of the SPX2, such as the estimated consultancy costs, design and construction fees.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

A reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

(1), (2) and (4)

With a view to meeting the keen local demand for research and development facilities and enhancing support for the innovation and technology development, the Hong Kong Science

and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) has commissioned a consultant to conduct a master planning study on the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park), and has kick-started its Phase II expansion programme to explore on-site and off-site development options.

The HKSTPC has preliminarily proposed to build 2 laboratory annex buildings of a few storeys, as well as specialised laboratories of two to three storeys at podiums in Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Science Park, involving a gross floor area of about 28 000 square metres. The number of technology companies and research institutions that can be accommodated is subject to the size of the space required by the technology enterprises or research institutions to be admitted.

The HKSTPC estimates that the development cost of Phase II of the Science Park Expansion Programme (SPX2) is around \$3 billion. In 2020-21, the HKSTPC will continue to conduct various technical feasibility and related studies of the SPX2, including an economic impact assessment, and proactively follow up on the relevant procedures with government departments.

(3)

Upon completion of the relevant studies by the HKSTPC, we will consult the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the specific proposal and financial arrangement of the SPX2, and seek funding approval from the LegCo Finance Committee. It is anticipated that we will consult the relevant LegCo committees in the 2020-21 legislative session, with the view to commencing the expansion works in 2021 for completion in stages from 2022 to 2024.

The implementation of the SPX2 is part of the work under Programme (4) “Infrastructural Support”. The establishment under Programme (4) involves 48 staff in 2020-21 and the estimated expenditure is \$46.2 million, which is mainly for salaries and departmental expenses. We do not have a breakdown of expenditure for individual work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB095****(Question Serial No. 0725)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the eligibility of the Researcher Programme (RP) and the Postdoctoral Hub (PH) will be expanded to cover all technology companies conducting research and development (R&D) activities in Hong Kong. Besides, the Financial Secretary states that the 2 programmes will be consolidated to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent. Would the Government please advise on the following:

- (1) Of the researchers recruited with funding from the Innovation and Technology Fund and the researchers recruited by the incubatees and innovation and technology tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport, what are the research projects, research institutions, number of researchers, area of the research projects and the funding amount in the latest 3 financial years?
- (2) What are the percentage of researchers employed for 2 or 3 consecutive years under the RP, and the number and percentage of researchers securing a job in the scientific research field after completing the RP in the past 3 years?
- (3) What are the numbers of applications received and approved under the RP and the annual total amount of funding in the past 3 years? Please list in tabular form by researchers with a Bachelor's degree or a Master's and/or higher degree.
- (4) What are the number of beneficiary companies, the total number of additional researchers employed and the total amount of funding in 2019-20 upon the extension of the funding period and the increase of the allowance under the RP last year? Please list in tabular form by researchers with a Bachelor's degree or a Master's and/or higher degree. What are the estimated number of beneficiary companies, the number of additional researchers employed and the total amount of funding in 2020-21 upon the expansion of the RP to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong? Please list in tabular form by researchers with a Bachelor's degree or a Master's and/or higher degree. What is the estimated additional expenditure incurred from the expansion of the programme coverage?
- (5) What are the expenditure and details of publicity activities for promoting the RP to incubatees and small and medium enterprises, as well as the number of participants in 2019-20? What are the estimated expenditure and publicity plan for promoting the

programme in the coming year?

(6) What are the specific details and expenditure involved for consolidating the RP and the PH?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The requested information is as follows:

- (1) A breakdown of the numbers of applications approved under the Researcher Programme (RP) by research area and research and development (R&D) institution in the latest 3 financial years is tabulated below:

Research area	Year	R&D institution																		Total number of applications of researchers approved	Funding amount approved (\$ million)
		The Chinese University of Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong	The Education University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong Baptist University	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	The University of Hong Kong	The Hong Kong University of Applied Sciences	Lingnan University	Clothing Industry Training Authority	Hong Kong Productivity Council	Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology	Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre	Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel	Hong Kong Applied Science And Technology Research Institute	Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre	Nano and Advanced Materials Institute	Private companies		
Biotechnology	2017-18	17	4	0	2	8	12	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	38	92	28.4
	2018-19	22	9	0	4	6	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	93	33.6
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	31	15	0	2	5	15	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	161	62.4
Chinese medicine	2017-18	0	0	0	6	2	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	6.5
	2018-19	2	0	0	3	2	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	4.7
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	5	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4.1
Electrical and electronic engineering	2017-18	4	9	0	0	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	65	98	32.0
	2018-19	5	2	0	0	8	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	63	90	34.5
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	10	2	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	3	52	85	30.0

Environmental technology	2017-18	2	5	0	0	7	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	10	45	14.4
	2018-19	4	9	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	1	6	34	12.8
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	3	6	0	0	6	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	27	59	24.4
Information technology	2017-18	7	13	2	6	9	20	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	31	9	0	187	289	82.0
	2018-19	0	14	1	2	11	11	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	26	1	0	251	327	102.6
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	3	7	0	0	14	15	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	32	2	0	289	368	115.1
Manufacturing technology	2017-18	12	10	0	0	23	8	2	0	0	0	12	2	3	18	0	0	0	1	91	25
	2018-19	20	2	0	0	19	12	1	0	0	0	21	0	11	24	5	0	1	2	118	37.8
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	14	15	0	0	26	7	2	0	0	0	5	2	7	17	3	0	1	2	101	28.7
Material Science	2017-18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.4
Nanotechnology	2017-18	0	7	0	0	1	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	29	9.5
	2018-19	2	9	0	2	1	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	19	43	12.3
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	6	6	0	0	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	46	17.1
Others	2017-18	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.3
	2018-19	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	1.6
	2019-20 <sup>Note</sup>	0	3	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	8	19	5.4
Total:																			2 252	729.6	

Note: as at end-January 2020

The summaries of the relevant research projects are available on the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) website ([https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp)).

- (2) In the latest 3 financial years, the average engagement period of a researcher among the applications approved exceeds 15 months. Around 70% of the researchers who had completed the RP either found a job or indicated interest in pursuing a career in the scientific research field.
- (3) The numbers of applications and the amounts of funding approved under the RP by the academic qualification of researchers in the latest 3 financial years are tabulated as follows:

Financial Year	2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)		2018-19		2017-18	
Academic qualification of researchers	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's or higher degree
Number of applications received	485	417	440	349	378	351
Number of applications approved	451	404	404	321	343	329
Total amount of funding approved (\$ million)	289.6		239.9		200.1	

- (4) In 2019-20 (as at end-January 2020), a total of 855 applications under the RP were approved, representing an increase of 18% as compared with a total of 725 applications approved throughout 2018-19. The funding amount increased from around \$240 million to around \$290 million, representing a rise of 21%. A

breakdown of the number of applications by the academic qualification of researchers is set out in (3).

The funding scope under the RP was expanded on 9 March 2020 to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. We estimate that the number of applications to be approved in 2020-21 will increase by about 800, involving an additional annual expenditure of around \$200 million.

- (5) We will continue to publicise and promote the RP through various channels such as the ITF website, briefings as well as the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport, etc. The related work will be absorbed by existing resources and manpower, and there is no separate breakdown for the expenditure.
- (6) We will consolidate the RP and the Postdoctoral Hub into a single programme in July this year, so as to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent. By then, for each eligible organisation/enterprise or R&D project under the ITF, a total of up to 4 innovation and technology talent with a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree can be engaged to undertake R&D work. Specific details will be announced in due course. We estimate that, upon consolidation of the 2 programmes, the number of applications to be approved each year will increase by about 800, involving an additional annual expenditure of around \$215 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB096**

**(Question Serial No. 0727)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Research Programme (RP) and the Postdoctoral Hub (PH) would be expanded to cover all technology companies conducting research and development (R&D) activities in Hong Kong and the 2 programmes would be consolidated to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Since the launch of the Technology Talent Scheme (TTS), how many funding applications for the PH under the TTS have been received and approved by the Government each year?
- (2) What is the number of companies involved in the approved applications under the PH in the past 2 years? How many of them are (i) organisations funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund, and (ii) incubatees and innovation and technology (I&T) tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation/the Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited?
- (3) Please list in tabular form the technology areas in which the I&T postdoctoral talent recruited under the PH are engaged. What is the average time needed for processing an application?
- (4) What are the number of organisations or enterprises benefitted from last year's extension of the funding period from 2 years to 3 years and the expenditure involved?
- (5) What are the estimated number of organisations or enterprises to be benefitted upon the expansion of the PH to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) Launched by the Innovation and Technology Commission in August 2018, the Technology Talent Scheme comprises the Postdoctoral Hub (PH) and the



Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme. Among the 2 programmes, as at end-January 2020, a total of 945 applications were received under the PH, of which 890 were approved, involving a total funding of around \$520 million. The remaining applications are either under processing or have been withdrawn by the applicants. No applications have been rejected since the launch of the PH. The numbers of applications received and approved by year are tabulated as follows:

	<b>Number of applications received</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b>
2018 (from 22 August to end-December)	332	300
2019	584	565
2020 (as at end-January)	29	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>890</b>

- (2) Among the 890 applications approved, 654 came from organisations/companies funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund to conduct research and development (R&D) projects, and 236 from incubatees/innovation and technology tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation or the Cyberport.
- (3) Upon receipt of the information required, it takes about 5 working days on average to process each application. As at end-January 2020, the number of approved applications under PH by technology area is as follows:

<b>Technology area</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of applications for recruitment of postdoctoral talent approved</b>
Engineering and technology	488
Life science and medicine	192
Natural science	205
Others	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>890</b>

<sup>Note</sup>: The technology areas are categorised based on the Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings by Subject. Subjects under engineering and technology include computer science and information systems, chemical engineering, civil and structural engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, etc.

- (4) Among the 565 approved applications under the PH in 2019, the funding periods for 84 of them exceed 2 years, involving an additional funding amount of about \$18.5 million.
- (5) On 9 March 2020, the funding scope of the PH was expanded to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. We estimate that about 200 additional enterprises will be benefitted each year, involving an additional annual expenditure of around \$80 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB097**

**(Question Serial No. 0729)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please advise on the following:

- (1) Please list out in tabular form the number of trainees funded by the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) under the Technology Talent Scheme, the types of courses enrolled and technologies involved, as well as the number of trainees approved for funding support and total amount of funding in the past 2 years.
- (2) Please list out in tabular form the number of applications rejected by reason.
- (3) Please provide, by year, a list of training providers (through the Vocational Training Council), as well as the number and titles of the courses provided, number of places and number of persons enrolled; and list out the number of courses available for enrolment by nature of technology.
- (4) What are the respective numbers of course proposals received from training providers (public courses) and companies (tailor-made courses), as well as the approval rate since the launch of the RTTP? Please list out the number of applications rejected by reason.
- (5) What are the expenditure on promoting the RTTP to enterprises and practitioners, the details of the publicity activities, and the number of participants in 2019-20, as well as the estimated expenditure on promoting the RTTP and the planned publicity activities in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The required information is as follows:

(1) The Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) was launched in August 2018. The number of trainees funded and the relevant funding amount under the RTTP as at end January 2020 tabulated by the technology type of the courses enrolled are as follows:

	<b>Technology type</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of approved trainees</b>	<b>Total amount of funding approved (rounded to the nearest dollar)</b>
1.	Manufacturing	490	\$3,694,972
2.	Biomedical & Healthcare	435	\$2,000,635
3.	Information Technology	381	\$2,346,246
4.	Automation Control	294	\$1,729,588
5.	Textile & Clothing	141	\$1,201,876
6.	Hospitality & Catering	123	\$566,067
7.	Environmental	73	\$469,909
8.	Wholesale/Retail & Import/Export Trades	71	\$426,585
9.	Logistics Industry Related	32	\$318,813
10.	Banking	28	\$140,000
11.	Digital Media	22	\$168,706
12.	Sustainability	11	\$56,996
13.	Printing & Publishing	10	\$16,000
14.	Electronic Engineering	5	\$34,130
	<b>Total</b>	2,116	\$13,170,523

**Note:** A training course may involve more than one technology type. The training courses are categorised by their principal technology type in the above table.

(2) and (4)

The statistics on the number of applications for registering public courses submitted by training providers, as well as the numbers of training grant applications for public courses and tailor-made courses submitted by enterprises under the RTTP as at end January 2020 are as follows:

	<b>Number of applications received</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b>	<b>Number of applications withdrawn</b>	<b>Number of applications rejected</b>	<b>Number of applications under processing</b>
Applications for registering public courses	563	383	16	148	16
<b>Training grant applications</b> <sup>Note</sup>					
Training grant applications for public courses	886	865	16	5	10
Training grant applications for tailor-made courses	36	20	2	14	1

(including the application for the course and the training grant application for the relevant trainees)					
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Note: As an enterprise's training grant application may involve more than one staff of the local enterprise, the training grant applications already processed may be categorised under more than one type of application results (i.e. approved, withdrawn and rejected) at the same time, resulting in the sum of the 3 types of application results exceeding the number of applications already processed.

In respect of the applications for registering public courses submitted by training providers, the major reasons for rejection include: the course does not involve advanced technologies; the course duration is too short to cover the advanced technologies concerned in an in-depth manner and to provide effective training for the trainees; the course is a non-local course and is not justified to be organised outside Hong Kong as local trainers for the relevant course are already available; and the technologies concerned have already been widely adopted in Hong Kong, etc.

For the training grant applications for public courses submitted by enterprises, they are rejected for the same reason that the trainee concerned is not a Hong Kong permanent resident. As for the training grant applications for tailor-made courses submitted by enterprises, the major reasons for rejection include: the trainee nominated to attend the course by the applicant company is not a Hong Kong permanent resident; the course does not involve advanced technologies; the course is online-based with no mechanism to ensure that the trainees will successfully complete the course; and the course is a non-local course and is not justified to be organised outside Hong Kong as similar local training courses or local trainers for the relevant course are already available, etc.

(3) As at end January 2020, the training providers participating in the RTTP, as well as the information of the relevant courses they provided, including the course title, number of places, number of trainees funded under the RTTP are listed in the Annex. The number of public courses registered under the RTTP over the same period tabulated by their technology type is as follows:

	<b>Technology type</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of registered public courses</b>
1	Information Technology	136
2	Manufacturing	66
3	Automation Control	44
4	Textile & Clothing	32
5	Hospitality & Catering	24
6	Biomedical & Healthcare	24
7	Environmental	20
8	Digital Media	12
9	Logistics Industry Related	5

	<b>Technology type</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of registered public courses</b>
10	Sustainability	5
11	Wholesale/Retail & Import/Export Trades	4
12	Insurance Industry Related	4
13	Electronic Engineering	3
14	Data Communication	2
15	Quality Improvement	1
16	Printing & Publishing	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>

**Note:** A training course may involve more than one technology type. The training courses are categorised by their principal technology type in the above table.

(5) In 2019-20, the Vocational Training Council (VTC) attended 6 different meetings and events to introduce the details and application methods of the RTTP to industry organisations, trade associations, VTC's training boards, as well as small and medium enterprises and start-ups, etc., involving over 300 participants. VTC also visited training providers to discuss how to further promote the RTTP to local enterprises, so as to benefit more staff of local enterprises. In addition, VTC also conducted promotion through other means, such as sending mails, e-mails and promotional leaflets, to employer associations, employers and training providers, inviting them to assist in the promotional work or participate in the RTTP.

VTC will continue to maintain liaison with various stakeholders to enhance the promotion of the RTTP. As the related work has been subsumed into VTC's routine duties, a breakdown of expenditure is not available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB098**

**(Question Serial No. 0731)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is stated in the Budget Speech that from April 2020 onwards, the Government will enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions among local enterprises for increasing their productivity or upgrading and transforming business processes. The Government's funding ratio will increase from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The ceiling on the number of approved projects will also rise from 4 to 6. Page 441 of the Estimates mentions the promotion of the TVP via briefings and other channels. Will the Government advise on:

- (1) the respective numbers of applications received and approved so far, as well as the average and total amount of funding approved by the major types of business engaged in by the applicant enterprises and the technological services/solutions under application;
- (2) the number of applications yet to be approved by reasons (such as missing key documents, awaiting supplementary documents, or information being verified, etc.);
- (3) the average number of working days required for approval of applications upon submission; whether the Government has considered the possibility of shortening the overall average processing time;
- (4) the estimated number of organisations or enterprises to be benefitted from the increased funding ratio and number of approved projects under the TVP, the additional expenditure involved, as well as the estimated manpower and resources required for enhancing the TVP; and
- (5) the details of the promotion of the TVP via briefings and other channels last year, the numbers of briefings held and participants, as well as the estimated expenditure and manpower required for promoting the TVP in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

(1) and (2) Since the launch of the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) in November 2016 up to end February 2020, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) has received a total of 3 442 applications. Of the 2 318 applications assessed by the TVP Committee (the Committee), 2 117 have been approved, representing a success rate of about 91%, and involving a total funding of about \$320 million and an average funding of about \$150,000. For the 201 applications (9%) not supported by the Committee, they were mainly cases for merely purchasing off-the-shelf software and hardware (e.g. mobile phones, tablets, office suite software, etc.); or cases involving only little or no technological elements, or with unreasonable project budget/implementation details. Currently, 1 124 applications are either awaiting supplementary information from the applicants or under preliminary assessment by ITC.

The major types of business engaged in by the applicants and the number of applications already approved are tabulated as follows –

<b>Type of business</b>	<b>Number of applications</b> Note 1	<b>Number of applications assessed</b> Note 1	<b>Number of applications already approved</b> Note 1
Wholesale and retail	878	588	535
Import and export trade	381	323	309
Restaurants and hotels	233	119	102
Professional services	182	144	137
Education services	165	103	95
Engineering	159	98	87
Personal care services	146	74	66
Transportation and logistics	137	85	82
Medical services	130	96	77
Advertisement, sales and marketing	126	75	62
Information technology	125	91	79

Note 1 Applicants may engage in more than one type of business.

The major types of technological services or solutions involved in the proposed projects and the number of applications already approved are tabulated as follows –

<b>Technological service or solution</b>	<b>Number of applications</b> Note 2	<b>Number of applications assessed</b> Note 2	<b>Number of applications already approved</b> Note 2
Enterprise resource planning solution	1 894	1 338	1 248
Electronic inventory management system	759	501	472
Document management and mobile access system	672	431	400

Point-of-sales system	669	383	346
Appointment scheduling and queue management system	476	249	217

Note 2 Proposed projects may involve more than one technological service or solution.

- (3) From receipt of an application to completion of assessment by the Committee, the actual processing time depends on the completeness and clarity of the information in the application, as well as the time required by the applicant to respond to ITC's questions on the application raised at the preliminary assessment stage and submit supplementary information. The shortest processing time is 13 working days. 10% of the cases took less than 48 working days to process. The overall average processing time is about 90 working days, with most of the time spent on following up unclear aspects in the application and awaiting supplementary information from the enterprises.

Since the launch of the TVP in November 2016, ITC has implemented different measures to streamline the application procedures as far as practicable, such as optimising the online application system, reducing the number of documents required for submission, removing the requirements for certified true copies of the application documents, and providing samples of a completed application form and required documents for reference, etc. Furthermore, applications fulfilling the conditions will be submitted to the Committee for assessment by circulation as soon as possible, so as to shorten the overall average processing time.

- (4) From April 2020 onwards, we have enhanced the TVP by raising the Government's funding ratio from two-thirds to three-fourths and increasing the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and the maximum number of approved projects from 4 to 6 for each enterprise/organisation, so as to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions by local enterprises to improve their productivity or upgrade or transform their business processes. The estimated additional annual expenditure involved for the measures concerned is about \$20 million.

At present, 16 ITC staff are responsible for the implementation of the TVP. The estimated total salary costs for 2020-21 is about \$12.3 million. ITC will implement the enhancement measures with existing manpower and resources.

- (5) In 2019-20, ITC organised or participated in a total of 45 briefing sessions for promoting the TVP, involving 5 600 participants in total. ITC has earmarked \$200,000 for the expenditure on promoting the TVP in 2020-21, which will mainly be used on production of promotional leaflets and videos. ITC will also continue to carry out publicity and promotion work through channels like briefing sessions, etc., and to promote the TVP with existing manpower.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB099**

**(Question Serial No. 0733)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that \$2 billion will be injected into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to provide financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up smart production lines in Hong Kong. Please advise this Committee on:

(1) the eligibility of organisations to be subsidised, including the areas of real high-end production/business type; the estimated number of applicant manufacturers; the application procedures and time required; the details of maximum funding amount, duration of funding and matching basis; the estimated number of beneficiary organisations;

(2) the work plan, timetable, and manpower and resources required for the RFS in 2020-21; when the RFS is expected to be launched.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

To further promote “re-industrialisation”, the Government sees the need to strengthen its financial support. In this connection, the Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong.

The reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

(1) Under the RFS, the Government will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. In general, each approved project should be completed within 24 months.

All companies incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622), irrespective of industry, are eligible to apply for funding under the RFS. An applicant company shall state in its application the details and relevant budget of the smart production line to be set up. We will set up a Vetting Committee (VC) for the RFS comprising representatives from the trade, industry associations, innovation and technology sector, and relevant government departments. The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) will conduct initial vetting on each application and submit its recommendations to the VC for consideration. We estimate that the whole process from submission of all necessary application documents and information by an enterprise to initial vetting by the Secretariat and completion of vetting by the VC will take about 3 months. Currently, it is difficult to estimate the numbers of applications to be received and approved under the RFS. Given a maximum funding of \$15 million for each application, about 130 applications can be supported under the \$2 billion RFS.

- (2) The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the funding approval of the LegCo FC, we plan to launch the RFS in the second quarter of 2020. The ITC created 5 additional civil servant posts in 2019-20 to implement various ITF funding schemes, including the RFS. The 5 posts include 1 Principal Trade Officer, 1 Trade Officer, 2 Assistant Trade Officer Is, and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer. As the relevant staff are responsible for handling the RFS and other ITF funding schemes at the same time, we do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB100**

**(Question Serial No. 0735)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Research and Development (R&D) Cash Rebate Scheme (CRS) encourages private enterprises, small and medium enterprises in particular, to conduct R&D work. The Government has also extended the coverage of the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong to conduct trials of their R&D results in the public sector, with a view to facilitating the commercialisation of R&D results. The Innovation and Technology Commission will continue to administer the schemes. In this connection, would the Government please advise on:

- (1) the number of applications received, the number of applications approved and its percentage in the total number of applications, and the average amount of cash rebate under the CRS in the past 3 years;
- (2) the local public research institutions that conducted Innovation and Technology Fund projects and partnership projects respectively with cash rebate applications approved (please set out the numbers in tabular form), and the funding amount and number of projects in the past 3 years;
- (3) the increase in the number of applications and the number of applications approved after the extension of the CRS, as well as the manpower and resources involved in handling such duties;
- (4) the number of applications received, the number of applications approved and its percentage in the total number of applications under the PSTS, the number of incubatees conducting trial projects and the trial organisations in the past 3 years (please set out the numbers in tabular form);
- (5) the number of projects with their products successfully commercialised and introduced to the market upon completion of the PSTS, as well as its percentage in the total number of PSTS projects in the past 3 years; and

(6) the estimated number of organisations to be benefitted upon the extension of the coverage of the PSTS to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, as well as the manpower and resources involved in handling such duties.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) The Research and Development (R&D) Cash Rebate Scheme (CRS) provides cash rebate to enterprises on their expenditure on 2 types of applied R&D projects, namely R&D projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) with participation from the enterprises, and partnership R&D projects commissioned by the enterprises to designated local public research institutions. All eligible cash rebate applications have been approved. In the past 3 years (i.e. 2017, 2018 and 2019), the total number of the relevant projects was 251, 265 and 324 respectively. The average amount of cash rebate for each project was about \$380,000, \$440,000 and \$480,000 respectively.
- (2) For the cash rebate applications involving ITF projects and partnership projects approved in the past 3 years, a breakdown on the numbers of projects involving designated local public research institutions (i.e. excluding R&D projects conducted by companies under the Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme and the Enterprise Support Scheme) is tabulated as follows:

	<b>Number of ITF projects (cash rebate (\$ million))</b>			<b>Number of partnership projects (cash rebate (\$ million))</b>		
<b>Designated local public research institutions</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Local universities	44 (15.09)	43 (16.08)	70 (26.00)	27 (8.17)	21 (10.53)	28 (10.02)
Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre	8 (3.81)	5 (5.82)	9 (6.31)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre	12 (2.85)	13 (5.28)	11 (5.02)	0 (0)	1 (0.26)	4 (1.76)
Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel	15 (4.29)	11 (5.65)	20 (13.89)	1 (0.11)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Nano and Advanced Materials Institute	48 (11.91)	54 (14.05)	51 (17.53)	10 (4.55)	10 (3.46)	13 (2.60)
Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute	14 (9.06)	22 (16.05)	23 (18.01)	12 (4.78)	21 (8.69)	9 (4.60)
Others (including Hong Kong Productivity Council, Vocational Training Council and Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology)	5 (2.34)	8 (2.49)	14 (6.87)	36 (17.59)	40 (20.35)	48 (20.54)
<b>Total:</b>	<b>146 (49.35)</b>	<b>156 (65.42)</b>	<b>198 (93.63)</b>	<b>86 (35.20)</b>	<b>93 (43.29)</b>	<b>102 (39.52)</b>

- (3) Since the level of cash rebate under the CRS had been increased from 30% to 40% in February 2016, the number of projects with cash rebate applications approved

increased from 219 in 2015 to 324 in 2019, representing a rise of 48%. As for partnership projects, applicant companies are required to pre-register with the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) prior to commencement of the R&D projects to indicate their intention of application. The number of pre-registrations of new partnership projects in 2019 was 145, which was higher than 95 in 2015 by about 53%. We expect that the numbers of applications and pre-registrations will remain steady in 2020. The relevant work will be absorbed by ITC's existing manpower and resources.

- (4) The Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) funds R&D projects under the ITF as well as incubatees and graduate tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and the Cyberport for producing prototypes/samples of their R&D outcomes or products/services and conducting trials in the public sector. In the past 3 years, the numbers of applications, the numbers of approved projects and the trial organisations under the PSTS are detailed in the table below:

	<b>PSTS projects</b>		<b>Types of trial organisations</b>
	<b>Number of applications</b>	<b>Number of approved projects (percentage of total no. of applications)</b>	
2017	32	31 (97%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Government departments (e.g. Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Water Supplies Department, Drainage Services Department, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department)</li> <li>- Hospitals (e.g. Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong Eye Hospital)</li> <li>- Elderly centres (e.g. Helping Hand)</li> <li>- Non-governmental organisations and public bodies (e.g. Hong Kong Housing Society, St. James' Settlement, Hong Kong Sports Institute, Hong Chi Association)</li> <li>- Universities (e.g. The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</li> <li>- Industry organisations/chambers of commerce (e.g. Communications Association of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Mould and Product Technology Association)</li> </ul>
2018	43	40 (93%)	
2019	41	23 (56%)*	
Total	116	94 (81%)	

(\* number of projects approved as at end-January 2020)

- (5) Since the inception of the PSTS in 2011 up to end-January 2020, 238 projects have been supported with funding of around \$431 million, benefitting over 140 different organisations in the conduct of more than 320 trials. Around 170 of these projects

were completed. Among them, the R&D results of about 120 projects reached the stages of realisation and commercialisation, including continued application of the relevant technologies by the public sector organisations concerned or transferring them to the industry through licensing agreements or contract research.

- (6) We extended the funding scope of the PSTS at the end of March this year from R&D projects funded by the ITF as well as incubatees and graduate tenants of the HKSTPC and the Cyberport to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, with the funding ceiling for each project being \$1 million. Based on our preliminary estimation, after the extension of the funding scope of the PSTS, about 15 additional new applications may be received each year. The relevant work will be absorbed by ITC's existing manpower and resources.

Moreover, to tackle the coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) epidemic, we launched a special call for projects under the PSTS on 9 March 2020 to support product development and application of technologies for the prevention and control of the epidemic. The target funding recipients cover local R&D centres, universities and other designated public research institutes, as well as all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, so as to promote the realisation and commercialisation of local R&D outcomes related to combatting the epidemic and to encourage the public sector to use technologies for tackling the COVID-19 epidemic in Hong Kong.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB101**

**(Question Serial No. 0737)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS) provides funding support for research and development activities of private sector companies, irrespective of size. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee on:

- (1) the performance indicators for handling the applications under the ESS implemented by the Government in the past;
- (2) the number of applications received, the percentage of the number of applications approved in the number of applications received, the total amount of funding approved, the average amount of funding approved for each company in the past year;
- (3) the number of cases which required more than half year to process in the past 3 years; the measures for monitoring the implementation of the ESS; whether the Government has conducted any review and considered introducing enhancement measures for the ESS; if yes, the relevant details; if not, the timetable, manpower and resources involved for conducting review and study, given that some members of the industries have pointed out that the ESS application procedures, which take over a year, are complicated;
- (4) the specific work on monitoring the progress of funded projects under the ESS; and
- (5) the timetable, manpower and resources involved for promoting the ESS through talks and seminars in the past year, and the format, timetable, manpower and resources involved for promoting the ESS in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

A reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) Launched in April 2015, the Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS) aims to encourage enterprises to conduct research and development (R&D) locally through providing funding support for enterprises to conduct in-house R&D work. Funding of up to \$10 million will be provided on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis for each approved

project. As at end-January 2020, the ESS assessment panel vetted 443 applications, among which 132 were supported, involving 114 private enterprises and a total funding amount of about \$428 million.

- (2) In 2019-20 (as at end-January 2020), out of the 75 applications vetted by the assessment panel, 35 were supported (including 1 application being withdrawn by the applicant after the support had been given), representing a success rate of around 47%. It involved a total funding of about \$105 million with the average amount of funding for each approved application at about \$3 million.
- (3) An applicant enterprise could normally be notified of the vetting result in around 2 months upon submission of all the required information and documents. In the past 3 years (from April 2017 to end-January 2020), a total of 266 applications were vetted, among which about 70% of the cases were notified of the results in around 2 months and only 2 cases required more than half a year to process.

We have been monitoring the implementation of the ESS and conduct review from time to time for the introduction of enhancement measures as appropriate. Starting from 1 February 2020, we will disburse partial funding in advance for projects funded by the ESS, so as to ease the cash-flow requirements faced by the enterprises when they conduct the funded projects.

- (4) We will monitor the progress of the funded projects based on the milestones stated in the project proposals. The funded enterprises shall submit progress reports in accordance with the schedule stated in the agreements signed with the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) and allow ITC to carry out field inspections, normally once every 6 months, to examine the project progress until project completion.
- (5) In 2019-20, ITC took part in a total of 4 talks and meetings in April, May, July and August 2019 respectively to promote the ESS. We will make use of the existing manpower and resources to carry out the promotion activities without involving any additional manpower or resources. Besides, starting from 1 January 2020, we have been stepping up the promotion efforts to facilitate the understanding of the small and medium enterprises of the ESS via the “SME ReachOut” under the Hong Kong Productivity Council. We will continue strengthening the relevant promotion work in the coming year.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB102**

**(Question Serial No. 0740)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute authorised a mask manufacturer to use its patented nanofibre technology to produce a highly breathable mask that is capable of killing bacteria and the government is also exploring the technology solutions related to reusable masks. Please advise on the following:

- (1) What is the distribution of expenditure of the \$800 million earmarked for the research and development (R&D) on reusable masks, including the amounts to be spent on R&D, procurement of equipment, and recruitment of the manpower required?
- (2) What are the name and the number of staff of the authorised manufacturer? Can the technology concerned provide a barrier to the coronavirus disease 2019 virus? How is it compared to the existing masks in terms of the filtration rate and the specifications (such as the ASTM level or the EN14683:2014)? The Government indicates that a design proposal is already available and the procurement of raw materials from around the world is in progress. What are the progress of the procurement, the time and resources required for formulating new testing standards, as well as the estimated earliest time for commencement of production?
- (3) What are the available technology solutions related to reusable masks?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

The novel coronavirus 2019 is raging on a global scale. The demand on masks in Hong Kong has been increasing drastically, whilst the global supply for disposable masks continues to remain extremely short. In this connection, we have set aside \$800 million in the Anti-epidemic Fund to support technology solutions on reusable masks. In assessing the feasibility of the solutions, the important considerations include whether the reusable masks have passed the relevant testing, the supply of the raw materials, as well as whether

the masks can be mass produced in the short run, etc. The relevant details will be announced in due course.

The financial impact of the technology solutions related to reusable masks will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB103**

**(Question Serial No. 0753)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 95 of the Budget Speech that the Government will implement a pilot STEM Internship Scheme and set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Will the Government inform this Committee of the details, implementation timetable, expected number of beneficiaries, duration of internship and the list of public sector organisations and companies offering internships, etc. under the programme?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

In the 2020-21 Budget, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Through the STEM Internship Scheme, we hope to encourage STEM students to gain I&T-related work experience during their studies, and to develop an interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool. We are drawing up the details of the scheme and consulting relevant universities on operational matters. We will consult the Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry in due course, with a view to launching the scheme within 2020.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB104**

**(Question Serial No. 3593)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In 2018, \$10 billion was allocated to the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC). Of this, about \$7 billion was used for the HKSTPC to enhance support for its tenants and incubatees, and set up a Smart Campus in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park), etc. Will the Government advise on the following:

(1) What are the details of the proposed plan of the HKSTPC to enhance support for its tenants and incubatees, the financial arrangement and distribution of expenditure, the timetable, as well as the manpower and resources required? In addition to office space and cash subsidy, is there any additional support provided for their research and business development, such as marketing programmes?

(2) What are the planned financial arrangement and distribution of expenditure for setting up the Smart Campus in the Science Park, including the estimated consultation expenses, design and construction fees? What is the expected completion date? Are there any reference drawings available? What equipment and facilities will be included? How many companies can be accommodated to carry out research and development, design and production? Is there any new usable floor area? If yes, what is the area?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 110)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

(1) Since October 2018, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) has expanded its 3 Incubation Programmes, namely, Incu-App, Incu-Tech, and Incu-Bio, under which the funding ceilings for incubatees have been increased from \$60,000, \$180,000 and \$240,000 to \$860,000, \$1.29 million and \$4 million respectively. The scope of funding includes rental subsidy, grant and targeted funding for technology and business development. In addition, in view of the relatively complex regulatory procedures involved in biotechnology research, Incu-Bio

offers a specific grant of up to \$2 million for incubatees engaging in biotechnology for certification or investigational new drug application, etc. that are required under the relevant regulations. Besides, the HKSTPC launched the Science and Technology Entrepreneur Programme in January 2019 to provide pre-incubation for entrepreneurial technology talents, including \$100,000 seed funding to help them turn their innovative ideas into reality and start their own businesses. In addition to offering financial support, the HKSTPC will provide incubatees with assistance on marketing, business development, technologies and management, etc., as well as access to angel investors and venture capitalists through investment matching events.

Furthermore, in order to attract technology enterprises from different places with growth potential and proactive in research and development (R&D) investment in Hong Kong to set up their operation in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park), the HKSTPC launched the ELITE pilot programme in July 2019 to finance, on a matching basis, those innovation and technology (I&T) enterprises to establish their presence.

On the front of assisting tenants and incubatees in market promotions, the HKSTPC arranges for tenants and incubatees to participate in large-scale technological exhibitions and conferences in different parts of the world and organises business and investment matching activities during the events. The HKSTPC also facilitates technology companies in the Science Park to identify solutions on technological application for local enterprises/public organisations through the “Technologies from Science Park” programme, so as to assist I&T companies in the commercialisation of R&D outcomes.

- (2) By setting up the Smart Campus, the HKSTPC aims to create a living laboratory to allow trials of innovative and technological projects of the Science Park companies under the 4 themes of “Smart Mobility”, “Smart Environment”, “Smart Living” and “Smart People” in the Science Park. This can showcase local research technologies on one hand, and enable the public to understand and experience the results of smart solutions on the other. An advisory committee on the Smart Campus has been set up by the HKSTPC to give recommendations on its development. So far, technology adoption projects from 23 companies have been implemented. Examples include an unmanned store which adopts technology from multiple Science Park tenants and applies technologies such as radio-frequency identification and finger vein payment; a smart bus stop which provides information such as real-time queue status, number of vehicles and expected arrival time; and Hong Kong’s first ice-cream serving robot, etc. In addition, the HKSTPC provides venues for local telecommunications providers to test 5G communications application within the 26 gigahertz (GHz) and 28GHz frequency bands.

The HKSTPC has identified suitable sites in the Science Park for carrying out the said projects, with a total expenditure of about \$17 million, which is mainly for setting up related hardware (such as circuits, internet network, data platforms and data processing servers) and arranging for public displays and trials of the projects concerned, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB105**

**(Question Serial No. 3595)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In 2018, \$10 billion was allocated to the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC). Of this, about \$3 billion was used to construct research-related infrastructure and facilities. Will the Government advise on:

- (1) the research-related infrastructure and facilities to be constructed, including the details of those for testing and pilot production; the details of the expected economic benefits, including the expected number of job opportunities to be brought about;
- (2) the details of the work completed by the Government for the above project, whether any reference plans are available, the scientific research equipment and facilities to be included, the estimated number of companies that can be accommodated to carry out research and development, design and production, as well as the usable floor area to be added;
- (3) the work plans, schedules, and manpower and resources required for the project in 2019-20 and 2020-21; and
- (4) the financial arrangement and distribution of expenditure, such as the estimated consultation expenses, design and construction fees; and the expected completion time?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 112)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

To further reinforce and develop Hong Kong's capability in technological research and development (R&D), the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) will make use of the \$3 billion allocation to develop R&D-related infrastructure and facilities, including modification of one of the buildings in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park) to provide more laboratories, construction of pilot batch production facility,

biobank and medical informatics, drug testing and related animal research facilities, Good Manufacturing Practice production facilities, robo standard testing laboratory, and the Robotics Catalysing Centre (RCC).

After obtaining the funding approval of the Legislative Council Finance Committee in July 2018, HKSTPC has been pressing ahead with the development of relevant R&D facilities. For example, HKSTPC has expanded its RCC to provide spaces with high floor loading and headroom and electricity ancillary facilities. The RCC was officially launched in January 2020, with its area increased from about 4 000 square feet (sq. ft.) to over 20 000 sq. ft. The number of flexible laboratory units has increased from 5 to 21 for leasing to the Science Park companies and providing prototyping-related services. The newly established artificial intelligence (AI) laboratory, AI Plug, has also commenced operation in January this year to provide one-stop support for the Science Park companies, with a view to facilitating R&D of AI solutions, knowledge transfer, technology adoption and business matching. The Science Park companies may acquire cloud platform services based on their business needs and AI infrastructure will be made available by the service providers. HKSTPC estimates that the AI Plug can support 200 users to conduct R&D by using the cloud services from the service providers. The estimated expenditures on the expansion of the RCC and the establishment of the AI Plug are \$30 million and \$60 million respectively.

HKSTPC is also developing the biobank as well as the drug testing and related animal research facilities. The first-phase facility is expected to commence operation in the third quarter this year and in 2021 respectively. As for other facilities, HKSTPC is conducting relevant studies for planning the development in detail.

Based on the economic impact analysis conducted in 2018 by a consultancy engaged by HKSTPC, it is projected that the Government's funding of \$10 billion to HKSTPC will create about 4 600 job opportunities in the Science Park, i.e. from 17 200 (when Science Park Phases 1 to 3 and Science Park Expansion Stage 1 (SPX1) achieve full occupancy) to about 21 800. The total value added of the Science Park will be increased by \$5.3 billion from \$20 billion (when Science Park Phases 1 to 3 and SPX1 achieve full occupancy) to more than \$25.3 billion per year (in 2017 prices). Besides, based on the consultancy's rough estimation, the construction works of the various R&D facilities under the \$10 billion allocation would result in approximately \$1,000 million value added (in 2017 prices) and create 1 500 man-years of employment.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB106**

**(Question Serial No. 3597)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates of Expenditure that the Government will continue to support the activities of the research and development (R&D) Centres with emphasis on technology transfer of funded projects. Regarding the operation of the R&D Centres funded by the Government, will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (1) the annual operating expenditure, the number and total expenditure of R&D projects of the 5 R&D Centres respectively in the past 3 years;
- (2) the amount of industry sponsorship and contract service fees of the R&D Centres respectively in the past 3 years;
- (3) the number of projects commercialised and licences granted by the 5 R&D Centres respectively in the past 3 years; and
- (4) the specific work details and measures to enhance technology transfer of funded projects?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 114)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) Among the 5 Research and Development (R&D) Centres, the operating expenditures of the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute (NAMI), Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre (LSCM), Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA) and Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre (formerly known as Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems R&D Centre) (APAS) are met by the funding under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, while the operating expenditure of the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) is funded by the Government's annual recurrent subvention to ASTRI (which is set out under Programme (6) "Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited").



The operating expenditures of the 5 R&D Centres in the past 3 financial years (i.e. 2016-17 to 2018-19) are tabulated below:

<b>Operating expenditure (\$ million)</b>			
	2016-17 (Actual expenditure)	2017-18 (Actual expenditure)	2018-19 (Actual expenditure)
ASTRI	140.0	143.6	150.2
NAMI	55.3	66.0	74.4
LSCM	29.9	33.0	36.3
HKRITA	33.3	33.0	38.1
APAS	16.8	18.2	16.3
Total:	275.3	293.8	315.3

The numbers of new projects and on-going projects of the 5 R&D Centres in the past 3 financial years (i.e. 2016-17 to 2018-19) are tabulated below:

	<b>Number of R&amp;D projects</b>					
	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	New projects	On-going projects (as at end-March 2017)	New projects	On-going projects (as at end-March 2018)	New projects	On-going projects (as at end-March 2019)
ASTRI	38	62	45	63	39	71
NAMI	45	86	41	78	43	67
LSCM	18	37	21	38	25	45
HKRITA	18	59	21	52	23	54
APAS	16	44	13	47	16	51
Total:	135	288	141	278	146	288

The R&D expenditure of the 5 R&D Centres is supported by the ITF on an individual R&D project basis. The amounts of R&D expenditure of the 5 R&D Centres in the past 3 financial years (i.e. 2016-17 to 2018-19) are tabulated below:

	<b>Amount of R&amp;D expenditure (\$ million)</b>		
	2016-17 (Actual expenditure)	2017-18 (Actual expenditure)	2018-19 (Actual expenditure)
ASTRI	239.9	273.6	263.7
NAMI	70.7	108.5	96.1
LSCM	65.4	107.6	79.8
HKRITA	39.0	70.1	71.2
APAS	28.4	35.8	33.1
Total:	443.4	595.6	543.9

- (2) The amounts of industry sponsorship for new projects and the contract service incomes of the 5 R&D Centres in the past 3 financial years (i.e. 2016-17 to 2018-19) are tabulated below:

	<b>Amount of sponsorship and contract service income (\$ million)</b>					
	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount of sponsorship for new projects	Contract service income	Amount of sponsorship for new projects	Contract service income	Amount of sponsorship for new projects	Contract service income
ASTRI	61.1	24.7	89.7	20.6	75.5	20.4
NAMI	47.7	13.5	41.8	12.4	48.1	12.8
LSCM	13.8	0.6	10.6	4.0	20.0	9.6
HKRITA	18.1	0.3	26.5	0.1	17.6	6.3
APAS	8.2	1.5	25.5	0.7	12.1	0.8
Total:	148.9	40.6	194.1	37.8	173.3	49.9

- (3) The 5 R&D Centres signed 68, 64 and 72 licensing agreements in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. The R&D Centres will continue their efforts in commercialisation and technology transfer in a proactive manner.
- (4) ITF has been attaching importance to issues on technology transfer of funded projects. Each of the R&D Centres will undertake industry-driven and market relevant R&D, and subsequently transfer the technology to the industry through contract research or licensing arrangement, etc. We have adopted a new indicator “level of industry income” from 2017-18 onwards to assess the R&D Centres’ performance in soliciting the industry’s support, including their performance in transferring technologies to the industry. The indicator mainly covers sponsorship from the industry for new R&D projects, income arising from licensing/royalty and contract services, and other income, etc. The 5 R&D Centres reached the target level of industry income of 30% in both 2017-18 and 2018-19.

To encourage commercialisation of R&D results of ITF-funded projects by the R&D Centres and to promote technology transfer activities, from 2017-18 onwards, the R&D Centres can retain the income generated from those projects for use in strategic activities such as technology and market analyses, R&D infrastructure building, staff development or experimental projects, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB107**

**(Question Serial No. 3599)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Last year, the Government allocated \$800 million for Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of designated universities, State Key Laboratories (SKLs) and Hong Kong branches of the Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs) on applied research and development (R&D). Please advise on:

(1) the annual operating expenditure of the TTOs of designated universities, SKLs and Hong Kong branches of the CNERCs, the number of R&D projects undertaken by them and the related total expenditure incurred, as well as the amount of funding received by them in the past 3 years;

(2) the amounts of industry sponsorship and contract service fees received by the TTOs of designated universities, SKLs and Hong Kong branches of the CNERCs in the past 3 years; and

(3) the numbers of projects commercialised and licences granted by the TTOs of designated universities, SKLs and Hong Kong branches of the CNERCs in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 116)

Reply:

In the past 3 years (2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20), the funding provided to the State Key Laboratories (SKLs), the Hong Kong Branches of the Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs) and the Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of universities through the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) is as follows:

Funded institutions	Funding amount (\$ million)		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) <sup>(Note 1)</sup>
SKLs <sup>(Note 2)</sup>	80	80	160
Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs	29.93	29.65	60
TTOs <sup>(Note 3)</sup>	23.83	23.98	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>133.76</b>	<b>133.63</b>	<b>276</b>

Note 1: The estimated funding amounts in 2019-20 are the maximum funding for the relevant institutions. Since the above funding is provided on an annual reimbursement basis, the funded institutions will submit funding applications only after the end of each financial year. Therefore, the actual funding amounts are subject to confirmation upon approval of the applications concerned.

Note 2: The Partner State Key Laboratories were officially renamed as State Key Laboratories by the Ministry of Science and Technology in September 2018.

Note 3: The number of funded universities has been increased from 6 to 7 starting from 2019-20.

The funding provided by the ITF to the SKLs, the Hong Kong branches of the CNERCs and the TTOs of universities aims to provide an additional source of funding for these institutions, enabling them to carry out more R&D work and knowledge transfer. Since the ITF does not support all expenditures of these institutions, and the relevant funding is not provided on the basis of individual R&D projects, we do not have comprehensive information on these institutions' annual operating expenditure, number and total expenditure of R&D projects, amounts of industry sponsorship and contract service fees received, and numbers of projects commercialised and licences granted, etc.

For the number of patented licenses granted by the funded TTOs of universities, the relevant numbers for 2017-18 and 2018-19 were 523 and 550 respectively. Since the universities will provide the patent-related figures of a financial year to the Innovation and Technology Commission only after the end of the respective financial year, the relevant figures for 2019-20 is not available for the moment.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB108**

**(Question Serial No. 3601)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding continuing to administer the Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU), please advise on the following:

(1) Please list in tabular form the number of funded companies and the amount of funding approved in the past 3 years by year, university, technology area of the company and number of staff. Are these enterprises still in operation?

(2) How many funded enterprises are still in operation and how many have ceased operation in the past 3 years? Please provide information on the survival rate of the funded enterprises by year. For the enterprises which have ceased operation, please provide information such as the total amount of funding, the commencement and end dates of funding and the date of operation cessation of the enterprises.

(3) How many companies have had their results commercialised and launched in the market and what are the numbers of results commercialised and launched in the market each year in the past 3 years? What are the details of the follow-up investments and international awards received by the funded enterprises?

(4) After the close of each financial year, funded technology start-ups and their host universities have to provide annual reports to the Innovation and Technology Commission on the business performance of the technology start-ups and the progress of realisation of research and development results. What are the indicators adopted by the Government to assess the effectiveness of the TSSSU? Are there any review on the funding arrangement? How to enhance the TSSSU?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 118)

Reply:

The requested information is as follows:

- (1) & (2) The Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU) was launched in September 2014 to provide funding to the scientific research teams of 6 local universities in starting businesses. In the past 3 years (i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20), a total of 156 start-ups were funded under the TSSSU with a total amount of funding approved at \$96 million. The technology areas mainly cover information and communication technologies, biotechnology, electronics as well as nanotechnology and materials science, etc. As at end-2019, the abovementioned 156 start-ups are still in operation. The teams comprise over 800 professors/students/alumni of the associated universities. We do not have information on the number of employees in these enterprises. Details of the enterprises are set out in Annex A.
- (3) From 2016-17 to 2018-19, of the 134 funded start-ups, 89 commercialised their scientific research results and over 120 products or services were rolled out in the market; 95 received follow-up investments; and 36 were presented with international awards. Details are set out in Annex B. The information for 2019-20 will be collected and verified by the universities after the end of the financial year and subsequently submitted to the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC).
- (4) ITC's indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of the TSSSU include the number of start-ups that have generated intellectual property (IP) rights and the number of IP generated, the number of start-ups that have rolled out their products/services in the market, the number of start-ups that have raised capital and the amount of funding raised, the number of start-ups that have received revenue and the amount of revenue received, the number of jobs/training opportunities created, the number of start-ups admitted to incubation programmes, and the number of start-ups being presented with awards.

Starting from 2019-20, we have provided recurrent funding for the TSSSU as well as increased the maximum annual funding for each university from \$4 million to \$8 million and the maximum annual funding for each start-up from \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million. We will maintain close contact with the 6 local universities and conduct review of the funding arrangements regularly to ensure proper disbursement and utilisation of the funding.

- End -

**Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities**

[Note: N.A. denotes “Not Applicable”]

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
1	The University of Hong Kong	AICity Technology Holding Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	460	In operation
2	The University of Hong Kong	Brain Investing Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	150	3	252.5	In operation
3	The University of Hong Kong	CISC Limited	Information and communication technologies	5	400	5	260	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
4	The University of Hong Kong	Conzeb Limited	Biotechnology	3	500	3	100	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
5	The University of Hong Kong	Corvidae Technology Limited	Others (Robotics and Software Development)	N.A.	N.A.	4	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
6	The University of Hong Kong	CYC Motor Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	360	In operation
7	The University of Hong Kong	Datax Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	7	150	7	252.5	In operation
8	The University of Hong Kong	DigiDent AI Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	260	In operation
9	The University of Hong Kong	EchoX Technology Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	110	In operation
10	The University of Hong Kong	EN Technology Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	4	500	4	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
11	The University of Hong Kong	Enzyme Design Limited	Biotechnology	2	450	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
12	The University of Hong Kong	Eonzen Technology Company Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	6	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
13	The University of Hong Kong	Fano Labs Limited (formerly known as Accosys Limited)	Information and communication technologies	12	250	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
14	The University of Hong Kong	Farmacy HK Limited	Others (Agricultural Technology)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	252.5	In operation
15	The University of	Hactis Limited	Information and	3	350	3	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	Hong Kong		communication technologies							
16	The University of Hong Kong	High Performance Solution Limited	Energy	N.A.	N.A.	4	450	5	725	In operation
17	The University of Hong Kong	ImmunoDiagnostics Limited	Biotechnology	4	500	4	465	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
18	The University of Hong Kong	InterLitho Technology Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	725	In operation
19	The University of Hong Kong	Kin Technology Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	110	In operation
20	The University of Hong Kong	Lifespans Limited	Biotechnology	5	750	5	465	5	575	In operation
21	The University of Hong Kong	m-Chinese Solution Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
22	The University of Hong Kong	Mega Whiz Education Limited	Testing and certification	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	110	In operation
23	The University of Hong Kong	Next Insurtech Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	252.5	In operation
24	The University of Hong Kong	Novel Sonics Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	5	450	5	460	In operation
25	The University of Hong Kong	Ossfila Technology Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	110	In operation
26	The University of Hong Kong	PHRMASEC LIMITED	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	8	260	In operation
27	The University of Hong Kong	PhySight Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	460	In operation
28	The University of Hong Kong	QuantumFabless Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	3	250	3	725	In operation
29	The University of Hong Kong	Regtics Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	110	In operation
30	The University of Hong Kong	Serinno Holdings Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	490	In operation
31	The University of Hong Kong	SkinData Limited	Biotechnology	3	300	3	260	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
32	The University of Hong Kong	Spiral Capital Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	110	In operation
33	The University of Hong Kong	Swifthon Technology Consultancy Company Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	110	In operation
34	The University of	Tale Limited	Information and	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	360	In operation



Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	Hong Kong		communication technologies							
35	The University of Hong Kong	WEAVATOOLS LIMITED	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	7	250	8	360	In operation
36	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	A-Biotech (Hong Kong) Company Limited	Biotechnology	3	200	4	100	4	500	In operation
37	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Accukit Technology Limited	Electronics	5	200	5	200	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
38	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	ACE VR Limited	Others (Ophthalmic Care and Vision Protection)	3	300	3	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
39	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Advanced Plasmon Technologies Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	600	In operation
40	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Bay Jay Ray Technology Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	700	In operation
41	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	BINOVIZ Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	2	500	2	400	In operation
42	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	BrainNow Medical Technology Limited	Biotechnology	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
43	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	CocoRobo Limited	Information and communication technologies	7	500	6	300	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
44	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	DecaSense Technology Limited	Electronics	3	200	5	100	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
45	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Dragon Way Technology Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	500	3	400	In operation
46	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Foresight Language and Learning Solutions Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	2	400	2	400	In operation
47	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Gnetwork Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	200	3	400	In operation
48	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hawkeyes Solutions Limited	Logistics and supply chain management	3	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
49	The Chinese	Health View Bioanalytic Limited	Biotechnology	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	University of Hong Kong									
50	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Imsight Medical Technology Company Limited	Biotechnology	3	500	3	100	3	400	In operation
51	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Intelligent Sensing Limited	Electronics	6	500	6	200	7	300	In operation
52	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	LOOP Sports Technology Company Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	300	In operation
53	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Mechawaves Manufacturing Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	500	In operation
54	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	MTcure Biotech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	500	In operation
55	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Mushroom-X Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	9	400	In operation
56	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	n-hop technologies Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	700	In operation
57	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Pureform Technology Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	250	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
58	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	R-Guardian Limited	Others (Internet of Things)	4	200	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
59	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Shape Driven Tech Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	700	In operation
60	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	SmarteYE Tech Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	6	400	6	100	4	300	In operation
61	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Stapworks Stem Cell Limited	Biotechnology	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
62	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Titanology Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	4	500	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
63	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Unitinno Architectural Technology Development Company Limited	Others (Construction)	4	200	4	100	N.A.	N.A.	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
64	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	WIT Enterprises Limited	Information and communication technologies	7	400	6	300	5	500	In operation
65	City University of Hong Kong	6J Biotechnology (Hong Kong) Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	5	747	6	820	In operation
66	City University of Hong Kong	AI Motion Sports Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	400	In operation
67	City University of Hong Kong	Air Button Technology Limited	Electronics	2	233	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
68	City University of Hong Kong	AmaZinc Energy Limited	Energy	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	820	In operation
69	City University of Hong Kong	Baomatics Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	200	In operation
70	City University of Hong Kong	Beon Ad Limited	Others (Artificial Intelligence and Big Data)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	350	In operation
71	City University of Hong Kong	B-Route Limited	Others (FinTech)	4	233	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
72	City University of Hong Kong	Cellomics Holdings Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	820	In operation
73	City University of Hong Kong	Eafe Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	3	140	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
74	City University of Hong Kong	Freedrop Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	350	In operation
75	City University of Hong Kong	Genie6 Technology Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	500	In operation
76	City University of Hong Kong	Hands Life Science Limited	Biotechnology	5	850	7	746	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
77	City University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong ATIS Healthcare Technology Limited	Others (Artificial Intelligence Health Care)	N.A.	N.A.	15	400	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
78	City University of Hong Kong	HYDD Technology Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	200	In operation
79	City University of Hong Kong	Initial Innovation Limited	Information and communication technologies	2	234	2	140	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
80	City University of Hong Kong	J&K Brassiere Co., Limited	Others (Artificial Intelligence)	2	525	2	400	2	500	In operation
81	City University of Hong Kong	Jacky Instruments Limited	Electronics	5	700	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
82	City University of Hong Kong	Medi Biotech Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	720	In operation
83	City University of	MindAmp Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	450	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	Hong Kong									
84	City University of Hong Kong	MindLayer Limited	Information and communication technologies	2	525	3	400	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
85	City University of Hong Kong	Nautilus Software Technologies Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	747	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
86	City University of Hong Kong	PATECH LIMITED	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	450	In operation
87	City University of Hong Kong	Portalyze Point of Care Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	710	In operation
88	City University of Hong Kong	Scooter (Technology) Limited	Others (Electric Vehicle)	5	350	5	140	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
89	City University of Hong Kong	V&R Laboratory Limited	Information and communication technologies	3	350	2	140	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
90	City University of Hong Kong	Xiaomo Biotech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	710	In operation
91	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	3DK Tech Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	3	650	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
92	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	AUISET Biotechnology Company Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	600	In operation
93	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Bio-Trick Limited	Biotechnology	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
94	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Blue Innwater Company Limited	Environmental protection	3	650	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
95	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	CoilEasy Technologies Limited	Electronics	3	400	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
96	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Cytofluidics Biotechnology Limited	Biotechnology	5	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
97	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Dayta AI Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	400	In operation
98	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	D-Engraver Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	400	In operation
99	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	DIRECT DRIVE TECHNOLOGY LIMITED	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	600	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
100	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	DropX Biotech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	5	450	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
101	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	eFlexPV Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	800	In operation
102	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	ETH Smart Contract Tech Ecosystem Limited	Logistics and supply chain management	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	400	In operation
103	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Gense Technologies Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	6	350	5	300	In operation
104	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hongkong Oasis Future Technology Development Co., Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	400	In operation
105	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Horizon Biochip Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	800	In operation
106	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Incus Company Limited	Electronics	3	650	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
107	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Infitech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	3	400	3	200	In operation
108	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	INNOWAT Limited	Environmental protection	N.A.	N.A.	5	450	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
109	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	I-Square Technology (Hong Kong) Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	450	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
110	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	iSTEM Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	200	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
111	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Levolution Technology Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	8	800	In operation
112	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Light Innovation Technology Limited	Biotechnology	4	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
113	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Lisee Technology Corporation Company Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	300	In operation
114	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Ocean Science (Hong Kong) Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	200	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
115	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Oxpecker Labs Limited	Electronics	6	500	N.A.	N.A.	2	300	In operation
116	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	P-Sense Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	2	300	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
117	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Set Sail Venture Limited	Information and communication technologies	4	200	N.A.	N.A.	4	200	In operation
118	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Sinocore Biotechnology Limited	Environmental protection	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	500	In operation
119	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Sourcebrella Inc Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	250	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
120	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	SPES Tech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	800	In operation
121	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Sundial Technology Development Limited	Energy	4	300	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
122	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	WEXTech HK LIMITED	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	4	350	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
123	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Without Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	150	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
124	Hong Kong Baptist University	Booguu Company Limited	Biotechnology	3	1,030	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
125	Hong Kong Baptist University	BP InnoMed Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	1,060	In operation
126	Hong Kong Baptist University	CD133 Innovation Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	1,060	In operation
127	Hong Kong Baptist University	Crimson Vision Technology Limited	Others (Healthcare)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	1,060	In operation
128	Hong Kong Baptist University	Gihon Biotech Limited	Biotechnology	4	910	4	1,030	5	880	In operation
129	Hong Kong Baptist University	Hong Kong Authentication Centre of Dendrobii Officinalis Caulis Limited	Testing and certification	4	1,030	5	1,030	5	850	In operation
130	Hong Kong Baptist University	Mat-A-Cell Limited	Nanotechnology and materials science	N.A.	N.A.	3	910	2	900	In operation
131	Hong Kong Baptist University	MIND and Tech Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	1,060	In operation
132	Hong Kong Baptist	New Life Medicine Technology	Biotechnology	4	1,030	3	1,030	4	890	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	University	Company Limited								
133	Hong Kong Baptist University	Smilie Technology Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	240	In operation
134	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Acquaintance Enterprises Limited	Logistics and supply chain management	3	700	N.A.	N.A.	3	300	In operation
135	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Airwood Technology (Hong Kong) Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	1,000	In operation
136	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	AlikeAudience (Hong Kong) Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
137	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	ASA Innovation & Technology Limited	Environmental protection	2	100	2	500	2	500	In operation
138	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Asiabots Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	4	730	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
139	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	CoDeco Technology Limited (Formerly known as Hocfu Technology Limited)	Information and communication technologies	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
140	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Degree (Hong Kong) Education Consulting Limited	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	2	710	2	290	In operation
141	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Easiread Limited	Information and communication technologies	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
142	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	eSight Technology Company Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	3	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
143	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Eternal Billion (Hong Kong) Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	6	560	6	410	In operation
144	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hercz Rehabilitation Technology Limited	Biotechnology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	1,000	In operation
145	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Innoplay Limited	Electronics	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
146	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	JabJabX Limited	Others (Sports and Wearable Technologies)	3	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
147	The Hong Kong Polytechnic	Kubot Technology Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process	2	700	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation

Serial No.	Universities that submitted recommendations	Name of Technology Start-ups	Technology Areas	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		Operational Status of the Start-ups (as at 31 December 2019)
				Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	Number of Team Members	Amount of Funding Approved (\$'000)	
	University		development							
148	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Marketeer Limited	Information and communication technologies	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
149	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Next WiFi Technologies Ltd.	Information and communication technologies	N.A.	N.A.	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
150	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	NoMatterWhat Technologies Limited	Others (Computer Vision and Optical Engineering)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	1,000	In operation
151	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Okay Healthcare Limited	Others (Healthcare)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	7	1,000	In operation
152	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Pokeguide Limited	Information and communication technologies	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	3	500	In operation
153	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Qualife Hong Kong Limited	Electronics	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	4	1,000	In operation
154	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	TOZI Technology Company Limited	Advanced manufacturing/ Process development	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	1,000	In operation
155	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Vision Science and Technology Company Limited	Others (Visual Technology)	3	500	3	500	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
156	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Vox Technology Limited	Information and communication technologies	2	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	In operation
<b>Total</b>				<b>212</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>48,000</b>	
<b>Total Amount of Funding Approved in the 3 Financial Years (\$'000)</b>				<b>96,000</b>						

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**Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities**

<b>Achievements of Start-ups</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Details</b>
Number of start-ups that have commercialised the research and development results and rolled out their products or services in the market	36	33	45	89	From 2016-17 to 2018-19, over 120 products or services were rolled out in the market by 89 start-ups, 21 of which had their products or services rolled out in the market in more than 1 year.
Number of start-ups that have received follow-up investments	29	40	47	95	From 2016-17 to 2018-19, 95 start-ups received follow-up investments, 20 of which received follow-up investments in more than 1 year. Major sources of these capitals were funding provided by the Government and the public sector, private injection by team members and company shareholders as well as other private investments (such as private equity funds, venture capital funds, angel investors, private investments), etc.
<i>(Total amount of funding raised)</i>	<i>(46.89 million)</i>	<i>(116.2 million)</i>	<i>(114.14 million)</i>	<i>(277 million)</i>	
Number of start-ups presented with international awards	17	11	19	36	From 2016-17 to 2018-19, 36 start-ups were presented with international awards, 10 of which were presented with international awards in more than 1 year. The international awards received include a Gold Medal (Medicine Category) at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva in 2017, a Grand Prize at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva in 2018, and the champion at the regional chapter of the deep-tech competition, Hello Tomorrow Challenge, in 2018.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB109****(Question Serial No. 3603)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship, (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park)'s efforts in nurturing technology enterprises and promoting applied innovation and technology (I&T), please advise on the following:

**(1) The 3 incubation programmes of the Science Park (Incu-App, Incu-Tech and Incu-Bio)**

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Operating expenditure of the programmes (HK\$ million)			
Number of companies that applied for admission to the programmes			
Average time required for processing an application (working days)			
Percentage of successful applications			
Number of companies admitted to the programmes (incubatees)			
Cumulative total number of incubatees			
Average amount of financial assistance received by each incubatee (HK\$ million)			
Number of patents registered or patent applications filed by the incubatees			
Average number of full-time employees of each incubatee			
Average salary of a full-time employee of an incubatee			
Number of incubatees rated as "failing to meet the business targets" in the regular milestone assessment			

Number of incubatees that previously participated in the programmes but ceased operation			
Percentage of incubatees still in business in Hong Kong 3 years after graduation out of the total number of incubatees			
Number of the incubatees' projects that received follow-up fund injections			
Average amount of investment obtained by those projects receiving follow-up fund injections (HK\$ million)			
Percentage of incubatees receiving follow-up fund injections in the total number of incubatees			
Source of investment funds received by the projects of incubatees (e.g. angel, venture capital, I&T venture funds)			
Number of graduated incubatees which were listed or acquired, or entered into joint ventures, or had spin-off projects			

(2) Leading Enterprises Acceleration Programme

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Operating expenditure of this programme (HK\$ million)			
Number of companies that applied for admission to the programme			
Number of participating enterprises whose business nature was "web/mobile applications"			
Amount of financial assistance			
Number of participating enterprises which were "incubatees of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC)'s incubation programmes"			
Number of participating enterprises which were "graduates of the incubation programmes"			
Number of participating enterprises which were "current partner enterprises in the Science Park"			
Number of participating enterprises which were not accommodated in the HKSTPC			
Percentage of participating enterprises still in business in Hong Kong 3 years after graduation in the total number of companies			
Number of cases in which the participating enterprises' projects received follow-up fund injections			

Average amount of investment obtained by those projects receiving follow-up fund injections (HK\$ million)			
Percentage of participating enterprises receiving follow-up fund injections in the total number of companies			
Source of investment funds received by the participating enterprises (e.g. angel, venture capital, I&T venture funds)			
Number of initial public offerings launched by participating enterprises			

(3) What was the number of collaboration cases between technology enterprises and leading enterprises/blue-chip companies in Hong Kong fostered by the “Technologies from Science Park” programme last year? (Please set out by type of technological solution). Will additional resources be allocated to encourage more local enterprises to adopt technological solutions from local technology start-ups in 2020-21? What are the details, expenditure and targets?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 120)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

(1) The statistics of the 3 incubation programmes, namely Incu-App, Incu-Tech and Incu-Bio, provided by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) are tabulated as follows:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)
Operating expenditure of the programmes (HK\$ million) (Note 1)	9.75	15.99	21.92
Number of companies that applied for admission to the programmes	234	364	371
Average time required for processing an application (working days)	The HKSTPC undertakes to process an application within 52 working days, which has all along been achieved.		
Percentage of successful applications	41%	39%	39%
Number of companies admitted to the programmes (incubatees)	263	268	307
Cumulative total number of incubatees	1 026	1 118	1 246
Average amount of financial	21.75	29.15	53.63

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)
assistance received by each incubatee (HK\$ million) (Note 1)			
Number of patents registered or patent applications filed by the incubatees	84	93	50
Average number of full-time employees of each incubatee	3.9	3.6	3.85
Average salary of a full-time employee of incubatee (Note 2)	-	-	-
Number of incubatees rated as “failing to meet the business targets” in the regular milestone assessment	4	7	2
Number of incubatees that previously participated in the programmes but ceased operation (Note 3)	133	137	148
Percentage of incubatees still in business in Hong Kong 3 years after graduation in the total number of incubatees (Note 4)	75%	78%	78%
Number of incubatees’ projects that received follow-up fund injections (Note 1, 5)	23	33	29
Average amount of investment obtained by those projects receiving follow-up fund injections (HK\$ million) (Note 1, 5)	97.78	91.46	14.27
Percentage of incubatees receiving follow-up fund injections out of the total number of incubatees (Note 1, 5, 6)	22.3%	23.6%	23.5%
Source of investment funds received by the projects of incubatees (e.g. angel, venture capital, I&T venture funds) (Note 1)	12 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 11 from venture capital	10 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 23 from venture capital	9 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 20 from venture capital

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)
Number of graduated incubatees which were listed or acquired, or entered into joint ventures, or had spin-off projects (Note 1)	2 merger and acquisition projects	1 merger and acquisition project	1 merger and acquisition project

(2) The statistics of the Leading Enterprises Acceleration Programme (LEAP) are as follows:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)
Operating expenditure of this programme (HK\$ million) (Note 1)	9.75	15.99	21.92
Number of companies that applied for admission to the programme	44	19 (Note 7)	62
Number of participating enterprises whose business nature was “web/mobile applications”	7	4	15
Amount of financial assistance (Note 1)	21.75	29.15	53.63
Number of participating enterprises which were “incubatees of the HKSTPC’s incubation programmes”	11	9	5
Number of participating enterprises which were “graduates of the incubation programmes”	11	7	12
Number of participating enterprises which were “current partner enterprises in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park)” (Note 8)	6	2	11
Number of participating enterprises which were not accommodated in the HKSTPC	At present, only companies that previously participated in the incubation programmes or are current partner enterprises in the Science Park may participate in the LEAP.		
Percentage of participating enterprises still in business in Hong Kong 3 years after graduation in the	The first batch of companies graduated in	100%	100%

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)
total number of companies	2016, and thus relevant statistics are not available.		
Number of cases in which the participating enterprises' projects received follow-up fund injections (Note 1, 5)	23	33	29
Average amount of investment obtained by those projects receiving follow-up fund injections (HK\$ million) (Note 1, 5)	97.78	91.46	14.27
Percentage of participating enterprises receiving follow-up fund injections in the total number of companies (Note 1, 5, 6)	22.3%	23.6%	23.5%
Source of investment funds received by the participating enterprises (e.g. angel, venture capital, I&T venture funds) (Note 1)	12 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 11 from venture capital	10 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 23 from venture capital	9 from angel investors/ institutional investors; 20 from venture capital
Number of initial public offerings launched by participating enterprises (Note 1)	2 merger and acquisition projects	1 merger and acquisition project	1 merger and acquisition project

Note 1: The figure refers to the total under the incubation programmes and the LEAP. As both incubation programmes and the LEAP mainly target at incubatees, part of the services and resources are shared, and there is no breakdown of the 2 items.

Note 2: Relevant statistics are not available.

Note 3: The HKSTPC only tracks the operation situation of incubatees that have successfully graduated. Therefore, the figures only include the cumulative number of companies having successfully graduated from the programmes. Companies which have been merged/acquired are considered as having ceased operation.

Note 4: The figure represents the cumulative percentage based on all the graduates, irrespective of their duration of operation. Companies which have been merged/acquired are considered as having ceased operation.

Note 5: Based on investment cases involving more than HK\$400,000 recorded by the

HKSTPC, including graduated incubatees.

Note 6: The figure refers to the ratio of the cumulative number of investment cases to the cumulative total of incubatees at that time.

Note 7: In general, 2 rounds of application will be open under the LEAP annually. As the HKSTPC opened the second round of application for 2018-19 in March 2019, the number of applications received in that year was lower.

Note 8: Excluding participating enterprises which were “graduates of the incubation programmes”.

(3) The “Technologies from Science Park” programme was launched in March 2015. As at February 2020, the HKSTPC collaborated with over 76 leading local enterprises/public sector organisations, such as the Airport Authority Hong Kong, the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited, power companies and banks, etc., to help them identify technological applications which can enhance economic efficiency. Through the programme, the HKSTPC has arranged these enterprises/organisations to meet with more than 350 technology companies from the Science Park, fostering 76 collaborative projects for application in industries such as retail, public transport, energy and telecommunications network, etc.

Looking ahead in 2020-21, the HKSTPC will continue to build strategic partnerships with enterprises from various industries (such as education, finance and insurance, hotel and tourism, etc.) through different programmes to help them identify technological applications, and create more business matching opportunities for enterprises and start-ups by establishing various collaboration platforms, with a view to encouraging local enterprises to adopt technologies from I&T companies, thereby promoting entrepreneurial innovation. Meanwhile, the HKSTPC will actively recruit I&T companies in the Science Park to participate in the programmes. The expenditure involved will be absorbed by the HKSTPC.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB110****(Question Serial No. 3605)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

With regard to the operation and statistics of the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI), please advise this Committee on the following:

- (1) a list of the platform projects, industry collaborative projects (including the 2 categories of projects with industry sponsorship of over 30% and over 50%), contract research and development (R&D) projects and seed projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) in the past 3 years as well as the collaborating organisations;
- (2) the details of new projects:

	Total number of projects in 2017-18	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects in 2017-18	Total number of projects in 2018-19	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects in 2018-19	Total number of projects in 2019-20	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects in 2019-20
Platform project						
Seed project						
Industry collaborative project						

- (3) the details of the source of income from industry in the past 3 years, including the collaborating organisations and the amount of income;
- (4) as at 29 February 2020 in 2019-20:
  - (a) the amount of funding from the ITF and the Government;
  - (b) the number of ITF-funded platform projects, seed projects and industry collaborative projects;
  - (c) the amount of income from industry received and its percentage in the total project cost;
  - (d) the client distribution in percentage terms;
  - (e) the number of employees;
  - (f) the academic qualifications of the research personnel; and
- (5) the details of the average emoluments and annual increase of senior executives in the past 5 years and research personnel/non-research personnel in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 122)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) and (3) In the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at end February 2020)), the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) commenced a total of 118 research and development (R&D) projects with funding from the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF). Detailed information on the relevant projects is available on the ITF website: [http://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](http://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp).

ASTRI's major income from industry in the past 3 years is tabulated below (in \$ million):

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end February 2020)
Industry sponsorship	83.13	77.58	75.58
Licensing / royalty	7.41	0.58	2.11
Contract services	20.66	20.40	23.18
Others	0.16	0.18	0.04
<b>Total:</b>	<b>111.36</b>	<b>98.74</b>	<b>100.91</b>

Given the commercial considerations of individual organisations involved, we are unable to disclose the amounts of payment made by the collaborating organisations for individual projects.

(2) The details of ASTRI's new projects from 2017-18 to 2019-20 are as follows:

	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (projects approved as at end February 2020)	
	Total number of projects	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects	Total number of projects	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects	Total number of projects	Number of new projects and its percentage in the total number of projects
Platform project (Note 1)	37	23 (62.2%)	46	17 (37.0%)	45	19 (42.2%)
Seed project (Note 2)	20	20 (100%)	22	21 (95.5%)	18	17 (94.4%)
Industry collaborative project (Note 3)	5	1 (20%)	2	0 (0%)	1	0 (0%)

*Note 1: Platform projects – industry contribution of at least 10% of the total project cost is required*

*Note 2: Seed projects – R&D projects which are more forward-looking and exploratory in nature, with no industry contribution required.*

*Note 3: Collaborative projects – industry contribution of 30-50% of the total project cost is required*

(4) As at end February 2020 in 2019-20:

- (a) ASTRI received Government provision of some \$450 million to support its R&D projects and operational expenses.
- (b) The number of ITF-funded R&D projects of ASTRI is tabulated below:

	Number of projects
Platform project	45
Seed project	18
Industry collaborative project	1

- (c) The income from industry received by ASTRI was about \$100 million, accounting for about 31% of the total project expenditure.
- (d) The distribution of clients entered into a R&D/licensing/service contract with ASTRI is tabulated below:

	Percentage
Hong Kong	62%
Mainland	15%
Overseas	23%

- (e) ASTRI has a total of 628 employees.
- (f) The distribution of highest academic qualifications of ASTRI's research personnel is tabulated below:

	Percentage
PhD	22%
Master	56%
Bachelor	21%
Others	1%

- (5) The average monthly emolument and average increase of ASTRI's top three-tier executives in the past 5 years are tabulated below:

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Average emolument (Note 4)	\$111,252	\$121,452	\$127,021	\$125,311	\$148,052
Average increase	4.20%	4.45%	4.32%	4.28%	4.59%

The average monthly emolument and average increase of ASTRI's other employees (including research personnel and non-research personnel) in the past 3 years are tabulated below:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Average emolument (Note 4)	\$39,028	\$40,259	\$44,545
Average increase	4.94%	4.81%	4.91%

*Note 4: It refers to the average of the actual monthly emolument of staff members that were still employed by ASTRI on 1 July of that year.*

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB111**

**(Question Serial No. 3607)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Last year, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) hoped that 5 to 10 new datasets would be available at the Data Studio, which was fewer than before. Regarding the Data Studio set up by the HKSTPC, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What is the number of newly-added data providers each year since its launch? Please list in tabular form the estimated numbers of partnering data providers and datasets to be increased within this year.
- (2) What are the number of dataset suggestions received, the number and details of suggested datasets successfully published this year?
- (3) How many data publishers opened an account and what is the average number of datasets published this year?
- (4) Is there any assessment on the utilisation of the Data Studio and the website? What are the details?
- (5) What are the expenditure on promoting the Data Studio and the details of the publicity activities in 2019-20? Please list the activities and the number of participants. What are the estimated expenditure on promoting the Data Studio and the plan for publicity activities in the coming year?
- (6) What are the annual manpower required and expenditure since its launch? What is the distribution of expenditure? Has the HKSTPC assessed whether the performance of the Data Studio meets the targets and expectations set initially? Can the performance be improved?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 124)

Reply:

A reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

(1) to (3)

The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) officially opened the Data Studio in February 2017. As at end-February 2020, the Data Studio had a total of 62 data providers, which were mainly data providers from the industries, companies in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park), government departments and public sector organisations, offering a total of about 410 datasets. Excluding the Government and the public sector organisations, each data provider published an average of 1.5 datasets. The number of newly-added data providers of the Data Studio each year since its launch are as follows:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Number of newly-added data providers</b>
2016-17	20
2017-18	22
2018-19	15
2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)	5

In 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020), 70 suggested datasets were successfully added, including data related to monetary affairs, finance and banking, as well as pedestrian flow, environment and traffic flow data of the Science Park, etc. For details on the data providers and datasets, please refer to the portal of the Data Studio (<http://datastudio.hkstp.org/>). The HKSTPC hopes to attract more partnering data providers in 2020-21 with an additional publication of 5 to 10 new datasets.

(4) to (6)

The main purpose for the HKSTPC to establish the Data Studio is to promote the importance of data sharing and to offer a sharing and collaboration platform which facilitates data applications and trials of concept. The participation in the release of various datasets from government departments, public sector organisations and private enterprises has reflected the industry's support for opening and sharing of data, which is in line with the targets and expectations set for the Data Studio. As the market develops, the Data Studio has started to transform gradually since 2019 by promoting the trial of industry data application mainly through the online data platform. In 2019-20, the average monthly number of web page visits of the Data Studio was about 3 000 in terms of hit rate.

Regarding the promotion of the Data Studio, in addition to publicising the Data Studio to industry participants and technology companies, the HKSTPC also organised 2 "Hackathons" jointly with different commercial organisations in 2019. During the events, participants proposed innovative solutions using data from the Data Studio to facilitate the smart city development in Hong Kong on one hand and to promote the Data Studio on another. The manpower and expenditures involved in promoting and operating the Data Studio are absorbed by the HKSTPC.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB112****(Question Serial No. 3609)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the spending pattern of the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), will the Government advise on:

- (1) the cash flow of the ITF in the past 3 years and its cash flow projection for the coming 5 years;
- (2) the projected percentage increase in the funding provision for the coming 5 years, the major reasons for the anticipated continued increase in the demand for funding, and whether a new round of focused research and development themes has been drawn up for the injection this time; and
- (3) the investment returns of the past funding, and whether targets of estimated investment returns have been set for the injection this time?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 126)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

- (1) and (2) The cash flow of expenditure of the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) in the past 3 years and for the next 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Revised estimate	2020-21 Estimate	2021-22 Forecast	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast
\$ million	1,483	1,575 (+6%)	2,543 (+61%)	6,568 (+158%)	6,137 (-7%)	6,531 (+6%)	6,352 (-3%)	5,842 (-8%)

The overall expenditure of the ITF is expected to increase significantly in 2020-21, which is mainly due to the need for covering the capital, operating as well as research and development (R&D) expenditures of the two InnoHK

research clusters, the expenditure on the investment projects under the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF), and the expenditures for new initiatives including the enhancement of the Technology Voucher Programme, as well as the expansion of the coverage of the Researcher Programme, the Postdoctoral Hub and the Public Sector Trial Scheme to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, etc. The decrease in the overall expenditure of the ITF in 2021-22 is mainly due to the estimation that most of the one-off capital funding required for the establishment of the two InnoHK research clusters will have already been disbursed in 2020-21. The further decreases in 2023-24 and 2024-25 are mainly due to the estimation that most of the \$2 billion provision for the ITVF will have already been invested in various projects by that time.

Except for the Midstream Research Programme for Universities, no focused R&D theme has been drawn up for the funding programmes under the ITF.

- (3) ITF's investment income mainly comes from the investment income arising from the placement with the Exchange Fund. The annual investment return rates were 4.6%, 2.9% and 3.7% in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively, and are estimated to range between 4% and 5.3% from 2021 to 2024.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB113****(Question Serial No. 3611)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In respect of the public relations expenses of your department in the past year, please inform this Committee of:

(1) the expenses your department spent on advertisements on mainstream or online media as well as the relevant details in table form;

Published/ Broadcast Time (month/year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of advertisement	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/ car wrap advertising/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the advertisement (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank(s) and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenses and resources involved (as at 29 February 2020)
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...			

(2) the expenses your department spent on sponsoring media to provide programmes or materials as well as the relevant details;

Programme/ Materials published/ broadcast time (month/ year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Sponsoring government or public organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of programme/ materials	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the sponsorship (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank(s) and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenses (as at 29 February 2020)
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...			

(3) the expenses your department spent on advertorials as well as the relevant details.

Programme/ Materials published/ broadcast time (month/ year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of programme/ materials	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of publishing/ broadcasting the programme/ materials (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank(s) and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Non-government organisation/ personnel responsible for writing the advertisement script (if any)	Expenses (as at 29 February 2020)
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...				

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 128)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

(1) The expenses spent by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) on advertisements on mainstream or online media as well as the relevant details in the past year are as follows:

Published/ Broadcast Time (month/ year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of advertisement	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/radio station/TV station/ Advertising panel/ car wrap advertising/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of the Advertisement (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank(s) and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenses and resources involved (as at 29 February 2020)
March 2019 to May 2019	Done	Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC)	Comic series (in Chinese version only)	(1) AM730 (2) Sing Tao Daily (mobile application) (3) Headline Daily (mobile application)	Introducing testing and certification services in Hong Kong  26 times	1 Senior Executive Officer (SEO) (in addition to other duties)	\$140,000
April 2019 to May 2019 and October 2019 to November 2019	Done	HKCTC	The testing and certification industry in Hong Kong.	Light box advertisements in MTR stations	Promoting the testing and certification industry in Hong Kong  2 times	1 SEO (in addition to other duties)	\$474,920
January 2020	Done	ITC	Invitation of applications to become co-investment partners of the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF)	(1) Ming Pao (2) Hong Kong Economic Journal (3) Hong Kong Economic Times (4) South China Morning Post (5) Asian Venture Capital Journal (AVCJ)	Inviting applications from venture capital funds to become co-investment partners of the ITVF  (Published for 2 times in the AVCJ and once in the remaining publications)	1 SEO (in addition to other duties)	\$104,062

(2) ITC did not sponsor media to provide programmes or materials in the past year.

(3) The expenses spent by ITC on advertorials as well as the relevant details in the past year are as follows:

Programme/ Materials published/ broadcast time (month/ year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of programme/ materials	Name of publisher or broadcasting media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc.)	Purpose and frequency of publishing/ broadcasting the programme/ materials (as at 29 February 2020)	Rank(s) and no. of responsible person(s) (as at 29 February 2020)	Non-government organisation/ personnel responsible for writing the advertisement script (if any)	Expenses (as at 29 February 2020)
April 2019 to January 2020	Done	HKCTC	Advertorials on the testing and certification industry in Hong Kong.	(1) Ming Pao (2) Sing Tao Daily (3) South China Morning Post (4) Oriental Daily (5) Hong Kong Economic Times (6) Sky Post (7) AM730 (8) Headline Daily	Promoting the testing and certification industry in Hong Kong  12 times	1 SEO (in addition to other duties)	-	\$749,698.7
July 2019	Done	ITC	World Metrology Day (WMD), World Accreditation Day (WAD) and World Standards Day (WSD) Forum 2019	(1) Hong Kong Economic Times (2) The Standard	Promoting the WMD, WAD and WSD Forum 2019  2 times	1 Senior Scientific Officer (SSO) (in addition to other duties)	-	\$76,000
September 2019	One-off	ITC	Promotion of the research and development on Chinese medicine in Hong Kong	(1) Hong Kong Economic Times (2) Ming Pao (3) Oriental Daily (4) Sing Tao Daily	Published once only in each publication	1 SSO (in addition to other duties)	Written by journalists of the relevant publications with assistance provided by ITC	\$179,200

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB114****(Question Serial No. 3662)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list by technology area, the names, amount of investment received, number of employees and major business markets of the investee enterprises, and the co-investors under the Corporate Venture Fund of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 138)

Reply:

From 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at end February 2020), the Corporate Venture Fund (CVF) completed investment in 11 technology enterprises with a total investment of about \$62.61 million and attracted co-investors to invest about \$1,136.3 million.

The investee enterprises are tabulated by their technology areas as follows:

<b>Technology area of the investee enterprises</b>	<b>Number of enterprises</b>	<b>Total investment amount of the CVF (HK\$ million)</b>
Biotechnology	4	23.75
Robotics and Artificial Intelligence	3	17.50
Green Technology	2	12.50
Information and Communications Technology	1	7.85
Material and Precision Engineering	1	1.01
<b>Total:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>62.61</b>

In view of the confidentiality terms set out in the investment agreements and given that the relevant details involve sensitive commercial information, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation is unable to provide information on the names, amount of

investment received, number of employees, major business markets of the relevant enterprises, and their co-investors.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB115**

**(Question Serial No. 3707)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP), would the Government please advise on the following:

(1) What are the annual income or loss and the rate of investment return of the \$2 billion injected into the Innovation and Technology Fund in late June 2016, as well as the details of the MRP projects financed in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21?

(2) What is the annual operating expenditure of the MRP? What are the expenditure and manpower involved so far? What is the average number of working days needed from processing of an application to disbursement of funds?

(3) What is the average funding amount approved for each application since the launch of the MRP? Please list the numbers of applications received and approved by standalone project/collaboration project, university unit funded, and another local/non-local university or research institution. When are the injection and investment income expected to be exhausted?

(4) What are the themes of the research proposals invited by the MRP since its launch?

(5) Please list the titles and/or reference numbers, funding amounts, application areas involved, the collaborating research institutions of the approved projects with project agreements duly signed in the past 3 years by university, and state whether the projects have been commercialised with details.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 142)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

(1) In June 2016, the Legislative Council Finance Committee approved an injection of \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) as endowment capital to generate investment income to finance projects under the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP). The \$2 billion, after injection into the ITF in late June 2016, has been placed with the Exchange Fund for investment return. The cumulative total amount of investment return so far is about \$250 million and the yearly breakdown is as follows:

Year	Investment return (\$ million)
2016-17	34.5
2017-18	57
2018-19	95.8
2019-20	62.4
Total	249.7

- (2) About 5 staff of the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) are responsible for the implementation of the MRP, involving an annual expenditure of about \$4.2 million, while they are also responsible for duties of other programmes under the ITF. The vetting of the MRP will be carried out during the interval between 2 rounds of application. It generally takes around 6 months from project recommendation by the assessment panel to disbursement of funds.
- (3), (4) and (5) Since the launch of the MRP, 2 rounds of project solicitation exercise have been completed under the theme of “Elderly Health and Care”, with a total of 169 project proposals received from 7 universities (i.e. the University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the City University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Baptist University, the Lingnan University, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology). Of these, 99 were projects involving collaboration across multiple disciplines or research institutes. After assessment and recommendation by an assessment panel comprising personalities from the academia and the industry, a total of 25 projects have been approved, 17 of which were collaboration projects, with a total funding of about \$121 million and an average funding of \$4.8 million. Once the project agreement is duly signed by the applicant and ITC, the project summary (including the applicant organisation, project title, amount of funds approved and collaborating research institute(s) (if any), etc.) will be available on the ITF website ([https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp)). References of the 25 projects approved are set out in the Annex. As all projects are still underway, information on the commercialisation of the projects is not available at this stage.

The third round of the MRP is now open for applications. Project proposals under the theme “Health Technologies for Diagnosis” are being invited. The deadline for application is 20 April 2020.

Currently, ITF’s cumulative revenue from the investment return is sufficient to fully finance the approved projects, which is in line with the intent of the

MRP to preserve the capital as far as practicable and to operate in a sustainable manner.

- End –



**Approved projects under the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP)**

Number	Project Reference
1	MRP/011/17X @
2	MRP/020/17 *
3	MRP/037/17X #
4	MRP/056/17X @
5	MRP/066/17X @
6	MRP/072/17X @
7	MRP/092/17X @
8	MRP/101/17X #
9	MRP/001/18X @#
10	MRP/008/18X #
11	MRP/010/18 *
12	MRP/011/18 *
13	MRP/012/18X #
14	MRP/015/18 *
15	MRP/018/18X @
16	MRP/022/18X @
17	MRP/026/18 *
18	MRP/029/18 *
19	MRP/036/18X @
20	MRP/037/18 *
21	MRP/039/18X #
22	MRP/040/18X @
23	MRP/042/18X @#
24	MRP/053/18X @
25	MRP/055/18 *

@ Collaboration projects involving local institutes

# Collaboration projects involving non-local institutes

\* Standalone projects

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB116****(Question Serial No. 3710)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In respect of the public relations expenses of various government departments, please inform this Committee of:

The websites/network platforms on which your department published online advertisements/sponsored content in the past year, as well as the frequency, the duration (days) and the total expenditure involved (tabulated in descending order of amount spent):

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of exposure and number of audiences	Total expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 144)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of exposure and number of audiences	Total expenditure (\$)
Sing Tao Daily (mobile application) and Headline Daily (mobile application)	Introduction on testing and certification services in Hong Kong via a comic series (in Chinese version only)	2 times	6	Hit rate: 24 024 times  Frequency of exposure: 949 234 times  Number of audiences: the relevant figure is not available	32,000

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB117**

**(Question Serial No. 0287)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Hong Kong has been pursuing the commercialisation of research and development results and technology transfer to boost the development of industries and re-industrialisation. Areas such as advanced materials, nanotechnology and microelectronics offer immense potential. Will the Government inform this Committee of the specific targeted measures for promoting long-term development in such regard in the coming 3 years, and the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting re-industrialisation in recent years to develop advanced manufacturing industries that are based on new technologies and smart production, so as to identify new growth points for Hong Kong's economic development. We will continue to support the development of re-industrialisation in terms of infrastructure, technology, talent, funding and scientific research.

In terms of infrastructure, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) is developing the Data Technology Hub and Advanced Manufacturing Centre in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate (IE), which are expected to be completed in the first half of 2020 and 2022 respectively, so as to provide infrastructural facilities for advanced manufacturing industry. The HKSTPC will use part of the resources from the Government's \$10 billion funding to offer incentives for manufacturers of the advanced manufacturing industry to set up smart production lines in Hong Kong. Besides, we plan to allocate an additional \$2 billion for the HKSTPC to develop the Microelectronics Centre at the Yuen Long IE.

In terms of technology, the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) has been dedicating efforts to promote re-industrialisation to facilitate enterprises to move towards high value-added production and gradually upgrade towards Industry 4.0. The major efforts include co-operating with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology of Germany

to implement the Industry 4.0 Upgrade and Recognition Programme, as well as assisting the industry in accelerating the adoption of innovative industrial technologies and promoting the development of smart industry and digital manufacturing via the jointly established Invention Centre. The HKPC also set up the Digital@HKPC in May 2019 to demonstrate innovative smart products, materials, machinery and manufacturing processes, so as to accelerate the industry's adoption of innovative industrial technologies. Besides, the HKPC will continue to provide workspace and technical support to users and assist them in developing innovative ideas into industrial design, which may subsequently be translated into products through prototyping via the Inno Space.

In addition to the above work, the HKPC will also continue to implement the following initiatives in the coming 3 years:

- Setting up the HKPC 5G Demo Centre at the HKPC Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Centre to demonstrate application solutions of Industry 4.0 and Enterprise 4.0 via 5G technology;
- Assisting companies from different sectors in setting up smart production lines in Hong Kong, including establishing fully automatic and digital production systems, collecting real-time production data for analysis as well as setting up digital factories and production centres, so as to enhance productivity;
- Conducting R&D on advanced material manufacturing and processing technologies, such as additive manufacturing materials, degradable polymer, smart fabric and recyclable plastic, etc.;
- Organising Hong Kong Industry Network Clusters consultation sessions to conduct in-depth discussions with major chambers of commerce from different sectors, industry support organisations, government representatives and enterprises in Hong Kong on the challenges faced by and the needs of the industry in response to technological innovation, and to introduce the latest technological solutions, including the core technologies related to Industry 4.0, etc.; and
- Organising different types of training programmes, focused seminars and research results showcases to introduce new technologies and showcase the latest scientific research results, so as to encourage the industry to grasp the opportunities brought about by technological innovation.

In terms of nurturing talent, we will continue to implement the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme to subsidise local enterprises on a 2 (Government):1 (enterprise) matching basis for their staff to receive technology training, especially those related to "Industry 4.0".

In terms of funding, we plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (Government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. The funding will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production line, as well as

fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned. We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on this proposal, together with the above proposal on the Microelectronics Centre, in May 2019, and have submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020 and commencing the works concerned as soon as practicable.

In terms of scientific research, the 5 R&D Centres established by the Government (i.e. the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre, the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute, the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel, and the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre) will also continue to engage in R&D related to re-industrialisation and work closely with the industry to drive the commercialisation of R&D outcomes and assist the industry to capture and explore business opportunities. Besides, the Government will continue to, through the ITF, provide funding to support local R&D work and finance projects that can contribute to the technological upgrading of industries and promotion of innovation, so as to promote re-industrialisation. The relevant funding programmes include the Innovation and Technology Support Programme, the Partnership Research Programme and the Enterprise Support Scheme, etc.

Promoting re-industrialisation is a regular duty of the Innovation and Technology Bureau and the Innovation and Technology Commission. No breakdown of manpower and expenditure is available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB118**

**(Question Serial No. 0375)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Commission estimates that the numbers of applications to be received and processed under the Innovation and Technology Support Programme and the Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme in the coming year are 364 and 158 respectively, which are lower than the actual numbers of the previous year. This runs contrary to the vision of promoting the development of the innovation and technology industries as stated in the Policy Address and the Budget. What are the reasons? What measures will the Commission put in place in the coming year to encourage more applications? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 80)

Reply:

The numbers of applications received by the Innovation and Technology Commission under the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) and the Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (TCFS) vary from year to year as they are generally affected by factors such as the available resources, work plans and workload, etc. of the applicants. The estimated numbers of applications to be received in 2020 are projected based on the average actual numbers of applications received in the past 3 years.

We will continue our efforts in administering the ITSP and the TCFS to facilitate local universities and other local public research institutes in conducting more research and development projects, as well as to encourage further collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland in different areas of scientific research. We will keep monitoring the implementation of the programmes and conduct review from time to time to introduce enhancement measures as appropriate.

The ITSP and the TCFS are part of the work under Programme (1) Support for Research and Development. The establishment under Programme (1) involves 55 staff in 2020-21 and the estimated expenditure is \$85.8 million, which is mainly for salaries and departmental expenses. The relevant staff are responsible for handling duties of various

programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund. We do not have a breakdown of expenditure for individual work items.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB119**

**(Question Serial No. 0380)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21, the Government will work on the establishment of two *InnoHK* research clusters and examine the setting up of the third *InnoHK* research cluster to further promote global research collaboration in Hong Kong. Will the Government advise on the estimated expenditures for the development and initial operation of the research clusters? What is the estimated manpower establishment involved in the next 3 years? Has the Government determined the technology area on which the third *InnoHK* research cluster will focus? If yes, what are the relevant details and the estimated amount of funds to be allocated?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)

Reply:

We have allocated \$10 billion for the establishment of the first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, in the Hong Kong Science Park. The Innovation and Technology Fund will provide funding support for research projects undertaken by research and development (R&D) laboratories to be admitted to the two clusters.

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received enthusiastic response from world renowned universities and research institutes. A total of 65 proposals have been received. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.

We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster. There is no fixed timeline for now.



The Infrastructure Division under the Innovation and Technology Commission is responsible for the delivery of duties relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation. The Infrastructure Division is headed by an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2), and the work relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters is currently supported by 11 non-directorate staff.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB120**

**(Question Serial No. 0415)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 70 of the Budget Speech that the Government will enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions among local enterprises for increasing their productivity or upgrading and transforming business processes. What are the number of applications received under the TVP, the number of beneficiary enterprises, and the average amount of funding approved in the past 3 years? In addition, has the Government estimated the number of applications to be received in the next 3 years? What are the estimated publicity expenditure for promoting the TVP and its breakdown in the next 3 years?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 83)

Reply:

In the past 3 financial years (from April 2017 to end February 2020), the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) received a total of 3 333 applications under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). Of the 2 209 applications assessed by the TVP Committee, 2 015 were approved, involving 1 978 beneficiary enterprises/organisations and an average funding of about \$150,000 per application. The remaining 1 124 applications are still awaiting supplementary information from the applicants or are under preliminary assessment by ITC.

From April 2020 onwards, we have enhanced the TVP by raising the Government's funding ratio from two-thirds to three-fourths and increasing the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and the maximum number of approved projects from 4 to 6 for each enterprise/organisation, so as to promote the wider use of technological services and solutions by local enterprises to improve their productivity or upgrade or transform their business processes. We estimate that about 2 000 applications may be received in each of the next 3 years.

ITC has earmarked \$200,000 for the expenditure on promoting the TVP in 2020-21, which will mainly be used on production of promotional leaflets and videos. We will also carry out publicity and promotion work through channels like briefing sessions, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB121**

**(Question Serial No. 0475)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

With a view to fostering the commercialisation of research and development (R&D) results, the Government has announced earlier an extension of the coverage of the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) to all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. What is the total number of participating organisations and companies since the launch of the PSTS? How many projects have been funded? What are the funding amounts involved? How many start-ups and small and medium enterprise are expected to participate in the PSTS in the coming 5 years? What is the estimated average annual expenditure on promotion in the next 5 years?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

The Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) was launched in 2011 to provide funding to research and development (R&D) projects under the Innovation and Technology Fund for producing prototypes/samples of their R&D outcomes and conducting trials in the public sector (including government bureaux and departments). Since December 2016, the PSTS has been extended to cover incubatees and graduate tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Cyberport. As at end-January 2020, 238 projects have been supported by the PSTS with funding of around \$431 million, benefitting over 140 different organisations in the conduct of more than 320 trials.

We further extended the funding scope of the PSTS at the end of March this year to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong. Based on our preliminary estimation, about 15 additional new applications may be received each year.

The relevant work (including promotional work) will be absorbed by the existing manpower and resources of the Innovation and Technology Commission. We do not have a breakdown of expenditure for individual work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB122**

**(Question Serial No. 0547)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 69 of the Budget Speech that the Government will inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to provide financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up smart production lines in Hong Kong. Will the Government inform this Committee of the manpower establishment and estimated operational expenditure of the approving department involved for the RFS? Will the Government consider increasing the funding ratio to encourage more manufacturers to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong? In addition, will the Government explain why enterprises are not allowed to undertake more than 1 funded project concurrently?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

To further promote “re-industrialisation”, the Government sees the need to strengthen its financial support. In this connection, the Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong.

Under the RFS, the Government will subsidise eligible production lines on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. As the manufacturers are not required to pay back the subsidies, we consider it appropriate to provide funding support on a 1:2 matching basis.

Given that each funded project may be of a considerable scale, we are of the view that an enterprise should focus on completing the approved project to achieve the expected outcomes before applying for funding under the RFS for a new project.

The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020.

The Innovation and Technology Commission created 5 additional civil servant posts in 2019-20 to implement various ITF funding schemes, including the RFS. The 5 posts include 1 Principal Trade Officer, 1 Trade Officer, 2 Assistant Trade Officer Is, and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer. As the relevant staff are responsible for handling the RFS and other ITF funding schemes at the same time, we do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB123**

**(Question Serial No. 4032)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states in the Budget Speech that the Government is also exploring the technology solutions related to reusable masks. Meanwhile, the Government will allocate \$800 million from the \$30 billion Anti-epidemic Fund to support technology applications to enable reusability of masks. Will the Government advise on the specific allocation of the said funding? What are the details of the manpower and operational expenses involved? Has the Government invited views from the industries possessing the relevant technical skills? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The novel coronavirus 2019 is raging on a global scale. The demand on masks in Hong Kong has been increasing drastically, whilst the global supply for disposable masks continues to remain extremely short. In this connection, we have set aside \$800 million in the Anti-epidemic Fund to support technology solutions on reusable masks. In assessing the feasibility of the solutions, the important considerations include whether the reusable masks have passed the relevant testing, the supply of the raw materials, as well as whether the masks can be mass produced in the short run, etc. The relevant details will be announced in due course.

The financial impact of the technology solutions related to reusable masks will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account. The implementation of the relevant work above will be met by the existing manpower and resources. We do not have a breakdown for individual work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB124****(Question Serial No. 4033)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Commission's provision under Planning for Innovation and Technology Development for 2020-21 has substantially increased by 47.2% compared with the revised estimate for 2019-20. What are the respective amounts of provision for enhancing public awareness of innovation and technology, supporting technology co-operation with the Mainland and overseas economies, and organising local promotional events, as well as their percentages in the financial provision under the Programme?

In addition, what are the respective percentages of the provisions for administering the Internship Programme and promoting the development of Chinese medicines in the financial provision under the Programme? What are the Commission's estimated expenditures for promoting the development of 4 major areas with comparative advantages, namely biotechnology, artificial intelligence, smart city and financial technologies, in the coming year? Is there any increase in the expenditures compared with those in the past 5 years? If yes, what is the respective annual percentage increase?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 81)

Reply:

The aim of Programme (3) is to support the formulation and co-ordination of innovation and technology (I&T) policies and sustain public awareness of I&T. Major work for 2020-21 includes:

- (a) launching the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme;
- (b) continuing to administer the Researcher Programme, the Postdoctoral Hub, the Technology Talent Admission Scheme, General Support Programme, the Technology Voucher Programme, and the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme;
- (c) supporting technology co-operation with the Mainland and other overseas economies;
- (d) organising I&T promotional events, such as the City Innovation and Technology Grand Challenge (City I&T Grand Challenge); and



(e) co-ordinating the promotion of the research and development of Chinese medicines, etc.

The work involves projects and enterprises in various technology areas and application fields, including biotechnology, artificial intelligence, smart city, and financial technologies, etc.

The overall estimated provision under Programme (3) for 2020-21 is \$142 million, including \$86.6 million (61.2%) of recurrent expenditure on salary and departmental expenses, and \$55 million (38.8%) of non-recurrent expenditure for organising the City I&T Grand Challenge. The expenditures and percentage increases under this Programme in the past 5 years are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20 (Revised estimate)</b>	<b>2020-21 (Estimate)</b>
Expenditure (\$ million)	36.4	42.8	49.1	60.7	96.2	141.6
Percentage increase	-	17.6%	14.7%	23.6%	58.5%	47.2%

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB125**

**(Question Serial No. 2069)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget that the Government will subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of whether it will consider regularising the relevant allocation, the form of subsidy and target beneficiaries, as well as the estimated number of subsidised internships to be provided.

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

Reply:

In the 2020-21 Budget, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Through the STEM Internship Scheme, we hope to encourage STEM students to gain I&T-related work experience during their studies, and to develop an interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool. We are drawing up the details of the scheme and consulting relevant universities on operational matters. We will consult the Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry in due course, with a view to launching the scheme within 2020.

We will review the effectiveness of the scheme one year after its implementation, so as to decide whether or not to regularise or enhance the relevant measures.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB126****(Question Serial No. 2951)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 70 under “Diversified Economy” in the Financial Secretary’s Speech that from April 2020 onwards, the Government will enhance the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) by increasing the funding ratio from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths, and the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000. The ceiling on the number of approved projects will also rise from 4 to 6. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

Please list in tabular form i) the total number of applications received from local enterprises by the Government since the launch of the TVP in November 2016; ii) the total number of eligible applications approved and its percentage in the total number of applications; iii) the total amount of funding approved so far; iv) the types of business engaged in by the eligible applicants and their company size; and v) the major types of technological services or solutions involved in the proposed projects;

What are the application details of the unsuccessful applications and the reasons for the applications being rejected?

Has the Government estimated the number of enterprises to be benefitted from the increased funding amount? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Has the Government assessed the effectiveness of the TVP since its launch? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

The Government subsidises, through the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP), the use of technological services and solutions by local non-listed enterprises and organisations to improve their productivity or upgrade or transform their business processes. Since the launch of the TVP in November 2016 up to end February 2020, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) has received a total of 3 442 applications. Of the 2 318 applications assessed by the TVP Committee (the Committee) so far, 2 117 have been

approved, representing a success rate of about 91%, and involving a total funding of about \$320 million and an average funding of about \$150,000. For the 201 applications (9%) not supported by the Committee, they were mainly cases for merely purchasing off-the-shelf software and hardware (e.g. mobile phones, tablets, office suite software, etc.); or cases involving only little or no technological elements, or with unreasonable project budget/implementation details. Currently, 1 124 applications are still awaiting supplementary information from the applicants or are under preliminary assessment by ITC.

The types of business engaged in by the applicants are as follows–

<b>Type of business</b>	<b>Number of applications<sup>Note 1</sup></b>	<b>Number of applications assessed<sup>Note 1</sup></b>	<b>Number of applications approved<sup>Note 1</sup></b>
Wholesale and Retail	878	588	535
Import and Export Trade	381	323	309
Restaurants and Hotels	233	119	102
Professional Services	182	144	137
Education Services	165	103	95
Engineering	159	98	87
Personal Care Services	146	74	66
Transportation and Logistics	137	85	82
Medical Services	130	96	77
Advertisement, Sales and Marketing	126	75	62
Information Technology	125	91	79
Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Services	78	50	47
Electronics	69	52	46
Creative Industries	66	41	33
Textiles and Clothing	66	39	38
Real Estate	64	39	31
Food and Beverages	62	42	37
Construction	58	43	39
Tourism	57	39	34
Printing and Publishing	43	32	31
Chemical and Biotechnology	40	15	13
Jewellery Manufacturing	33	26	25
Metal Products	32	22	21
Plastics	27	22	21
Electrical Appliances Manufacturing	26	11	10
Testing and Certification Services	23	11	10
Toys	21	14	13
Film and Entertainment	20	13	12
Environmental Industries	20	9	7
Telecommunications	18	11	9

<b>Type of business</b>	<b>Number of applications</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Number of applications assessed</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Number of applications approved</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>
Watches and Clocks Manufacturing	18	13	11
Industrial Machinery	11	7	6
Medical and Optical Devices	9	7	6
Footwear Manufacturing	3	2	2
Others	531	340	322

<sup>Note 1</sup> Applicants may engage in more than one type of business.

The number of employees of the applicants is as follows–

<b>Number of employees</b>	<b>Number of applications</b>	<b>Number of applications assessed</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b>
1-9	2 098	1 341	1 197
10-19	702	512	477
20-29	251	176	165
30-39	124	94	92
40-49	91	71	66
50-99	101	78	74
100 or above	75	46	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 442</b>	<b>2 318</b>	<b>2 117</b>

The duration of operation of the applicants is as follows–

<b>Duration of operation</b>	<b>Number of applications</b>	<b>Number of applications assessed</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b>
2 years or below	643	371	312
More than 2 years to 5 years	755	487	450
More than 5 years to 10 years	716	478	444
More than 10 years	1 328	982	911
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 442</b>	<b>2 318</b>	<b>2 117</b>

The types of technological services or solutions involved in the proposed projects are as follows –

<b>Technological service or solution</b>	<b>Number of applications</b> <sup>Note 2</sup>	<b>Number of applications assessed</b> <sup>Note 2</sup>	<b>Number of applications already approved</b> <sup>Note 2</sup>
Enterprise Resource Planning Solution	1 894	1 338	1 248
Electronic Inventory Management	759	504	472

<b>Technological service or solution</b>	<b>Number of applications</b> Note 2	<b>Number of applications assessed</b> Note 2	<b>Number of applications already approved</b> Note 2
System			
Document Management and Mobile Access System	672	431	400
Point-of-sales System	669	383	346
Appointment Scheduling and Queue Management System	476	249	217
Big Data and Cloud-Based Analytics Solution	337	137	122
Electronic Procurement Management System	325	226	212
Logistics Management System	202	145	137
Quick Response Management (QR) System	198	127	110
Clinic Management System	74	52	41
Cyber Security Solution	72	52	49
Location Based Services (LBS)	60	38	34
Real-Time Manufacturing Tracking System	56	37	36
Fleet Management System	42	24	22
Augmented Reality (AR) Technologies System	31	16	11
Solution to Facilitate Compliance with Manufacturing Standards	29	19	15
Building Information Modeling (BIM) System	11	6	4
Testing and Certification Services in Compliance with Other International Standards	10	6	2
Obtaining Other ISO/IEC Qualifications	8	5	4
Energy Management System	7	2	2
Waste Management Technology	5	3	2
System in Compliance with Environmental Management System (ISO 14001)	3	1	0
System in Compliance with Energy Management System (ISO 50001)	2	1	1
System in Compliance with Information Security Management System (ISO/IEC 27001)	1	1	1
Others	820	412	350

Note 2 Proposed projects may involve more than one technological service or solution.

From 1 April 2020 onwards, the funding ratio of the TVP has been increased from two-thirds to three-fourths. The funding ceiling for each applicant has been increased from \$400,000 to \$600,000, and the maximum number of approved projects from 4 to 6. The Government considers that the said enhancement measures will enable applicants to conduct more projects or projects of larger scale. Those who have already used up all the subsidy under the previous funding ceiling may continue to obtain funding support from the TVP to further enhance productivity and efficiency or upgrade or transform their business processes through the use of technology. The estimated additional annual expenditure involved for the enhancement measures concerned is about \$20 million.

In addition, the applicant is required to submit an evaluation report to ITC 6 months after project completion on the extent of the project in enhancing its competitiveness through achieving the objectives to improve productivity or upgrade or transform its business processes. So far, 398 beneficiary enterprises/organisations have already completed their projects and submitted evaluation reports to ITC. 97% of them were of the view that the projects were conducive to enhancing their competitiveness while the remaining 3% expressed that they already enjoyed competitive edges in the mainstream or specific markets, or that they implemented the projects mainly to enhance efficiency or save cost rather than to make higher profits. Almost all of them indicated that ITC should continue to implement the TVP.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB127**

**(Question Serial No. 2952)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In the Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 95 under the section of “Diversified Economy” that \$40 million would be set aside to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

What are the details, the implementation timetable, the expenditure and manpower involved in the scheme?

What are the number of internships to be provided as well as the respective numbers of places for undergraduates and postgraduates under the scheme?

What are the details of the short-term internships to be subsidised as well as the companies and industrial sectors involved in the internships under the scheme?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

In the 2020-21 Budget, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Through the STEM Internship Scheme, we hope to encourage STEM students to gain I&T-related work experience during their studies, and to develop an interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool. We are drawing up the details of the scheme and consulting relevant universities on operational matters. We will consult the Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry in due course, with a view to launching the scheme within 2020. The relevant work will be absorbed by existing manpower of the Innovation and Technology Commission.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB128****(Question Serial No. 2982)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Chief Executive mentioned in the 2019 Policy Address that the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) would be extended to cover a total of 13 technology areas including 5G communications, Internet of Things, green technology and artificial intelligence, etc. In this connection, would the Government please advise this Committee of the total number of persons applied for TechTAS last year, the total number of quotas allotted by the Government, as well as the total number of employment visa applications received by the Immigration Department? Please list the relevant numbers by different technology areas.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

As at end-February 2020, the Innovation and Technology Commission received a total of 99 quota applications under the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) in 2019-20. All these applications were approved. The Immigration Department received 63 applications for visa/entry permit in accordance with the relevant quotas during the same period, of which 54 have been approved. The 54 non-local persons approved for entry under TechTAS in the above period are categorised as follows:

Technology area	Number of non-local persons approved for entry under TechTAS
Artificial intelligence	12
Biotechnology	6
Cybersecurity	5
Data analytics	7
Financial technologies	9
Material science	10
Robotics	5
Total	54

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB129****(Question Serial No. 2990)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme, will the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government advise on the following:

Please list in tabular form the relevant information of the trainees:

Industrial sector	Number of beneficiaries	Funding amount
Manufacturing		
Trading and Logistics		
Wholesale and Retail		
Accommodation and Food Services		
Information and Communication		
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services		
Others		

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) subsidises, on a 2 (government):1 (enterprise) matching basis, local enterprises for training their staff in high-end technologies. The RTTP was launched in August 2018. The number of trainees funded and the relevant funding amount under the RTTP as at end January 2020 are tabulated by industry of applicant enterprise as follows:

	<b>Industry</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of successful applicant trainees</b>	<b>Total amount of funding approved (rounded up to the nearest dollar)</b>
1.	Biomedical and Healthcare	501	\$1,625,666
2.	Manufacturing Industry	334	\$3,305,391
3.	Innovation and Technology	203	\$1,102,717
4.	Building and Civil Engineering	199	\$1,535,538
5.	Hotel, Catering and Tourism	158	\$874,151
6.	Fashion and Textile	142	\$1,294,997
7.	Electrical and Mechanical Services	87	\$355,291
8.	Import, Export and Wholesale Trades	83	\$425,147
9.	Automobile	69	\$622,377
10.	Electronics and Telecommunications	62	\$402,005
11.	Banking and Finance	59	\$353,691
12.	Retail Trade	35	\$277,552
13.	Management and Consultancy Services	32	\$161,310
14.	Print Media and Publishing	28	\$74,800
15.	Transport and Logistics	25	\$104,234
16.	Jewellery, Watch and Clock	17	\$181,054
17.	Testing and Certification	16	\$88,293
18.	Insurance	14	\$69,986
19.	Environmental Industry	14	\$69,264
20.	Beauty Care and Hairdressing	13	\$69,892
21.	Real Estate	11	\$87,429
22.	Media and Communications	11	\$81,606
23.	Security Services	2	\$4,932
24.	Accounting	1	\$3,200
	<b>Total</b>	2,116	\$13,170,523

**Note:** An enterprise may involve in more than one industry. The enterprises are categorised by their principal industry in the above table.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB130****(Question Serial No. 2991)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF), will the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government advise on the following:

Please list in tabular form the numbers of applications received and approved, as well as the longest, shortest and average processing time for applications under the ITVF in the past 2 years;

Please list in tabular form the titles, details of the proposed projects approved and amounts of funding approved in the past 2 years;

Please list in tabular form the numbers of investment proposals received from the investment partners, the numbers of proposals adopted, and the relevant percentages in the past 2 years.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

As at mid-March 2020, the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) has received 19 investment proposals, of which 16 have been vetted and the remaining 3 are still under vetting. Among the investment proposals already vetted, we have completed capital injection into 11 investment projects and invested in 10 local innovation and technology start-ups with a total investment of about \$66 million, attracting private investment of over \$200 million in the companies concerned during the same round of financing. Those start-ups are engaged in a wide variety of businesses, including financial technology, e-commerce, supply chain management, biotechnology and artificial intelligence (AI). Details of the investment projects concerned are listed in Annex. For the other 2 investment proposals, we are now compiling the related legal documents in preparation for completing the capital injection into the investment projects. For the remaining 3 investment proposals, we have decided not to co-invest.

ITC has been maintaining communication with the co-investment partners (CPs) under the ITVF to understand and actively facilitate their investment proposals. With timely submission of all necessary documents for the investment proposals by the CPs, we could complete the vetting process within one month at the earliest.

Investee Company	Investment Amount (Note)	Investment Date	Business Nature
CYC Motor Holding Limited	HK\$3.6M	March 2020	Design and manufacturing of components of electric mountain bike, such as motor system, drivetrains, smart controller system, peripherals and batteries, and bike frame
WBD101 Holdings (BVI) Limited	US\$0.75M	February 2020	Provision of sensing semiconductor solution to wearables brands in the sport, fitness and healthcare markets
enabot	US\$0.5M	January 2020	Research and development of smart robots for home using robotics and AI technologies
CW Capital Holdings	US\$333.3K*	January 2020	Provision of an integrated supply chain and receivables financing platform that helps small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and e-commerce businesses across the Greater China Region to meet cash flow and scaling needs
Maphive Technology Investment Limited	US\$1.0M	November 2019	Provision of indoor mapping and positioning technology platform that supports city-wide location-based applications
Yoho Group Holding Limited	HK\$6.5M	November 2019	Provision of online-to-offline (O2O) e-commerce services through online shopping platform
Genvida Technology Company Limited	US\$166.7K*	October 2019	Research and development of fourth-generation solid-state nanopore based DNA sequencing technologies and production of the associated portable sequencer
FP International Limited	US\$0.5M	September 2019	Provision of financial services platform focusing on trade and supply chain financial liquidity of SMEs
Salvio Holdings Limited	HK\$18.0M	August 2019	Provision of omni sales channels and order management “Software-as-a-Service” platform for “food and beverage” and new retail industry
Yoho Group Holding Limited	HK\$6.5M	April 2019	Provision of O2O e-commerce services through online shopping platform

International Compliance Workshop (BVI) Limited	US\$0.7M	April 2019	Provision of a platform on Testing, Inspection and Certification resources to facilitate product compliance assessment in the supply chain
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Note: \*The investment amount(s) is rounded to one decimal place.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB131**

**(Question Serial No. 2992)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP), would the Special Administrative Region Government please advise on:

the numbers of applications received and approved by year in the past 3 years;

the numbers of standalone projects and collaboration projects among the applications approved in the past 3 years;

the percentage of approved application projects involving research proposals from 3 parties, i.e. universities, research institutions and the industry, in the total number of approved projects in the past 3 years; and

the estimated investment amount of the MRP in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

Launched in 2016, the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP) encourages universities funded by the University Grants Committee to conduct more theme-based midstream research and development projects, and promotes collaboration between these universities and other research institutes in Hong Kong and around the world. Industry sponsorship is not mandatory under the MRP. The industry can however take part in MRP projects via providing contribution in cash or in-kind.

In the past 3 years, 2 rounds of project solicitation exercise were completed under the MRP. Applications for the first 2 rounds were closed in 2017 and 2018 respectively, with a total of 169 project applications received. 25 of them were approved, including 8 standalone projects and 17 projects involving collaboration across multiple disciplines or research



institutes. 4 projects secured industry contribution, accounting for 16% of the approved projects. The relevant information is tabulated as follows:

Project solicitation	Number of applications	Number of applications approved [standalone/collaboration projects]
First round	111	8 [1/7]
Second round	58	17 [7/10]
Total	169	25 [8/17]

The third round of the MRP is now open for applications until 20 April 2020.

In June 2016, the Legislative Council Finance Committee approved an injection of \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) as endowment capital to generate investment income to finance projects under the MRP. The \$2 billion, after injection into the ITF in late June 2016, has been placed with the Exchange Fund for investment return. The estimated funding amount of the MRP in 2020-21 is about \$125 million.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 2993)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the enhanced tax deduction for expenditures incurred on “qualifying research and development (R&D) activities” by enterprises, would the Special Administrative Region Government please advise on the following:

What are the numbers of applications received and approved by the Government, as well as the approval rate in the past 3 years?

What are the major types of “qualifying R&D activities” involved for the approved applications in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

To encourage more enterprises to conduct research and development (R&D) locally and promote technological innovation and economic development in Hong Kong, the Government implemented in 2018 the enhanced tax deduction for expenditures incurred on “qualifying R&D activities” by enterprises. R&D expenditures eligible for deduction are classified into “Type A expenditures” which are qualified for 100% deduction, and “Type B expenditures” which are qualified for the enhanced tax deduction. Type B expenditures have a two-tiered deduction regime. The deduction is 300% for the first \$2 million of the aggregate amount of payments made to “designated local research institutions” for “qualifying R&D activities” and expenditures incurred by enterprises from carrying out in-house qualifying R&D activities. The remaining amount is qualified for 200% tax deduction. There is no cap on the amount of enhanced tax deduction and the deduction is applicable to all enterprises. Enterprises can claim the enhanced tax deduction in relation to the “qualifying R&D expenditures” incurred on or after 1 April 2018.

According to the information provided by the Inland Revenue Department, as at end-February 2020, among the profits tax returns received, there were 103 claims for tax deduction relating to R&D expenditures for 2018-19 assessment year pursuant to the amended Inland Revenue Ordinance. The relevant expenditures for claiming tax deduction are as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>In-house R&amp;D of enterprises (\$ million)</b>	<b>R&amp;D commissioned to local research institutions (\$ million)</b>	<b>Total (\$ million)</b>
Type A Expenditures	763.9	46.4	810.3
Type B Expenditures	889.2	48.0	937.2
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,653.1</b>	<b>94.4</b>	<b>1,747.5</b>

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB133**

**(Question Serial No. 2994)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the two *InnoHK* research clusters, will the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government advise on the following:

What are the respective numbers of applications under the clusters on “healthcare technologies” and “artificial intelligence/robotics technologies”, as well as the breakdown of expenditure involved since the establishment of the two clusters?

Among the applications received since the establishment of the two clusters, what are the respective numbers of applications that focus on fundamental research and applied research?

As the Government is considering the establishment of the third research cluster, what are the planned focus area, manpower and estimated expenditure involved for the third research cluster?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

We have allocated \$10 billion for the establishment of the first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, in the Hong Kong Science Park.

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received enthusiastic response, with a total of 65 proposals from world renowned universities and research institutes. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.

We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster. There is no fixed timeline and estimated expenditure for now.

The Infrastructure Division under the Innovation and Technology Commission is responsible for the delivery of duties relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation. The Infrastructure Division is headed by an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2), and the work relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters is supported by 11 non-directorate staff.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB134**

**(Question Serial No. 2996)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the “*InnoHK* research clusters”, will the Government inform this Committee of the numbers of admission applications received, approved and to be vetted so far, the average vetting time for each application, as well as the average funding amount for the applications approved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, have received enthusiastic response, with a total of 65 proposals from world renowned universities and research institutes. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB135**

**(Question Serial No. 2997)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Government will monitor the implementation of the “Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme” (RFS) to expedite “re-industrialisation”. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

What are the work progress and effectiveness of the implementation of the RFS in the past year?

What are the details of the proposed injection of \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching the RFS in the coming year, as well as the expected effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

To further promote “re-industrialisation”, the Government sees the need to strengthen its financial support. In this connection, the Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong.

Under the RFS, the Government will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. The funding under the RFS will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production line, including the costs of procurement, installation and commissioning of the machinery/equipment/apparatus, as well as fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned, including testing and staff training. General business operating expenses of the applicant enterprise will not be funded.

The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020.

Regarding the expected benefits, developing high-end production in Hong Kong will help diversify Hong Kong's economy, provide new impetus to economic growth, and rejuvenate the "Made in Hong Kong" brand. The RFS will assist local manufacturers in moving towards high value-added production and upgrading to "Industry 4.0".

The setting up of smart production lines in Hong Kong can provide direct job opportunities, especially quality innovation and technology (I&T) jobs for young people. It can also encourage relevant enterprises to set up supporting business operations in Hong Kong (such as marketing and promotion, sales and accounting, supply chain management, wholesale and distribution), and create demand for services from other sectors (such as advertising, testing and certification), thereby creating further job opportunities and bringing wider benefits to different sectors in Hong Kong.

In addition, high-end manufacturing will generate research and development (R&D) needs and encourage private enterprises to invest more resources in R&D, thus contributing to the robust and sustainable development of local R&D work. This would help Hong Kong develop into an international I&T hub. The RFS can also help retain in Hong Kong the value chain from R&D to finished goods, with a view to creating a clustering effect to attract start-ups as well as local, the Mainland and overseas enterprises, universities, and R&D institutions to conduct R&D work and production in Hong Kong, and add new impetus to the development of advanced manufacturing industries in Hong Kong.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB136**

**(Question Serial No. 3252)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Would the Government please set out the respective amounts of funding provided to the State Key Laboratories (SKLs) in Hong Kong and Hong Kong branches of the Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs) in the past 5 years by name of the SKL and Hong Kong branch of CNERC? Besides, the Government also mentions the provision of financial support to designated universities to enhance their technology transfer capabilities. What are the details? What is the total number of funded universities in each of the past 5 years? Please set out in detail (i) names of the funded universities; (ii) project titles; (iii) principal persons-in-charge of projects; (iv) project categories; (v) amounts of funding approved for the projects; (vi) project progresses; and (vii) whether the projects are under monitoring.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

The requested information is provided below:

The amounts of funding provided to 16 State Key Laboratories and 6 Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres through the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) in the past 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20) are listed in Annex A.

We provide, through the ITF, extra funding to Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of the designated universities to enhance these institutions' efforts in transferring technology and realising research and development (R&D) results, building up the necessary professional support services (e.g. contract negotiation, protection of intellectual property rights, promotion and publicity, etc.), and facilitating liaison with the research community and industry. Starting from 2019-20, the number of funded designated universities has been increased from 6 to 7 and the maximum annual funding for the TTO of each designated university has also been increased from \$4 million to \$8 million. Since the ITF does not support all expenditures of the TTOs of the universities, and the relevant funding is not provided on the basis of individual R&D projects, we do not have information such as the

persons-in-charge or the progresses, etc. of individual projects. However, the TTOs of the universities are required to submit annual reports on their funded technology transfer activities and results thereof to the Innovation and Technology Commission after the end of each financial year. The amounts of funding provided to the TTOs of the universities in the past 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20) are listed in Annex B.

- End -

**State Key Laboratories (SKLs) and  
Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs)**

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
<b>SKLs</b>					
1. SKL of Emerging Infectious Diseases (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
2. SKL of Brain and Cognitive Sciences (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
3. SKL of Translational Oncology (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
4. SKL of Terahertz and Millimeter Waves (City University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
5. SKL of Agrobiotechnology (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
6. SKL of Ultra-precision Machining Technology (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)	5	5	5	5	10
7. SKL of Molecular Neuroscience (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)	5	5	5	5	10
8. SKL of Marine Pollution (City University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
9. SKL of Research on Bioactivities and Clinical Applications of Medicinal Plants (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
10. SKL of Liver Research (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
11. SKL of Synthetic Chemistry (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
12. SKL of Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)	5	5	5	5	10
13. SKL of Environmental and Biological Analysis (Hong Kong Baptist University)	5	5	5	5	10
14. SKL of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology (The University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
15. SKL of Digestive Disease (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)	5	5	5	5	10
16. SKL of Advanced Displays and Optoelectronic Technologies (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)	5	5	5	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs</b>					
1. Hong Kong Branch of the National ASIC System Engineering Research Center (Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute)	4.56	4.82	4.93	4.86	10
2. Hong Kong Branch of National Engineering Research Center for Steel Construction (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	5	10
3. Hong Kong Branch of National Rail Transit Electrification and Automation Engineering Technology Research Center (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	4.79	10
4. Hong Kong Branch of National Precious Metals Material Engineering Research Center (City University of Hong Kong) (Note 2)	2.5	5	5	5	10

SKLs/Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs (Hosting Organisations)	Funding Amount (\$ million)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)
5. Hong Kong Branch of National Engineering Research Center for Tissue Restoration & Reconstruction (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) (Note 2)	2.49	5	5	5	10
6. Hong Kong Branch of Chinese National Engineering Research Center for Control & Treatment of Heavy Metal Pollution (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) (Note 2)	2.5	4.98	5	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.05</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>29.93</b>	<b>29.65</b>	<b>60</b>

Note 1: The estimated funding amounts in 2019-20 are the maximum funding for the relevant institutions. Since the funding is provided on an annual reimbursement basis, the funded institutions will submit funding applications only after the end of each financial year. Therefore, the actual funding amounts are subject to confirmation upon approval of the applications concerned.

Note 2: As 5 of the Hong Kong Branches of CNERCs were established in October 2015, the maximum annual funding for each of them in 2015-16 was adjusted from the original \$5 million to \$2.5 million.

- End -

**Technology Transfer Offices of the Designated Universities**

<b>Universities</b>	<b>Funding Amount (\$ million)</b>				
	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20 (Estimate) (Note 1)</b>
1. The University of Hong Kong	4	4	4	4	8
2. The Chinese University of Hong Kong	3.99	4	3.83	3.99	8
3. City University of Hong Kong	4	4	4	4	8
4. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	4	4	4	4	8
5. Hong Kong Baptist University	4	4	4	4	8
6. The Education University of Hong Kong <sup>(Note 2)</sup>	-	-	-	-	8
7. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	3.86	3.99	4	3.99	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.85</b>	<b>23.99</b>	<b>23.83</b>	<b>23.98</b>	<b>56</b>

Note 1: The estimated funding amounts in 2019-20 are the maximum funding. Since the above funding is provided on an annual reimbursement basis, the universities will submit funding applications only after the end of each financial year. Therefore, the actual funding amounts are subject to confirmation upon approval of the applications concerned.

Note 2: Starting from 2019-20, the relevant funding is provided to the Education University of Hong Kong.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB137**

**(Question Serial No. 3781)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) and the University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP), please list in tabular form the number of applications received; the number, funding amount and details of the projects approved; as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years. What are the details of merging the collaborative stream of the ITSP and the UICP into the Partnership Research Programme?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

The University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP) and the collaborative stream of the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) were merged into the Partnership Research Programme (PRP) in January 2019 to continue supporting research and development projects undertaken by local universities and other public research institutes in collaboration with local companies. Since then, applications of the relevant collaborative projects have been counted into the PRP, and the UICP has also ceased to accept new applications from April 2019 onwards.

The numbers of applications received, as well as the numbers and funding amounts of the applications approved under the ITSP and UICP from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at end-January 2020) are tabulated by year as follows:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end-January 2020)
<b>ITSP</b>			
Number of applications received	601	411	431
Number of applications approved <sup>(Note 1)</sup>	204	243	162
Funding amount approved (\$ million)	824.1	777.6	686.3
<b>UICP</b> <sup>(Note 2)</sup>			
Number of applications received	20	50	0
Number of applications approved <sup>(Note 1)</sup>	31	26	21
Funding amount approved (\$ million)	50.9	30.5	36.4

Note 1: Including the applications submitted in the previous year.

Note 2: The UICP has ceased to accept new applications from April 2019 onwards.

As for the PRP, since its launch in January 2019 up to end-January 2020, a total of 81 applications were received. 35 projects have been approved so far and the funding amount approved is about \$61 million.

Once the project agreement is duly signed by the applicant and the Innovation and Technology Commission, the project summary (including the title and funding amount, etc.) will be available on the Innovation and Technology Fund website ([https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj\\_search\\_index.asp](https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/prj_search_index.asp)) for public inspection.

Implementation of the ITSP and the UICP is part of the work under Programme (1) Support for Research and Development. We do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the implementation of the relevant funding schemes.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB138**

**(Question Serial No. 3782)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

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

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government mentions in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-2021 again that it will work on the establishment of two research clusters in Hong Kong. What are the respective progresses and timetables of the two research clusters currently? The Government also mentions that it will examine the setting up of the third research cluster. What are the details, timetable and estimated provision?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

The first two *InnoHK* research clusters, namely “*Health@InnoHK*” focusing on healthcare technologies and “*AIR@InnoHK*” focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, have received enthusiastic response, with a total of 65 proposals from world renowned universities and research institutes. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters. The first batch of research and development (R&D) laboratories is expected to commence operation progressively this year.

We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster. There is no fixed timeline and estimated expenditure for now.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB139**

**(Question Serial No. 3783)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

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

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government mentions that the provision for 2020-21 is \$16.1 million (25.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2019-20, mainly due to decreased provision for general departmental expenses. Would the Government please provide the specific details on the decreased general departmental expenses?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

The aim of Programme (4) is to develop world-class support infrastructure to facilitate technological upgrading and development of the industry and to promote innovation and technology. One of the major duties under Programme (4) is to work closely with the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL) on the development of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) in the Lok Ma Chau Loop. One of the major items of expenses under Programme (4) in 2019-20 was to engage the HSITPL to conduct 2 consultancy studies on the planning and development of the Park, i.e. the Master Planning Study and the Business Model and Business Planning Study. With the completion of the 2 studies in 2019-20, the estimated expenditure for 2020-21 decreases accordingly. We will make reference to the findings of the studies in formulating the development strategy and planning of the Park.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB140**

**(Question Serial No. 2464)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Commission mentions the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS), which provides financial support for manufacturers on a matching basis for setting up smart production lines in Hong Kong. Please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the manpower and expenditure involved for the RFS;
- 2) the number and details of smart production lines set up through matching under the RFS since 2019;
- 3) the opportunities brought about for Hong Kong's industries by the 5 Research and Development Centres established by the Government (big data, Internet of Things, robotics, new materials, smart mobility) as stated in the RFS, as well as the effectiveness and benefits since their establishment.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) and (2) The Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS). The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee (FC). Subject to the approval of the LegCo FC, we hope to launch the RFS in the second quarter of 2020. The RFS will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. Currently, it is difficult to estimate the numbers of applications to be received and approved under the RFS. Given a maximum funding of \$15 million for each application, about 130 applications can be supported with \$2 billion.

The Innovation and Technology Commission created 5 additional civil service posts in 2019-20 to implement various ITF funding schemes, including the RFS. The 5 posts include 1 Principal Trade Officer, 1 Trade Officer, 2 Assistant Trade Officer Is, and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer. As the relevant staff are responsible for handling the RFS and other ITF funding schemes at the same time, we do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure.

- (3) The 5 Research and Development (R&D) Centres established by the Government are responsible for driving and co-ordinating applied R&D in selected focus areas, including information and communications technologies, nano and advanced materials, logistics and supply chain, textiles and clothing, and automotive technologies. In recent years, the 5 R&D Centres have been actively engaging in R&D related to “re-industrialisation”, covering areas such as big data, Internet of Things, robotics technology, new materials, smart mobility, etc., and assisting the industry in utilising the R&D results.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB141**

**(Question Serial No. 0534)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has engaged the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) as the Secretariat for the Local Mask Production Subsidy Scheme (the Scheme), taking charge of administering the Scheme. According to the funding proposal under the Anti-epidemic Fund submitted by the Government to the Legislative Council, “the HKPC has already been liaising with and providing advice to interested parties who have approached the HKPC.”

1. Please advise whether the manpower expenditure for implementing the Scheme is included in the estimated provision of \$212.2 million for the HKPC this year. What are the manpower and actual expenditure for implementing the Scheme?

2. Regarding the administration of the Scheme:

- (a) Who are the interested parties that have approached the HKPC and been provided with advice prior to the launch of the Scheme? Please provide the information in tabular form.
- (b) What assistance will the HKPC provide for these parties?
- (c) What are the respective numbers of applications received and approved by the HKPC so far?
- (d) What are the details of the individual projects funded? Please provide the following details by the funded companies: company name, number of funded production lines, total amount of funding received, monthly quantity of masks to be produced by the funded production lines, and quantity of masks to be procured by the Government, etc.

3. How will the HKPC assist the participating factories under the Scheme in terms of other supporting initiatives (such as sourcing raw materials for masks)?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

- (1) The Government has launched the Local Mask Production Subsidy Scheme (the Scheme) under the Anti-epidemic Fund, and the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) has been engaged by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) to administer the Scheme. The financial impact of the Scheme will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account. The manpower expenditure for implementing the Scheme is not included in the estimated provision of \$212.2 million for the HKPC in 2020-21.
- (2) Regarding the administration of the Scheme, the reply from the CEDB is as follows:
  - (a) The Government has engaged the HKPC to provide technical consultancy services for organisations intending to manufacture masks locally. Several hundreds of enquiries have been received prior to the commencement of the Scheme. However, details of the organisations concerned cannot be disclosed as the enquires involve commercial information.
  - (b) The Government has engaged the HKPC to provide one-stop and professional services, including consultancy and technical support services, for manufacturers intending to produce masks locally. Besides, the HKPC has earlier identified suitable clean room facilities for industry members in need, striving to expedite mask production in Hong Kong to address the imminent shortage. The manufacturers will not be charged for the above services.
  - (c) and (d) As at 26 March 2020, the HKPC has received a total of 103 applications. Among them, 7 applications (involving 8 production lines) have been approved, with an estimated monthly supply of 0.8 million to 2.25 million masks per production line; 4 applications (involving 5 production lines), after verification, have been confirmed to have met all eligibility criteria of the Scheme; the eligibility of 23 applications (involving 33 production lines) is being verified by the HKPC through document check and on-site inspection; and the remaining 69 applications have yet to meet all eligibility criteria of the Scheme. Having reviewed the information provided in the applications received, the Government anticipated that the number of potentially eligible production lines may have exceeded the remaining quota for funding. Therefore, the HKPC has stopped receiving applications starting from 27 March 2020.
- (3) The CEDB has indicated that, as mentioned above, the HKPC will provide one-stop and professional services, including consultancy and technical support services, for manufacturers intending to produce masks locally. On the front of the quality standards and certification required by the Scheme, the HKPC can provide information on the relevant certification organisations to the applicants if necessary.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB142**

**(Question Serial No. 2233)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Although the Anti-epidemic Fund has earmarked \$800 million for the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) to conduct research and development (R&D) on reusable masks (the reusable mask plan), related items are not included under Head 155 at present.

1. Is the \$800 million provision now held for the work under Programme (1)? What are the expenditure on and establishment of the staff taking charge of the reusable mask plan? Other than those from ITC, will the Innovation and Technology Bureau offer any manpower or other support?

2. What are the substantive details of the reusable mask plan? Will the R&D be conducted in-house by ITC and public sector organisations (such as the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, etc.), or by private organisations or higher education institutions with the funding from ITC? Please provide the details based on the existing projects.

3. How will the \$800 million provision be allocated, including the amounts to be spent on R&D, sourcing raw materials, production or other work?

4. What is the current position of the \$800 million provision and what is the planned use of the provision within this year?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

The novel coronavirus 2019 is raging on a global scale. The demand on masks in Hong Kong has been increasing drastically, whilst the global supply for disposable masks continues to remain extremely short. In this connection, we have set aside \$800 million in the Anti-epidemic Fund to support technology solutions on reusable masks. In assessing

the feasibility of the solutions, the important considerations include whether the reusable masks have passed the relevant testing, the supply of the raw materials, as well as whether the masks can be mass produced in the short run, etc. The relevant details will be announced in due course.

The financial impact of the technology solutions related to reusable masks will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account. The implementation of the relevant work above will be met by the existing manpower and resources of the Innovation and Technology Bureau and the Innovation and Technology Commission. We do not have a breakdown for individual work.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB143**

**(Question Serial No. 2234)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It was pointed out in last year's Budget Speech that a number of internationally renowned universities had expressed interest in joining the two research clusters established in the Science Park. Paragraph 66 of this year's Budget Speech states that "they have received overwhelming response from many world renowned universities and research institutes. With the first batch of research and development (R&D) centres expected to be set up progressively this year, we are actively exploring the establishment of a third InnoHK research cluster."

1. What is the manpower establishment currently responsible for overseeing the implementation of the two research clusters?
2. What are the details of the work of different departments such as the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Innovation and Technology Commission on attracting R&D institutes to join the two research clusters in the past year? Why has there been no institute admitted to the clusters so far?
3. What is the estimated earliest admission time for the first batch of R&D institutes? What are the details of their research areas, etc.?
4. Does the Government have any preliminary proposal for establishing the third research cluster? If yes, what are the preliminary details and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

The reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) The Infrastructure Division under the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) is responsible for the delivery of duties relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

(HKSTPC). The Infrastructure Division is headed by an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2), and the work relating to the *InnoHK* research clusters is supported by 11 non-directorate staff.

- (2) and (3) The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received enthusiastic response from world renowned universities and research institutes. ITC has received a total of 65 proposals. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details. The first batch of R&D laboratories is expected to commence operation progressively in 2020.

In addition, HKSTPC is proactively developing the related supporting facilities (such as the Robotics Catalysing Centre and a biobank) for future use by the R&D centres/laboratories to be established in the two *InnoHK* research clusters.

- (4) We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster. There is no fixed timeline and estimated expenditure for now.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB144**

**(Question Serial No. 4040)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding working closely with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and developing the Advanced Manufacturing Centre and Data Technology Hub under the revised Industrial Estate policy:

1. What are the current progresses of the tender invitations for the 2 centres? What are the occupancy rates? Please provide the tenancy figures by industry.
2. What are the expected dates of commencement of operation of the 2 centres for admission of tenants?
3. What other measures does the Government have at the moment for promoting the advanced manufacturing industry?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (1) and (2) The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) is developing the Data Technology Hub (DT Hub) and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (AMC) in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate (IE), which are expected to be completed in the first half of 2020 and 2022 respectively. Upon completion of the DT Hub building, the HKSTPC will immediately proceed with the fitting-out works. It is expected that the DT Hub will be able to commence operation in the fourth quarter of 2020. The HKSTPC has started inviting proposals for leasing of the DT Hub and the AMC and is liaising with enterprises/manufacturers that intend to set up there on the admission arrangements. The HKSTPC will make reference to the market response and further attract admission of potential enterprises/manufacturers through various channels and market promotion. In addition, the HKSTPC will use part of the

resources from the Government's \$10 billion funding to offer incentives for tenants of the AMC and the DT Hub to set up smart production lines.

- (3) The Government has been actively promoting re-industrialisation in recent years to develop advanced manufacturing industries that are based on new technologies and smart production, with support in terms of infrastructure, technology, talent, funding and scientific research.

In terms of infrastructure, in addition to the above projects, we plan to allocate an additional \$2 billion for the HKSTPC to develop the Microelectronics Centre at the Yuen Long IE.

In terms of technology, the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) has been dedicating efforts to promote re-industrialisation to facilitate enterprises to move towards high value-added production and gradually upgrade towards Industry 4.0. The major efforts include co-operating with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology of Germany to implement the Industry 4.0 Upgrade and Recognition Programme, as well as assisting the industry in accelerating the adoption of innovative industrial technologies and promoting the development of smart industry and digital manufacturing via the jointly established Invention Centre. The HKPC also set up the Digital@HKPC in May 2019 to demonstrate innovative smart products, materials, machinery and manufacturing processes, so as to accelerate the industry's adoption of innovative industrial technologies. Besides, the HKPC will continue to provide workspace and technical support to users and assist them in developing innovative ideas into industrial design, which may subsequently be translated into products through prototyping via the Inno Space.

In terms of nurturing talent, we continue to implement the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) to subsidise local enterprises on a 2 (Government):1 (enterprise) matching basis for their staff to receive technology training, especially those related to "Industry 4.0". As at the end of January 2020, the RTTP has approved 885 training grant applications submitted by enterprises to fund 2 116 staff of local enterprises to receive technology training with a total funding amount of about \$13.17 million.

In terms of funding, we plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (Government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. The funding will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production line, as well as fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned. We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on this proposal, together with the above proposal on the Microelectronics Centre, in May 2019, and have submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020 and commencing the works concerned as soon as practicable.

In terms of scientific research, the 5 R&D Centres established by the Government (i.e. the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre, the Nano and Advanced Materials Institute, the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel, and the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre) will also continue to engage in R&D related to re-industrialisation and work closely with the industry to drive the commercialisation of R&D outcomes and assist the industry to capture and explore business opportunities. Besides, the Government, through the ITF, provides funding to support local R&D work and finance projects that can contribute to the technological upgrading of industries and promotion of innovation, so as to promote re-industrialisation. The relevant funding programmes include the Innovation and Technology Support Programme, the Partnership Research Programme and the Enterprise Support Scheme, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB145**

**(Question Serial No. 4054)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Government's implementation of the enhanced tax deduction for research and development (R&D) expenditures for qualifying R&D expenditure incurred on or after 1 April 2018, under the amended Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112), the Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (CIT) will advise the Commissioner of Inland Revenue (CIR) on R&D tax deduction claims and advance ruling cases.

1. Since the Government's implementation of the enhanced tax deduction for R&D expenditures, what is the total number of cases claiming enhanced tax deduction? How many cases were approved? How many cases were refused?
2. Regarding the successful claims, what are the total, largest and average amounts of tax deduction?
3. Has the Inland Revenue Department or the Innovation and Technology Commission compiled any statistics on the size and respective industry of the enterprises applying for tax deduction?
4. As the CIT will advise the CIR on the claims and advance ruling cases, what are the manpower expenditure and establishment involved?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

A reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- 1 to 3. To encourage more enterprises to conduct research and development (R&D) locally and promote technological innovation and economic development in Hong Kong, the Government implemented in 2018 the enhanced tax deduction for expenditures incurred on "qualifying R&D activities" by enterprises. R&D expenditures eligible for deduction are classified into "Type A expenditures"

which are qualified for 100% deduction, and “Type B expenditures” which are qualified for the enhanced tax deduction.

According to the information provided by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD), as at end-February 2020, among the profits tax returns received, there were 103 claims for tax deduction relating to R&D expenditures for the 2018-19 assessment year pursuant to the amended Inland Revenue Ordinance. The R&D expenditures of the relevant tax deduction were about \$1.75 billion, involving an average amount of R&D expenditure of \$16 million per claim and the largest amount exceeded \$500 million. Among the enterprises which have submitted claims, about 70% are small and medium enterprises (i.e. manufacturing companies which employ fewer than 100 persons and non-manufacturing companies which employ fewer than 50 persons). Most of the enterprises are engaged in the information and communications, import/export trade and wholesale, as well as manufacturing industries, etc.

IRD adopts the “Assess First, Audit Later” tax assessment mechanism and will select relevant cases applying for tax deduction for audit. Since the tax assessments are still underway, the IRD is unable to provide information on the number of rejected cases applying for tax deduction, as well as the total, largest and average amounts of assessed tax deduction, etc.

4. The Innovation and Technology Commission will advise the Commissioner of Inland Revenue on the claims and advance ruling cases where necessary. The manpower involved will be met by existing resources. We do not have the breakdown of the manpower and expenditure for the work.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB146**

**(Question Serial No. 4079)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

As the epidemic is dealing a further blow to the business environment for a number of start-ups, the Government has earmarked funding under the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide a six-month rental waiver for tenants and start-ups at the Hong Kong Science Park, industrial estates and Cyberport (the “3 sites”).

1. Have any tenants in the 3 sites surrendered tenancies or even ceased operation since the beginning of 2020? If yes, please provide the information of the tenants concerned in each of the 3 sites, including the industry engaged in, research details, size, etc.
2. What kind of assistance has the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation or the Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited provided for the tenants in the 3 sites? Has any survey been conducted on the means of assistance required by start-ups from the Government in addition to the rental waiver?
3. Are there any statistics on the number of start-ups outside from the 3 sites that have ceased operation since the beginning of 2020, for example, the numbers of start-ups that have withdrawn their current applications for various funding schemes under the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) or have ceased operation?
4. What kind of assistance will ITC or the entire Government provide to the start-ups outside from the 3 sites?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

(1) and (3)

From January to end February 2020, 11 tenants in the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park) surrendered tenancies or ceased operation, including small and medium enterprises (SME) engaging in information and communications technology, biomedical technology,



electronics, material and precision engineering, and green technology, etc. During this period, no tenant in the Industrial Estates (IEs) or Cyberport surrendered tenancies or ceased operation. As for the funding schemes under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) to support enterprises, the number of applications withdrawn in January 2020 was broadly the same as the monthly average in the fourth quarter of 2019. We do not have information on whether the funded enterprises have ceased operation after completion of the relevant projects.

(2) and (4)

In view of the impacts of the epidemic on the innovation and technology (I&T) industry, further to the 50% rental concession provided by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport) for their tenants and start-ups from 1 October 2019 to 31 March 2020, the Government has provided a six-month full rental waiver under the Anti-epidemic Fund for tenants and start-ups in the Science Park, IEs and Cyberport. This initiative has taken effect from 1 April till 30 September 2020. The rental relief will be capped at 10 000 square feet, involving rental of about \$380 million. The relevant financial impact will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account.

As Hong Kong's major I&T infrastructure, HKSTPC and Cyberport have also launched different initiatives to assist the industry in tackling the epidemic. Among them, HKSTPC announced on 18 March 2020 to provide its incubatees with additional financial subsidy, which is capped at \$75,000 for each company. It is expected that about 400 incubatees will be benefitted. Cyberport has introduced the "Braving the Epidemic" series to share with the public various digital technology applications developed and adopted by its start-ups, covering areas relating to daily living such as infection prevention, medical services, household cleaning, property management, insurance, and education. Cyberport has also expedited the disbursement of grants to its incubatees, and co-organised with the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) a series of online sharing sessions on the Government's funding schemes for start-ups to better understand the funding support provided by Government.

In addition, HKSTPC and Cyberport organised their first-ever "Virtual Career Expo/Fair" from 25 to 31 March and 3 to 4 April 2020 respectively to provide a recruitment service platform for technology companies to recruit technology talent amidst the epidemic.

Besides, the HKPC has introduced special relief measures to offer SMEs (including start-ups) half-price concessions for non-government subsidised research and development (R&D) and consultancy projects and testing services from 12 March to 30 September 2020. The HKPC would also offer all enterprises the "buy-three-get-one-free" concession for training courses during the said period.

In addition, ITC launched a special call for projects under the Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) of the ITF to support product development and application of technologies for the prevention and control of the epidemic. The target funding recipients include all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong, so as to promote the realisation and commercialisation of local R&D outcomes related to the combat of the

epidemic and encourage the public sector to use technologies for tackling the epidemic. We are now processing the applications received. Starting from 30 March 2020, the funding scope of the PSTS has also been extended to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong.

In fact, the Government has been introducing different initiatives to support start-ups in terms of talent and capital, etc., with a view to promoting Hong Kong's overall I&T development. The funding scope under the Researcher Programme (RP) and the Postdoctoral Hub (PH) has also been expanded to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong starting from 9 March 2020. We will consolidate the RP and the PH in July 2020, so as to provide more flexibility for engaging R&D talent.

On technology adoption, ITC has enhanced the Technology Voucher Programme by raising the funding ratio for each approved project from two-thirds to three-fourths and increasing the funding ceiling from \$400,000 to \$600,000 and the maximum number of approved projects from 4 to 6 for each applicant enterprise/organisation. The above measures apply to applications received by ITC since 1 April 2020.

The Government will continue to support start-ups in tackling the challenges caused by the epidemic through appropriate initiatives.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB147**

**(Question Serial No. 0646)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is stated in this year's Budget that the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) will be enhanced, with the funding ratio to be increased from the current level of two-thirds to three-fourths and the funding ceiling to be increased from \$400,000 to \$600,000. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on:

- 1) the numbers of applications received and approved under the TVP, and the general main reasons for the applications being rejected in the past 3 years;
- 2) a breakdown of the number of successful applications under the TVP by sector in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

(1) In the past 3 financial years (from April 2017 to end February 2020), the Innovation and Technology Commission received a total of 3 333 applications under the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). Of the 2 209 applications assessed by the TVP Committee so far, 2 015 have been approved, representing a success rate of about 91%. The applications rejected were mainly cases for merely purchasing off-the-shelf software and hardware (e.g. mobile phones, tablets, office suite software, etc.); or cases involving only little or no technological elements, or with unreasonable project budget/implementation details.

(2) The types of business engaged in by the successful applicants and the numbers of applications already approved in the past 3 financial years (from April 2017 to March 2020) are as follows –

<b>Type of business</b>	<b>Number of applications approved<sup>Note</sup></b>
Wholesale and Retail	516
Import and Export Trade	297
Professional Services	127
Restaurants and Hotels	102
Education Services	90
Transportation and Logistics	79
Engineering	77
Medical Services	75
Information Technology	72
Personal Care Services	65
Advertisement, Sales and Marketing	60
Electronics	42
Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Services	42
Construction	39
Textiles and Clothing	37
Food and Beverages	37
Creative Industries	30
Tourism	30
Printing and Publishing	29
Real Estate	28
Jewellery Manufacturing	22
Metal Products	21
Plastics	18
Toys	12
Chemical and Biotechnology	12
Film and Entertainment	11
Watches and Clocks Manufacturing	11
Testing and Certification Services	10
Electrical Appliances Manufacturing	10
Telecommunications	9
Environmental Industries	7
Industrial Machinery	6
Medical and Optical Devices	5
Footwear Manufacturing	2
Others	298

<sup>Note</sup> Applicants may engage in more than one type of business.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB148**

**(Question Serial No. 0655)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Hong Kong experienced an outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003 and has been facing a novel coronavirus since the end of 2019. Whenever there is a virus outbreak, tremendous impact will be posed on public health, the society and the economy.

Noted from media coverage in mid-February, a university has successfully developed a “rapid, automated multiplex diagnostic system” for detecting up to 40 respiratory pathogens (including the SARS and the novel coronavirus) within an hour in a single test, which can facilitate medical practitioners of out-patient clinics to identify high-risk patients as early as possible and expedite diagnosis and case confirmation. It is said that the detecting device is of a small size and user-friendly. The cost for each test is around \$300, representing a significant drop of at least 70% as compared with that of the existing technologies. If mass production is made possible, the system can be generalised and applied in private clinics. However, the research and development team complains that their funding application has been rejected by the Innovation and Technology Bureau, and reveals that they are actively developing the production lines for mass manufacturing with initial support for the research from the Shenzhen Municipal Government.

Please advise the number of public health-related research projects supported by the Bureau and the funding amount in each of the past 3 years. How many applications involving researches under this category were rejected each year? What is the amount of fund to be allocated for supporting researches in this area?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

Through various funding schemes of the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) has been providing funding support for local research and development (R&D) centres, universities, other designated local public research institutes and private companies to conduct R&D projects, with a view to

promoting the R&D and application of technologies in various fields, including public health-related technology.

From 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020), the number of public health-related R&D projects funded and the funding amount under the ITF each year are tabulated below:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Number of applications received</b>	<b>Number of applications approved</b>	<b>Number of applications rejected</b>	<b>Funding amount approved (\$ million)</b>
2017-18	24	12	12	29.48
2018-19	25	12	13	26.60
2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)	35 (9 applications are still under processing)	8	18	13.99
<b>Total</b>	84	32	43	70.07

For projects yet to be approved, ITC will notify the applicants of the reasons for rejecting the applications and the comments from the assessment panel. Applicants are welcome to re-submit their applications after revising the proposals with reference to the relevant comments.

We will, through the ITF, continue to finance more projects that can contribute to the technological upgrading of industries and promotion of innovation. Besides, we are pleased to make further investments in support of R&D on public health-related technology. However, the actual funding amount is subject to the project application status and the number of applications and funding amount to be approved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB149**

**(Question Serial No. 0656)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is an undisputed fact that Hong Kong's population is ageing. In addition, taking up employment in the elderly care industry is not the first choice for most job seekers. In the long run, we still need to enhance the application of technology to relieve the heavy burden on carers. However, given the cramped living space in Hong Kong in general, some gerontechnological products from overseas countries may not be suitable for use in local living environment.

In the past 3 years, what financial support was provided by the Bureau to promote the research and development as well as production of gerontechnological products? How much funding will be allocated to research in this field in the future?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

Through various funding schemes of the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), the Innovation and Technology Commission has been providing funding support for local research and development (R&D) centres, universities, other designated local public research institutions and private companies to conduct R&D projects, with a view to promoting R&D and application of technologies in various fields, including gerontechnology.

From 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at end-January 2020), the ITF funded 22 gerontechnology-related R&D projects and 7 gerontechnology-related public sector trial projects respectively, involving a funding amount of about \$90.8 million. In fact, some projects may not be directly related to gerontechnology at the R&D stage, but they may subsequently be applied on gerontechnology-related applications. We will, through the ITF, continue to finance more projects that can contribute to the technological upgrading of industries and promotion of innovation. The funding amounts of the ITF for individual technology areas (including gerontechnology) in the future are subject to the positions of

project applications, as well as the number of applications and funding amounts to be approved.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB150**

**(Question Serial No. 1478)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Financial Secretary states that \$40 million will be set aside to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. What are the specific details of the initiative, including the respective numbers of short-term internships to be provided for undergraduates and postgraduates, the major business scopes of the enterprises and organisations to be involved, the job nature and the expected and targeted numbers of participating local enterprises and organisations?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

In the 2020-21 Budget, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$40 million to subsidise short-term internships for undergraduates and postgraduates taking STEM programmes in local universities. Through the STEM Internship Scheme, we hope to encourage STEM students to gain I&T-related work experience during their studies, and to develop an interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool. We are drawing up the details of the scheme and consulting relevant universities on operational matters. We will consult the Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry in due course, with a view to launching the scheme within 2020.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB151**

**(Question Serial No. 1506)**

Head: (155) Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 66 of the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech that the Government is developing two *InnoHK* research clusters at the Hong Kong Science Park, one focusing on healthcare technologies and the other on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, and they have received overwhelming response. Will the Government advise on:

- (1) the respective numbers of application proposals for admission to the two clusters received from universities, research institutions and enterprises so far, as well as the estimated number of the first batch of research and development (R&D) centres in 2020 and the directions and details of the R&D projects;
- (2) the details of the efforts in actively exploring the establishment of the third *InnoHK* research cluster?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The reply to the two parts of the question is as follows:

1. The first two *InnoHK* research clusters have received enthusiastic response from world renowned universities and research institutes. A total of 65 proposals have been received. After a rigorous assessment process, we are following up with the institutions concerned. As discussion is still in progress, we are unable to announce for now the list of laboratories that will be set up in the two *InnoHK* research clusters and the project details.
2. We will review factors including the strengths of Hong Kong and the global technological development in considering the research focus of the third *InnoHK* research cluster. There is no fixed timeline for now.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB152**

**(Question Serial No. 2707)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the support provided by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer to bureaux and departments in the development of mobile applications (apps) for e-Government services, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the name, project cost involved, launch date and number of downloads of the apps developed by the Government in the past 2 years?
- (b) What are the name, project cost involved and launch date of the apps for which the development work will be completed soon in the coming year?
- (c) Does the Government have any plan to increase the usage rate and number of downloads of the apps?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) Information on the mobile apps launched by bureaux and departments (B/Ds) in 2018-19 and 2019-20 is at **Annex A**.
- (b) 3 B/Ds plan to launch new mobile apps in 2020-21. Relevant details are at **Annex B**.
- (c) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) promulgated the "Practice Guide for Developing Mobile Apps" in November 2018, which stipulates that B/Ds are required to set the objectives of mobile apps and understand the needs of target user groups before developing the apps. After launching mobile apps, B/Ds should also regularly review and evaluate their cost-effectiveness, and conduct appropriate publicity and promotion to enable target users to understand the objectives and usage of the apps, thus ensuring user-friendly mobile apps that meet the users' needs are developed by B/Ds. Moreover, should the intention be solely to disseminate information, instead of using mobile apps, B/Ds should consider developing websites using responsive design to enable the public to access information through computers and smartphones.

In addition, the GovHK Apps and the GovHK portal of OGCIO have also provided a list of mobile apps of the Government to help B/Ds promote mobile apps which they developed. We will monitor the usage of these apps and timely liaise with the departments concerned to carry out improvement measures to increase the usage rate, or even consider decommissioning the apps.

**Information of the mobile apps launched by B/Ds in 2018-19 and 2019-20**

<b>No.</b>	<b>B/D</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>(Approximate) Cost</b>	<b>Launch Date</b>	<b>Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)</b>
1.	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Internet Memorial Service	\$300,000	Jun 2018	3 800
2.	Transport Department	HKeMobility	\$600,000	Jul 2018	2 200 000
3.	Invest Hong Kong	InvestHK News & Events	\$388,000	Sep 2018	1 100 (decommissioned in Apr 2019)
4.	Hongkong Post	ShopThruPost	As part of the Redevelopment of On-line Shopping Platform Project, it is not a stand-alone project and no separate cost breakdown is available.	Nov 2018	17 000
5.	Marine Department	eSeaGo	\$600,000	Jan 2019	20 000
6.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Connect	\$800,000	Dec 2019	5 400
7.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Trade	\$492,000	Dec 2019	5 200

**Information of the mobile apps planned to be launched by B/Ds in 2020-21**

<b>No.</b>	<b>B/D</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Development Cost</b>	<b>Expected Launch Date</b>
1.	Education Bureau (Language Fund)	Workplace English Tic-Tac-Toe 2.0	\$400,000 (including the development and 2-year maintenance of the mobile app)	Q3 2020
2.	Water Supplies Department	H <sub>2</sub> OPE Centre	Included in the development cost of the whole project. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Q2 2020
3.	Transport Department	Parking Meter Mobile Application (PMMA)	Included in the whole project of the New Generation Parking System. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Mid-2020

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB153****(Question Serial No. 3854)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

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

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In the era of big data, information security is no longer confined to the security of websites and storage servers. To make it easier for citizens to go online in early years, the Government has installed many public Wi-Fi facilities for free Internet access by the general public. The security arrangements, however, remain unknown. Moreover, some information and communications technology experts have pointed out that it is dangerous to use unencrypted free Wi-Fi networks because data stored in the mobile phones of users may be stolen by hackers through the networks. In this connection, what are the security measures taken by the Government for public Wi-Fi facilities? What can be done to ensure that there will be no data leakage when the citizens go online with their mobile phones? The media conducted tests recently in situ at 6 cafes with “fake free Wi-Fi” networks. It was revealed that the mobile phones of 55% of the visitors to the cafes had been connected to the “fake free Wi-Fi” networks and the testing personnel were able to view the instant messages and emails of others. In this connection, how will the Government educate the public to choose unauthenticated public Wi-Fi networks with due care? Is it impossible for us to guard against such pitfalls?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 151)

Reply:

The Government has from time to time appealed to the public and reminded them of concerns over cyber security, including the need for considering the risks and related safeguards for the transmission of sensitive or personal information when using public Wi-Fi service, for example, using e-services with encryption technology.

The Government also from time to time provides the public with the latest security information, including those requiring attention in the use of public Wi-Fi service, through various channels such as social media, the InfoSec website and the Cyber Security Information Portal regularly; and organises seminars and forums regularly to disseminate knowledge on cyber security to the industry and the public.

All public Wi-Fi service providers are required to follow the “Guidelines on the Security Aspects for the Design, Implementation, Management and Operation of Public Wi-Fi Service” issued by the Office of the Communications Authority. Under the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme, the Office of Government Chief Information Officer has also issued related operational safety guidelines for services at all “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots, including free government Wi-Fi service, public-private collaboration model, public and private organisations joining the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand and the pilot scheme under the Social Welfare Department.

A client isolation function has also been applied to Wi-Fi service at government venues to serve as another layer of safety precaution to reduce the attacks and threats among users’ devices connected to government Wi-Fi hotspots. Moreover, the “Wi-Fi.HK” service at all government venues has adopted digital server certificates to enable Wi-Fi service users to verify the identity of the service provider. Members of the public can use the “Wi-Fi.HK” mobile app to choose free Wi-Fi hotspots under the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme to minimise the risk of accessing fake “Wi-Fi.HK” service.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB154****(Question Serial No. 3855)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

With the popularity of cloud technology, different companies, organisations and government departments will perform their daily work on cloud. It is learnt that there are currently over a dozen high-tier data centre companies in the Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate, covering the provision of cloud technology services. Since cloud companies will store a large quantity of important corporate and personal information, there will be dire consequences in case of cyber attacks and hacker intrusion. In recent years, ransomware caused havoc on a global scale. Some travel agencies were even blackmailed for an enormous ransom while the affected database contained information of customers, including their names, ID and passport numbers, credit card information, etc. Therefore, having one business organisation or cloud company blackmailed will put the personal data of all Hong Kong people at risk. However, the only responsive measure as stated in government documents is to disseminate precautionary advice through the "Cyber Security Information Portal". That means the companies have to surf the Internet for the information on their own. The measure is not proactive enough. In fact, will resources be allocated by the Government to provide a list of risks for various industries, for example targeted cyber security support will be given to industries (e.g. banks, insurance (companies), travel agencies, cloud platform companies, etc.) which always have to collect sensitive information from customers so that their sensitive personal information can be encrypted instead of suffering a rude awakening when blackmailing occurs across various industries? Similarly, will the Bureau enhance cooperation and communication with different cloud providers/service providers to strengthen the security technologies of cloud tech/service providers, including transmission encryption and users' multiple login to protect user information from leakage?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 152)

Reply:

Apart from disseminating security advice and providing reference tools to the industry and the public through the Cyber Security Information Portal, the Office of the Government

Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has been working closely with the Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre (HKCERT) of the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC) and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to launch various publicity and education activities and render appropriate support to various sectors in enhancing the overall cyber security in Hong Kong. The relevant measures include:

- (i) In 2019, HKCERT held more than 20 seminars addressing the specific business nature and security risks of various sectors. About 2 000 practitioners from various sectors covering information technology (including Internet and cloud service providers), financial services, healthcare, retail and trade, property management, hotels and tourism, manufacturing, education, etc. attended the seminars to enhance their information security knowledge, as well as promote adoption of internationally recognised information security management standards and best practices.
- (ii) HKPF organised regular cyber security seminars to strengthen the capability of local infrastructures in handling cyber security incidents across various sectors including communications, banking and finance, transport and tourism, public services, etc.
- (iii) OGCIO formulated the “Practice Guide for Cloud Computing Security” to assist cloud service providers and users in understanding relevant cyber security risks and preventive measures (including data encryption, multi-factor authentication, communication security, etc.)
- (iv) In June 2019, HKIRC launched a free website scanning service to assist small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with “.hk” Internet domain names in identifying potential security vulnerabilities. HKIRC also introduces appropriate cyber security solutions to SMEs to help them tackle cyber security threats effectively.
- (v) In September 2018, OGCIO launched a two-year “Pilot Partnership Programme for Cyber Security Information Sharing” (the Programme) and took the lead in setting up a cross-sector “Cyber Security Information Sharing and Collaborative Platform” covering sectors such as innovation and technology (including cloud service and information security), finance, public utilities, healthcare, transport, etc. to facilitate the exchange of information on cyber security threats, mitigation measures and best practices, etc. among members. The Programme will be regularised upon the end of the pilot period in August 2020 to promote the participation of more public and private organisations in order to enhance Hong Kong’s overall capability in defending against cyber attacks.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB155**

**(Question Serial No. 3907)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the operational expenses involved in this Programme in 2020-21?
- (2) It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Government will follow up on the work of the Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee regarding the way forward for the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme. Please advise on the staff establishment and the estimated expenditure on emoluments involved for this work in 2020-21. Will the Government advise on the details of the way forward being explored?
- (3) What is the expenditure for repairing the smart lampposts under the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme in 2019-20? What are the estimated operational expenses for operating these smart lampposts in 2020-21?
- (4) Will the Government consider removing all Multi-functional Smart Lampposts to allay public concern? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 210)

Reply:

- (1) The estimated total expenditure under this Programme for 2020-21 is \$143.4 million, including \$59 million for personal emoluments, \$2.6 million for personnel related expenses, \$73.7 million for departmental expenses and a provision of \$8.1 million required for the Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools under general non-recurrent expenditures.
- (2) - (4) The Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. The expenditures for the works (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment and road maintenance

works) and operation (including daily operation and repair and maintenance of lampposts) in 2019-20 are \$20 million and \$4.2 million respectively.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)). The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. The above work is absorbed by deployment of existing manpower in OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB156**

**(Question Serial No. 3964)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What are the estimated manpower and expenditure for the implementation of the Smart Lampposts Scheme in the coming year? Please list out in tabular form the positions, numbers, expenditures and functions of the devices of the smart lampposts to be installed at selected locations.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 243)

Reply:

The original plan of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) is to install some 400 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) equipped with smart devices in 4 selected urban locations (namely Central/Admiralty, Causeway Bay/Wan Chai, Tsim Sha Tsui and Kwun Tong/Kai Tak Development Area) in phases to collect real-time city data such as air quality, traffic flow, etc. and to support 5G mobile network development.

The Pilot Scheme started in 2019 and 50 Smart Lampposts were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. The total expenditure of the relevant works was around \$20 million (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment and road maintenance works). Relevant information of the Smart Lampposts installed, such as the smart devices in operation and their functions, has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)) for reference by the public.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the

functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme. The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. The above work is absorbed by deployment of existing manpower in OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB157****(Question Serial No. 3968)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned under this Programme that the Government will develop Hong Kong into a Wi-Fi Connected City and expand the “Wi-Fi.HK” programme. In this connection, please list out in tabular form the numbers of “Wi-Fi.HK” (hotspots) in 18 districts. What are the locations, manpower and expenditure involved? As the Government increases the number of Wi-Fi hotspots, the recurrent maintenance costs and Internet access fees involved will be greatly increased. What are the respective annual costs at present? How will the Government reduce the costs in this regard, and achieve cost-effectiveness on the usage and maintenance costs in order to avoid under-usage with high maintenance costs?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 247)

Reply:

As at end-February 2020, the number of “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots was 36 801. Apart from the 3 562 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots installed in buses, taxis and the Airport Express, the distribution of the 33 239 Wi-Fi hotspots in 18 districts of Hong Kong is as below:

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>	
Central and Western District	3 489
Eastern District	1 567
Southern District	2 021
Wan Chai	2 407
<b>Kowloon</b>	
Kowloon City	4 390
Yau Tsim Mong	2 861
Sham Shui Po	973
Wong Tai Sin	987

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
Kwun Tong	1 542
<b>New Territories</b>	
Tai Po	583
Yuen Long	974
Tuen Mun	1 985
North District	524
Sai Kung	1 469
Sha Tin	4 089
Kwai Tsing	1 140
Tsuen Wan	761
Islands	1 477
<b>Total:</b>	<b>33 239</b>

[Note 1]: Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

The estimated expenditures for the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme in 2019-20 and 2020-21 are about \$111.2 million and \$43.5 million respectively. The manpower required is met by internal deployment within the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

To ensure the cost-effectiveness of the public Wi-Fi service, we will monitor the bandwidth usage at each government venue, regularly review and adjust the bandwidth and number of hotspots at the venues so as to strike a balance between service usage and Internet access fees, ensuring the provision of suitable public Wi-Fi service at different government venues in various districts to facilitate access by residents and tourists.

In addition, we will seek to open up government and other public venues under the public-private collaboration model for private organisations to install equipment and provide free Wi-Fi service at their own cost without the need for the Government to fund the operation. We will also encourage public and private organisations to participate in the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand and expand the coverage of the hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand through the hotspots provided by participating organisations at their own cost. Such arrangements do not involve any government expenditure.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB158**

**(Question Serial No. 3969)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It was mentioned by the Government last year that artificial intelligence and chatbot functions would be introduced to the GovHK portal in 2019 to facilitate searching and access of e-Government services by the public. Please advise on the details of the functions, the manpower and expenditure involved as well as the rollout date.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 248)

Reply:

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) launched a chatbot (named “Bonny”) on the GovHK portal in end-December 2019 to facilitate the public to search and access e-Government services. Using artificial intelligence (AI) technology, the chatbot can help to access information such as application forms and the related application procedures, as well as options or hyperlinks, etc. in an efficient and convenient manner through interactive text exchanges.

The estimated expenditure for implementing the chatbot service is about \$2.62 million. The manpower for related work is met by internal deployment within OGCIO.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB159****(Question Serial No. 2590)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

As far as the management of electronic mail records is concerned, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has set up the Electronic Recordkeeping System for 11 bureaux/departments (B/Ds) as a pilot scheme. Regarding the electronic mail recordkeeping system, please advise on the following:

- (a) The detailed information on all 11 B/Ds which have implemented or will implement the electronic mail recordkeeping system.

B/D	Start year of system development	Start year of system adoption	Full rollout or not	Functions yet to be rolled out and ready-for-service year	Has "print-and-file" ceased to be used for filing? If yes, please state the year. If not, please state the year when it is planned to cease	Total estimated development cost (\$)	Annual Operating Expenditure (\$)
Efficiency Office							
Public Records Office							
.....							

- (b) Is there currently any plan to extend the electronic mail recordkeeping system to other departments? If yes, please advise on the name of the departments concerned and the initial timetable. If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) The Innovation and Technology Bureau does not adopt the electronic mail recordkeeping system at present. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

**Reply:**

(a) 11 bureaux and departments (B/Ds) have implemented pilot Electronic Recordkeeping System (ERKS) which support filing of electronic mail records. Relevant details are as follows:

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Start year of system development</b>	<b>Start year of system adoption</b>	<b>Full roll-out or not</b>	<b>Functions yet to be rolled out and ready-for-service year</b>	<b>Has “print-and-file” ceased to be used for filing? If yes, please state the year. If not, please state the year when it is planned to cease</b>	<b>Total estimated development cost (\$ million)</b>	<b>Annual Operating Expenditure (\$ million)</b>
Efficiency Office (EffO)	2009	2010	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2010	9.9 (Actual cost) (Note 1)	1.99
Government Records Service (GRS) under Administration Wing	2013	2014	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2014 (unclassified and restricted records) and 2016 (confidential records)	11.8 (Actual cost)	2.97
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industry Branch)	2017	2018	Yes	Not applicable	No, the schedule to cease the use of “print-and-file” for filing is being drawn up	1.6 (Actual cost)	0.51
Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) (Note 2)	2012	2014	Yes	Not applicable	No, the use of “print-and-file” for filing is expected to cease by 2020 after system upgrade	8.65 (Actual cost)	0.7
Drainage Services Department	2012	2015	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2018	19.41 (Actual cost)	2.6
Administration Wing (excluding GRS)	2016	2016	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2018	5.5 (Actual cost)	1.56
Intellectual Property Department	2015	2016	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2017	14.9 (Actual cost) (Note 3)	5.59 (Note 3)
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO)	2015	2016	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2017		
Civil Engineering and Development Department	2015	2017	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, 2018	15.06 (Actual cost)	6.88

B/D	Start year of system development	Start year of system adoption	Full roll-out or not	Functions yet to be rolled out and ready-for-service year	Has “print-and-file” ceased to be used for filing? If yes, please state the year. If not, please state the year when it is planned to cease	Total estimated development cost (\$ million)	Annual Operating Expenditure (\$ million)
Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) (Note 2)	2015	2018	Yes	Not applicable	No, it is planned to submit an application to GRS in the second quarter of 2020 to cease the use of “print-and-file” for filing	21.98 (Note 3)	4.58 (Note 3)
Marine Department (MD)	2015	2019	No	Full rollout to MD is being implemented in phases and expected to be completed by 2021	No, the schedule to cease the use of “print-and-file” for filing is being drawn up		

Notes:

1. The expenditure covers the development cost of the EffO’s ERKS, Knowledge Management System and Collaboration System.
2. The ERKSs of RVD and ArchSD cover some sections only.
3. One contract covers the development and maintenance of ERKS for two departments.

(b)&(c) The Government has announced to roll out ERKS to all B/Ds by end-2025 to enhance efficiency in preserving and managing government records. OGCIO plans to develop a new central ERKS on the Government’s private cloud platform, covering 75 B/Ds. The implementation timetable of the new system is expected to be as follows:

	<u>Expected Date</u>
Seeking funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council	2020
Tendering exercise	2020
Development of ERKS	2021
Installation of the system in 75 B/Ds in phases	2021 to 2025

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB160****(Question Serial No. 2591)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please provide the names and details of the computer systems which were developed for bureaux/departments (B/Ds) as assisted by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer and were fully rolled out in 2017 to 2019:

(Year)

B/D	Name of the computer system	Start year of system development	Year of full system rollout	Development cost (\$)	Annual operating expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

Bureau/Department	Name of the computer system	Start year of system development	Year of full system rollout	Development cost (\$ million)	Annual operating expenditure (\$ million)
Civil Engineering and Development Department	Electronic Recordkeeping System (ERKS) - Pilot Project	2015	2017	15.06	6.88
Architectural Services Department		2015	2018	21.98 (Note)	4.58 (Note)
Marine Department		2015	2019		

<b>Bureau/Department</b>	<b>Name of the computer system</b>	<b>Start year of system development</b>	<b>Year of full system rollout</b>	<b>Development cost (\$ million)</b>	<b>Annual operating expenditure (\$ million)</b>
Civil Service Bureau	Redevelopment of Clerical and Secretarial Grades Human Resources Information System	2017	2019	8.458	0.5
	Redevelopment of Executive Officer Grade Human Resources Information System	2017	2019	7.753	0.3
Home Affairs Bureau	“Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth” Application Form	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional expenditure is involved.
	“Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2019” Application Form	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Short-term system. No additional expenditure is involved.
Home Affairs Department	Application Form for Exemption of Electronic Sports Venues from Licence Requirement under the Amusement Game Centres Ordinance (Cap. 435)	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional expenditure is involved.

<b>Bureau/Department</b>	<b>Name of the computer system</b>	<b>Start year of system development</b>	<b>Year of full system rollout</b>	<b>Development cost (\$ million)</b>	<b>Annual operating expenditure (\$ million)</b>
	Registration for Joining the “Community Dialogue”	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Short-term system. No additional expenditure is involved.
Labour Department	Occupational Safety and Health Complaint Form	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional expenditure is involved.
Social Welfare Department	Application Form for Senior Citizen Card	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional expenditure is involved.
	Application Form for Companies and Organisations to Join the Senior Citizen Card Scheme	2019	2019	Developed by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is involved.	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional expenditure is involved.

Note: One contract covers the implementation and maintenance of ERKS for two departments.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB161**

**(Question Serial No. 4360)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title): (100) Stores and Equipment

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

- (a) Please list out in tabular form the numbers of electronic devices, including mobile phones, tablet computers, desktop computers and laptop computers, provided by the Hong Kong Government to civil servants at present;
- (b) The brands and sources of supply of electronic devices provided by the Hong Kong Government to civil servants at present;
- (c) Please list out in tabular form the percentages of platform types, including pre-Windows XP, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8 and Windows 10, for the personal computers, including desktop computers and laptop computers, provided by the Hong Kong Government to civil servants at present;
- (d) Please list out in tabular form the system platforms for the mobile phones and tablet computers provided by the Hong Kong Government to civil servants at present, and the percentages of their system versions (e.g. Android Oreo, Android Pie, iOS 10, iOS 11).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 326)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (a)&(b) Government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) have been procuring various electronic devices, including desktop computers, laptop computers, mobile phones and tablets, either through the contractors under the Standing Offer Agreement (SOA) administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) or under their respective tenders. As of end-2019, the Government provided about 179 600 desktop computers and about 21 500 laptop computers for civil servants (including relevant public officials). OGCIO does not have a breakdown of these electronic devices of various B/Ds. Neither does OGCIO maintain information on the brands and sources of supply of these electronic devices procured by B/Ds.



- (c) The operating systems of personal computers currently provided by the Government for use by civil servant include different versions of Microsoft Windows and Linux. Taking into the timing of developing different systems and their technical support available, a small number of devices still running on Win Vista and Win XP are deployed only for specific purposes (such as testing system compatibility) and being used in off-line mode. OGCIO does not have a breakdown of B/Ds' information in this regard.
- (d) The operating systems of mobile phones and tablets currently provided by the Government for use by civil servants include different versions of iOS and Android. According to the "Practice Guide for Software End-of-Support Management" issued by OGCIO, B/Ds are required to draw up timetables to update the systems of mobile phones and tablets timely having regard to the end-of-support date of the products so as to ensure that the mobile phones and tablets can continue to be used with the system upgraded or even the devices replaced. OGCIO does not have a breakdown of information in this regard.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB162**

**(Question Serial No. 4365)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title): (100) Stores and Equipment

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

- (a) What are the respective connection speeds of the fixed telecommunications networks and wireless networks installed at civil service workplaces by the Hong Kong Government at present?
- (b) How many computers at civil service workplaces, including those of disciplined services, are installed with computer systems which allow login from local networks only but not external networks at present? What are the government departments that they belong to and the functions of their systems?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 331)

Reply:

- (a) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) does not keep the information on the connection speeds of the fixed telecommunications networks and wireless networks installed at different workplaces of government bureaux and departments (B/Ds).
- (b) Computer systems provided by the Government at the workplaces of civil servants are usually accessed through either intranets or authorised virtual private networks (VPN) of departments. OGCIO does not keep the information on computer systems of B/Ds that only allow login from local networks, and their system functions.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB163****(Question Serial No. 4896)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Not Specified

Question:

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

- (1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) from October 2018 up to now for which only some of the required information has been provided, please list out in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

- (2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by OGCIO from October 2018 up to now for which the required information has not been provided, please list out in tabular form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

- (3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please inform this Committee of the following in each of the past 5 years: (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

- (4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please inform this Committee of the following by year in tabular form (with text descriptions).

(a) Within 10 days from the date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from the date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from the date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

- (b) Cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from the date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

- (c) Cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from the date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

- (5) Please list out in tabular form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 466)

Reply:

- During the period from October 2018 to September 2019, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) received 2 requests under the Code on Access to Information (the Code), and only part of the information required was provided. Relevant details are as follows:

Case	(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) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a “harm or prejudice test”, i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.
1	Information on the Multi-functional Smart	Paragraph 2.13 “Research, statistics and analysis” of the Code	The decision was made by an officer at D3 level	The relevant officer has already taken into account the provisions in Part 2 of the Code, including consideration of “harm and prejudice”, “public interest”, etc. in paragraph 2.2.
2	Lampposts Pilot Scheme	Paragraph 2.9 “Management and operation of the public service” and paragraph 2.10 “Internal discussion and advice” of the Code		



After reviewing the 2 cases above, OGCIO provided all the required information to the applicants in October 2019 (see paragraph 3 below).

2. During the above period, there was no request for information received by OGCIO under the Code for which the provision of required information was refused.
3. During the period from 2015 to September 2019, 2 review cases were received by OGCIO. Relevant details are as follows:

<b>Year in which review cases were received</b>	<b>(i) Number of review cases received</b>	<b>(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review</b>	<b>(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level</b>
2019	2	2	The decisions on review were made by an officer at D6 level

- 4(a). During the period from 2016 to September 2019, the number of written requests for which the information required was provided within 10 days, 11 to 21 days and 22 to 51 days from the date of receipt of a written request were 12, 6 and 4 respectively. Part of the required information was provided to the applicants in 2 of these requests under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code (see paragraph 1 above).
- 4(b). During the period from 2016 to September 2019, the main reason for not providing the information requested within 21 days from the date of OGCIO's receipt of a request was that longer time was required to prepare the information which was more sophisticated.
- 4(c). During the period from 2016 to September 2019, OGCIO replied to all requests for information received within 51 days from the date of receipt of a request.
5. During the period from 2016 to September 2019, OGCIO did not consult the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on cases where requests for information were refused.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB164****(Question Serial No. 5440)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list out in tabular form the numbers and distribution of Wi-Fi hotspots across various districts in Hong Kong, as well as the average connection speed and average monthly numbers of users at these hotspots.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1351)

Reply:

As at end-February 2020, the number of “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots was 36 801. Apart from the 3 562 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots installed in buses, taxis and the Airport Express, the distribution of the 33 239 Wi-Fi hotspots is as below:

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>	
Central and Western District	3 489
Eastern District	1 567
Southern District	2 021
Wan Chai	2 407
<b>Kowloon</b>	
Kowloon City	4 390
Yau Tsim Mong	2 861
Sham Shui Po	973
Wong Tai Sin	987
Kwun Tong	1 542

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
<b>New Territories</b>	
Tai Po	583
Yuen Long	974
Tuen Mun	1 985
North District	524
Sai Kung	1 469
Sha Tin	4 089
Kwai Tsing	1 140
Tsuen Wan	761
Islands	1 477
<b>Total:</b>	<b>33 239</b>

[Note 1]: Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

The average connection speed of the “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots exceeds 20 Mbps which is sufficient for downloading videos smoothly. We will regularly review the connection speed of hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand and liaise with the participating organisations to ensure the quality of the Wi-Fi service.

In 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020), the average monthly numbers of users of the Government Wi-Fi service by district are as below:

<b>District</b>	<b>Average Monthly Number of Users of the Government Wi-Fi Service ( '000)</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>	
Central and Western District	218
Eastern District	180
Southern District	90
Wan Chai	241
<b>Kowloon</b>	
Kowloon City	145
Yau Tsim Mong	181
Sham Shui Po	182
Wong Tai Sin	118
Kwun Tong	224
<b>New Territories</b>	
Tai Po	103
Yuen Long	174
Tuen Mun	87
North District	160
Sai Kung	129

<b>District</b>	<b>Average Monthly Number of Users of the Government Wi-Fi Service ( '000 )</b>
Sha Tin	190
Kwai Tsing	139
Tsuen Wan	116
Islands	127
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2 804</b>

As for the “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots under the public-private collaboration model and operated by public and private organisations, we do not have the related information.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB165****(Question Serial No. 5441)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards , (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

On-site computer repair services have been provided under the Internet Learning Support Programme. How many people have been served since the commencement of the programme up to now? (Please list out the numbers by year.)

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1352)

Reply:

The Internet Learning Support Programme (ILSP) had already ended in August 2018. Under this programme, on-site technical support services to low-income families and grassroots students were provided, including computer check-up, installation of free anti-virus software and assistance in replacement of computer peripherals, etc., but did not cover computer repair services. From January 2014 to the end of the programme, a total of 58 352 on-site technical support services were provided. The numbers of services in the past 6 financial years are tabulated as below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Services</b>
2013-14 (from January 2014 onwards)	863
2014-15	8 588
2015-16	14 492
2016-17	15 671
2017-18	14 326
2018-19 (up to August 2018)	4 412
<b>Total:</b>	<b>58 352</b>

Currently, the 2 non-profit-making organisations, namely WebOrganic and the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong, continue to provide low-income families and students with Internet learning support services (e.g. computer check-up and technical

support, training and advisory support, etc.) and broadband Internet access services at discounted prices.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB166****(Question Serial No. 0352)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the “Wi-Fi.HK” programme, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. Under the “Wi-Fi.HK” programme, what is the coverage of public Wi-Fi services in Hong Kong now? (Please list out by the number of hotspots in the 18 districts across the territory);
2. What are the wireless network standard and average network connection speed of public Wi-Fi services now; and
3. What are the venues with additional hotspots to be provided by the Government in 2020-21? (Please list out by district, venue type and the estimated expenditure involved.)

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) As at end-February 2020, the number of “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots was 36 801. Apart from the 3 562 mobile hotspots installed in buses, taxis and the Airport Express, the distribution of the 33 239 Wi-Fi hotspots in 18 districts of Hong Kong is as below:

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>	
Central and Western District	3 489
Eastern District	1 567
Southern District	2 021
Wan Chai	2 407

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of Hotspots</b>
<b>Kowloon</b>	
Kowloon City	4 390
Yau Tsim Mong	2 861
Sham Shui Po	973
Wong Tai Sin	987
Kwun Tong	1 542
<b>New Territories</b>	
Tai Po	583
Yuen Long	974
Tuen Mun	1 985
North District	524
Sai Kung	1 469
Sha Tin	4 089
Kwai Tsing	1 140
Tsuen Wan	761
Islands	1 477
<b>Total:</b>	<b>33 239</b>

[Note 1]: Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

- (2) The free Wi-Fi service provided by the Government has adopted the prevailing technology standard (IEEE 802.11ac) to provide fast and stable Wi-Fi service. The average connection speed of “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots exceeds 20 Mbps.
- (3) The proposed new venues for “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots in 2020-21 are as below<sup>[Note 2]</sup>:

<b>Implementation Model</b>	<b>Venue type</b>	<b>Estimated Expenditure</b>
Free government Wi-Fi service	Government and other public venues (e.g. sports, cultural and recreational venues, public transport and related facilities, government offices, district parks and promenades, public hospitals, sitting-out areas in public rental housing estates, etc.)	The estimated expenditure in 2020-21 is \$14 million.
Public-private collaboration		The cost required is borne by participating organisations. No funding is required from the Government.
Inviting public and private organisations to join the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand	Non-government venues	The cost required is borne by participating organisations. No funding is required from Government.



<b>Implementation Model</b>	<b>Venue type</b>	<b>Estimated Expenditure</b>
Pilot scheme <sup>[Note 3]</sup>	Service units operated by subvented organisations under the Social Welfare Department (SWD)	The funding allocation for the whole pilot scheme is about \$205 million

[Note 2]: The distribution of hotspots in districts depends on the location of venues suitable for the installation of hotspots under different models.

[Note 3]: With a funding allocation of about \$205 million from the Lotteries Fund, SWD has launched a four-year pilot scheme to progressively provide Wi-Fi service at around 1 350 service units operated by subvented organisations under SWD from January 2020.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB167**

**(Question Serial No. 3274)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What were the number and locations of the smart lampposts installed, installation and maintenance fees, data collected and the purposes of applications in the past year?
- (2) What are the number and locations of the smart lampposts to be installed, installation and maintenance fees, data collected and the purposes of applications in the coming year?
- (3) Since the public is concerned that the data collected by smart lampposts will infringe upon personal privacy, how does the Government strike a balance or allay public concerns?
- (4) What is the progress of providing free Wi-Fi services on smart lampposts?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

- (1) The installation works of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. Of those Smart Lampposts, 30 of them in Kwun Tong district were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Pilot Scheme. The expenditure for the works (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment and road maintenance works) and operation (including daily operation and repair and maintenance of Smart Lampposts) of the Pilot Scheme in 2019-20 are \$20 million and \$4.2 million respectively.

The Pilot Scheme collects city data including meteorological data, air quality data and traffic flow, etc., and provides suitable facilities complementing 5G mobile network implementation to promote smart city development in Hong Kong. The real-time city data collected by Smart Lampposts will be released to the public for free use as open data via the “data.gov.hk” portal.

- (2) & (3) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)). The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

- (4) Among the 50 Smart Lampposts installed in the first phase, 12 of them are installed with Wi-Fi facilities. However, the Wi-Fi facilities of 7 Smart Lampposts at Sheung Yuet Road were damaged during the public events in August 2019 and the relevant services had not resumed.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB168**

**(Question Serial No. 1875)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme (the Scheme) is a three-year programme in which some 400 smart lampposts are to be installed in phases in Central/Admiralty, Causeway Bay/Wan Chai, Tsim Sha Tsui and Kwun Tong/Kai Tak Development Area to support the implementation of 5G mobile network. However, as many lampposts were damaged in districts like Kwun Tong last year, Wi-Fi service is only available in certain parts of Hong Kong to date and the signals are largely unstable. Some members of the public are also concerned that the collection of big data may lead to personal privacy infringement.

- (a) In this connection, will the Government set out the timetable and progress of developing Hong Kong into a Wi-Fi connected city?
- (b) Given that the security of public networks for Wi-Fi users is questioned, how does the Government plan to protect the privacy of the general public? Are there any other plans to develop Wi-Fi service apart from smart lampposts, such as plans to work with telecommunications companies in the market to enhance open data applications? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

- (a) We announced the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme in 2016 with a target to progressively expand free Wi-Fi coverage to 34 000 hotspots within 3 years. As at end-February 2020, the number of “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots was 36 801, including 3 562 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots installed in buses, taxis and the Airport Express. “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots cover tourist attractions, shopping malls and stores, restaurants, public libraries, government markets and cooked food centres, sports, cultural and recreational venues, district parks and promenades, sitting-out areas in public rental housing estates, public hospitals, etc.

With various Wi-Fi enhancement works at government venues like upgrade of technology standard and replacement of copper wires with optic fibres, the free

“Wi-Fi.HK” service is more stable. At present, the average connection speed of the “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots exceeds 20 Mbps.

According to the “Wi-Fi.HK” user experience surveys completed at the end of last year, 70% of the respondents gave a score of 5 or above (on a 7-point scale) on the overall satisfaction to service performance, while the mean score of connection speed has increased from 4.9 in 2018 to 5.1 in 2019.

- (b) We have from time to time reminded the public of the need for considering cyber security and exercising due care in using public Wi-Fi service to transmit sensitive or personal information. Government Wi-Fi service providers are required to meet the security requirements of the Government and follow the “Guidelines on the Security Aspects for the Design, Implementation, Management and Operation of Public Wi-Fi Service” issued by the Office of the Communications Authority.

We will continue to collaborate with telecommunications operators and the industry to expand the coverage of “Wi-Fi.HK” across the territory. Apart from providing free Wi-Fi service at government venues, we will encourage the industry and public and private organisations to join the programme and provide free Wi-Fi service at more venues under the public-private collaboration model. We will also step up promotional efforts through different social media and collaboration with the Hong Kong Tourism Board with an aim to enhance the awareness of the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand among residents and visitors, enabling them to use the free Wi-Fi service across the territory more conveniently.

With a funding allocation of about \$205 million from the Lotteries Fund, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) launched a four-year pilot scheme to progressively provide Wi-Fi service at around 1 350 service units operated by subvented organisations under SWD from January 2020. Starting from July 2019, SWD has progressively provided Wi-Fi service at around 180 welfare facilities which it operates.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB169**

**(Question Serial No. 2924)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 include enriching the ICT knowledge among the elderly. The aging problem in Hong Kong is serious, but the development of gerontechnology is slow, and the sensitivity to information technology and technology adoption rate of the elderly are low. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer launched the web-based learning portal in 2019-20. What are the number, frequency and effectiveness of the elderly participating in the learning?
- (2) What are the outreach and training activities to be organised for enhancing technology adoption by the elderly and what are the contents of the web-based learning in 2020-21?
- (3) What are the expenditure and manpower allocation for the activities?

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) launched the Elderly IT Learning portal in October 2019. As at end-February 2020, the portal recorded around 6 800 visits and around 500 000 hits. We will evaluate the effectiveness of the portal through questionnaire survey to collect elderly users' views on and usage of the learning portal. The survey is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2020.
- (2) Under the ICT Outreach Programme for the Elderly, 6 funded non-governmental organisations visit institutionalised elders, hidden elders, elders receiving day care centre services or home care services to teach them to use tablets, smartphones and other technology products such as smart watches and virtual reality (VR) products, etc. Under the Enriched ICT Training Programme for the Elderly, 11 funded Elder

Academies offer free training courses for elders with basic digital technology knowledge to further strengthen their knowledge in adopting digital technology in their daily living. The courses cover e-Government services, social media, cyber security, wealth management, health management, etc.

In 2020-21, 10 new learning modules will be launched on the Elderly IT Learning portal in phases, covering online shopping, e-Government services, cyber security, cloud-based tools and social media, etc. The portal will also provide training in an interactive manner (such as VR videos, interactive quizzes, etc.) to help the elderly use learning resources more effectively.

- (3) The estimated expenditure for the ICT Outreach Programme for the Elderly and the Enriched ICT Training Programme for the Elderly for 2020-21 is around \$9.3 million. In addition to redeployment of existing manpower, OGCIO created 2 additional posts for handling the relevant work, namely, 1 Analyst/Programmer I and 1 Analyst/Programmer II. The total annual emoluments of the 2 additional posts are around \$1.34 million.

The expenditure for setting up the Elderly IT Learning portal is around \$3 million. The manpower involved for managing the portal is met by internal deployment within OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB170**

**(Question Serial No. 0290)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

One of the responsibilities of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is to facilitate the delivery of government services by various departments such as the electronic submission of government forms. In this connection, please advise on the following:

1. What are the actual resources allocated, the major work conducted and the main progress made in this regard in the past 2 years?
2. In view of the novel coronavirus epidemic, the Government has made arrangement for some civil servants to work from home. However, the chain of work of certain sectors has been affected. For example, many approval procedures of engineering projects such as drawing, Consent on Commencement of Building Works and occupation permit, etc. still follow a very traditional and conservative pattern. The solution is to adopt electronic means. But since the progress of e-Government services is far too slow, the inadequacy of the Government is further accentuated in the face of the epidemic. Will the Government learn the lesson and allocate additional resources as soon as possible to expedite the implementation of e-Government services? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) As at end-2019, the government made available more than 850 e-services. In the past 2 years, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has been driving bureaux/departments (B/Ds) to develop more convenient e-Government services for the public to promote digital transformation of public services. The related measures include:
  - (i) To further enhance user experience, OGCIO requests B/Ds to adopt mobile-friendly design in developing e-Government services, and update all websites by end-2020 to facilitate the public in browsing the websites and using



the searching function and services provided by the websites using different electronic devices, including tablets and smartphones.

- (ii) OGCIO drives B/D in providing more electronic forms and provides technical support. Currently, up to 1 800 government forms support electronic submission.
- (iii) With the launch of the “iAM Smart” one-stop personalised digital service platform in the fourth quarter of 2020, more than 20 commonly used online government services will adopt “iAM Smart” for making application or use of services, including e-services for public rental housing tenants, eTAX, renewal of full driving licence, registration of outbound travel information, and registration for employment services by job seekers, etc. It is expected that by mid-2021, over 110 e-Government services will adopt the “iAM Smart” platform for user login or digital signing, and about 3 000 government forms allow electronic submission. OGCIO will continue to drive B/Ds in adopting “iAM Smart” for e-Government services progressively.
- (iv) OGCIO launched a chatbot (named Bonny) on the GovHK portal in end-December 2019 to facilitate the public in searching and using electronic government forms and services.

The total expenditure for implementing the work in items (ii) to (iv) above in 2018-19 and 2019-20 is about \$33 million. The implementation of the work related to “iAM Smart” involves 7 new civil service posts. Other projects are undertaken by existing manpower of OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- (2) With the launch of “iAM Smart” in the fourth quarter of 2020, OGCIO has increased the provision for Capital Project Reserve Fund Head 710 estimates for 2020-21 to support B/Ds in implementing and enhancing their e-Government services as well as launching new services (including electronic forms) on the “iAM Smart” platform.

Besides, according to the information provided by the Development Bureau, a sum of \$214.39 million was approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in February 2019 for the Buildings Department (BD) to develop an Electronic Submission Hub (ESH) running on the Next Generation Government Cloud, thereby allowing the industry and the public to submit all building plans and applications under the Buildings Ordinance electronically, and enabling BD and the departments concerned to process various kinds of plans and applications via ESH. ESH helps encourage the industry to adopt the building information modelling technology more extensively and comprehensively, and streamline the approval process. BD is now conducting tender evaluation for ESH, preparing for the development of ESH and liaising with the departments concerned and the industry. BD’s target is to accept electronic submission of plans and applications progressively starting from the first quarter of 2022.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB171****(Question Serial No. 0291)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In 2019-20, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer installed 50 smart lampposts in Kwun Tong/Kai Tak Development Area under the first phase of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme. However, a number of smart lampposts suffered multiple damages during the street violence lasting for more than half year. In this connection, please advise on the following:

1. What are the numbers of smart lampposts damaged and repaired respectively as well as the resources and manpower involved up to now?
2. Will the Government allocate additional resources to improve the design and function of smart lampposts? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (1) Of the 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) installed in Kwun Tong district, 30 of them were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme). The resources and manpower involved will be further assessed.
- (2) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for

promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)). The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB172**

**(Question Serial No. 0292)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is responsible for supporting the co-ordination and monitoring of smart city initiatives and publication of Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0. In this connection, please advise on the following:

1. Since the publication of the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong by the Government in December 2017, what are the actual resources allocated, the major work conducted and the main progress made in this regard?
2. Will the Government consider devising the implementation order and timetable of major policy initiatives according to their priorities and importance, and drawing up key performance indicators for various projects in the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0 to be published? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

1. The *Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong* (Blueprint) published in December 2017 comprises 76 initiatives and relevant bureaux and departments (B/Ds) have been actively implementing these initiatives over the past 2 years.

In respect of fostering the development of Smart Government, including the use of e-Government services and information technology (IT) to improve public services, apart from the smart city infrastructure projects, namely “iAM Smart” one-stop digital service platform, multi-functional smart lampposts, government cloud services and big data analytics platform, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Government Innovation Lab in April 2019 to assist government departments in IT adoption to improve the quality and efficiency of public services. Chatbot function has also been introduced on the GovHK portal in end-2019.

The Government has been making good progress in respect of open data. Regarding real-time data related to public transport, the 3 franchised bus companies (New World

First Bus Services Limited, Citybus Limited and New Lantau Bus Company (1973) Limited) have released their real-time arrival data via the “data.gov.hk” portal. MTR Corporation Limited has also released the real-time arrival data for 4 railway lines (including Airport Express, Tung Chung Line, Tseung Kwan O Line and West Rail Line) to promote Smart Mobility.

Regarding electronic payment, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority launched the Faster Payment System (FPS) in September 2018. To provide the public with greater convenience, the Government has started to accept payments of tax, rates and water charges through different mobile banking apps and e-wallets by scanning the QR codes on the bills since November 2019.

For the smart city key infrastructure projects implemented by OGCIO, including the “electronic identity” (now officially named as “iAM Smart”), “Multi-functional Smart Lampposts” Pilot Scheme, and “Next Generation Government Cloud and Big Data Analytics Platform”, the Government will put in about \$917 million on this front. As regards other initiatives, they are being funded by respective B/Ds and we do not have the relevant figures.

2. Smart city development is an evolving subject. The Government has been keeping a close watch on related smart city developments in different places. B/D will also make reference to the experience of other places e.g. various key performance indicators (KPI) to help update their targets and initiatives as well as evaluate their work and progress. In fact, a number of initiatives in the Blueprint have already set out the target results or implementation dates. The Government is now reviewing and updating the Blueprint with a view to releasing the *Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0* this year, which will update the latest progress of various initiatives and set out new proposals.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB173**

**(Question Serial No. 6837)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Major telecommunications operators will launch the fifth generation mobile communications technology (5G) services in Hong Kong this year. The Financial Secretary has also announced that the Government would adopt a multi-pronged approach to facilitate the development and application of 5G network. This includes the implementation of a subsidy scheme for network operators to extend optical fibre network to remote villages. The Government will also open up more suitable government venues, sheltered bus stops and telephone kiosks for the setting up of radio base stations by operators, etc. In this connection, please inform this Committee of -

Will the Government consider allocating more resources to drive the industry to participate in the development of a multi-functional e-Government service platform to tie in with the trends of big data development? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

In 2018, the Finance Committee approved a commitment of \$533 million for developing the "Next Generation Government Cloud and Big Data Analytics Platform". The concerned facilities are expected to be launched in the third quarter of 2020 to support the "Digital Highway" for high-speed transmission of real-time data. Besides, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) will launch the "iAM Smart" platform in the fourth quarter of 2020 to provide one-stop personalised digital government services. OGCIO is also proactively encouraging public and private organisations to join the "iAM Smart" platform. Technical information on the related application programming interfaces has been uploaded to the website of OGCIO for their planning of information systems upgrade and a pilot programme will be launched for some of those interested public organisations and commercial enterprises (e.g. financial organisations) to participate in testing their online services. In addition, OGCIO has been opening up government data via the "data.gov.hk" portal to facilitate the industry to participate in the development of more big data-related innovative applications.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB174****(Question Serial No. 6059)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Not Specified

Question:

- (a) Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

- (b) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- (c) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- (d) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- (e) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

- (f) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

- (g) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that OGCIO obtained from GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock of goggles	Consumption

- (h) Did OGCIO supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

- (i) If OGCIO is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks



of the officers involved in each decision to supply or sell the items concerned to other organisations, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 148)

Reply:

Apart from collecting surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD), the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer also procures from time to time surgical masks from the market for use by staff.

With an upsurge in the global demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), the Government is facing fierce competition in its procurement efforts. The Government considers it inappropriate to disclose at this stage specific information on PPE of individual departments, such as the stock in the past few years and the recent stock, places of origin, quantities procured and the value involved, the consumption, etc., so as not to undermine the bargaining power of GLD and various departments in the procurement of PPE.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB175**

**(Question Serial No. 0712)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of the Smart Government Innovation Lab (the Smart Lab), please advise on the following:

- (1) What has been done through the Smart Lab to help acquaint local start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with the technology needs of government departments? What are the activities to be held in 2020-21 and the expenditure involved? What are the expenditure and manpower required for setting up and operating the Smart Lab?
- (2) The Government shares information on the challenges being faced by different public services, and invite the industry to submit technology solutions and product suggestions for addressing such challenges on the thematic website of the Smart Lab. What is the monthly number of visits to the website to date? What are the criteria for setting the areas of public services intended to solicit information technology (IT) solutions, the methods for selecting technology solutions, and the expenditure and timetable for inviting and testing solutions?
- (3) What are the plan, estimated expenditure and manpower required for promoting the Smart Lab to the industry, and strengthening the liaison between government departments and technology application providers in 2020-21? Will the use of social media be enhanced to collect views from the industry and the public?
- (4) How many innovation and technology (I&T) solutions have been adopted through the Smart Lab in 2019-20? How many items of government service needs have been successfully matched with the solutions of I&T providers? Please list out the titles of the needs that have been successfully matched, the providers of solutions, the sum of contracts signed and the duration of the contracts.
- (5) What are the plans to further enhance the transparency of procurement information to make it easier for SMEs to identify suitable procurement opportunities for IT products and services?
- (6) Will consultancy study be commissioned to find out about the adoption of information and communications technology (ICT) among Hong Kong SMEs as well as the barriers and incentives facing them following the rollout of the Technology Voucher

Programme, and to make recommendations to the Government for facilitating the digital transformation of SMEs with ICT adoption?

- (7) Will any proactive actions be taken to promote those technology solutions of local SMEs adopted by the Hong Kong Government abroad through the InvestHK and overseas Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices to help Hong Kong technology start-ups and SMEs go global and open up more business opportunities?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1), (2) and (3) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Government Innovation Lab (Smart Lab) in April 2019 to promote wide adoption of innovation and technology in government departments, and to invite industry players to assist departments in adopting information technology (IT) solutions to improve public services, thereby creating more business opportunities for local start-ups as well as small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The Smart Lab has set up a thematic website which has published over 50 business needs from various bureaux and departments (B/Ds) so far. The website has also received more than 180 IT solutions submitted by the industry, covering artificial intelligence, data analytics, cloud computing, Internet of Things, etc. Besides, the Smart Lab organised 3 technology forums in collaboration with Cyberport and Hong Kong Science Park in 2019 for industry players to introduce their technology solutions to different departments. The Smart Lab has matched 27 business needs with solutions, and in the process, arranged 23 workshops for departments and 15 proof-of-concept trials.

The Smart Lab will continue to organise technology forums on different technology areas. For instance, we will promote the adoption of robotics technologies in government departments in 2020. Apart from collecting views and suggestions from the industry, other interested parties and individuals through the thematic website, the Smart Lab will also disseminate event information and collect views through various channels including the Facebook page of OGCIO. The average monthly number of visits to the thematic website is about 6 100.

The estimated expenditure for the Smart Lab in 2020-21 is about \$4.9 million. OGCIO deployed 6 IT professional civil service posts to carry out the work related to the Smart Lab.

- (4) In 2019-20, the Smart Lab has matched a total of 27 business needs with solutions. Among them, 8 projects are planning for pilot implementation. Details are as below:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Solution Provider</b>	<b>Estimated Cost for Pilot Project (\$'000)</b>	<b>Pilot Period (Months)</b>
Automated Cyber Security	Lively Impact	200	12

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Solution Provider</b>	<b>Estimated Cost for Pilot Project (\$'000)</b>	<b>Pilot Period (Months)</b>
Information Analysis	Technology Limited		
Proof-of-Concept for Anti-bot Solution	Shape Security	1,170	12
Pilot Application on Transfer of Trademark Ownership	Blockchain Solutions Limited	880	6
Pilot Application on Alerting Notification Service	trustME Chain Corporation Limited	880	7
Pilot Application on Compilation of Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report Management System	Deloitte China	1,000	6
Pilot Application on Using Smart Film to Display Real-time Data	Film Players Limited	70	6
Virtual Environment without Headmount Wearable Device to Visualise 3D Models	Chain Technology Development Company Limited	1,330	4
Pilot Application on Traceability of Pharmaceutical Products	Blockchain Solutions Limited	730	7

- (5) Under the pro-innovation government procurement policy effective on 1 April 2019, departments are encouraged to adopt marking scheme, raise the technical weighting in assessment and reserve marks for assessing innovative suggestions submitted by bidders. In general, departments should not include bidders' experience as a mandatory requirement for participating in procurement. B/Ds are also encouraged to publish their service needs through the Smart Lab thematic website to let local start-ups and SMEs better understand the service needs of B/Ds and submit technology solutions and product suggestions to address these needs, thereby creating more opportunities for the local start-ups and SMEs to participate in bidding.
- (6) The Government has been working closely with the information and communications technology (ICT) industry to facilitate wider adoption of ICT among SMEs. The Government will continue to provide funding support for local enterprises/organisations in using various technology services and solutions, including ICT-related solutions, to improve productivity or upgrade and transform business processes through the Technology Voucher Programme.
- (7) OGCIO has maintained close liaison with InvestHK and Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, and actively promotes Hong Kong's flagship ICT events both locally and overseas, including the "Internet Economy Summit" and the "Hong Kong ICT

Awards”. The Smart Lab also showcases to local and foreign organisations technologies and applications that are being or have been successfully tested by departments, such as city dashboard, chatbot, virtual reality, geospatial information system and smart sensing technology, etc. to create more business opportunities for local start-ups and SMEs.

OGCIO also leads or sponsors local outstanding technology start-ups and SMEs (including the award-winning enterprises of the Hong Kong ICT Awards) to attend regularly large-scale ICT events held overseas and on the Mainland, such as the Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology Alliance Awards and the China International Software Expo, which enable them to introduce the quality technology solutions and services they developed to participating local and foreign businesses during the events, and help Hong Kong technology start-ups and SMEs to identify more business opportunities and wider scope of development.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB176****(Question Serial No. 0714)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the employment of information technology (IT) staff by the Government, please advise on the following:

- (1) The numbers of staff employed through T25 contractors (T-contract staff) for government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) as at end-February 2020 (by department)

B/D	Staff Category and Number of T-contract Staff	Total Number of T-contract Staff

- (2) The benefits offered to T-contract staff by T25 contractors:  
 The number of T-contractors offering both outpatient and inpatient insurance coverage  
 The number of T-contractors offering outpatient insurance coverage  
 The number of T-contractors offering inpatient insurance coverage  
 The number of T-contractors offering paid annual leave of at least 8 to 9 days  
 The number of T-contractors offering paid annual leave of 10 days or more  
 The number of T-contractors offering gratuity/long service awards

- (3) The number of Notice of Default issued to T25 contractors

- (4) Average years of service and average salaries of T-contract staff in B/Ds (by post)

Post Category	Average Year of Service

- (5) Average years of service of T-contract staff in B/Ds (by post)

Post	Average Year of Service	Average Monthly Salary (including allowances)

- (6) The numbers of civil service IT staff in B/Ds in 2019-20 (in descending order by staff number)

B/D	Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Analyst/ Programmer I (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Analyst/ Programmer II (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Total Number (and the percentage change against 2018-19)

- (7) The numbers of full-time Non-Civil Service Contract (NCSC) staff providing IT support engaged by B/Ds in 2019-20 (in descending order by staff number)

B/D	Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Analyst/ Programmer I (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Analyst/ Programmer II (and the percentage change against 2018-19)	Total Number (and the percentage change against 2018-19)

- (8) The total numbers of T-contract staff engaged by B/Ds through T-contractors, and the year-on-year percentage change;
- (9) The increase in the civil service IT establishment, and the corresponding decrease in the number of T-contract positions in B/Ds in 2019-20;
- (10) Are T-contractors currently required to inform T-contract staff of the contract renewal arrangement within a specified period prior to the expiry of their employment contract? If yes, how is it done? If not, what are the reasons? Will the Government explore the inclusion of such arrangement?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) As at end-February 2020, the number of staff engaged through T25 contractors (T-contract staff) by bureaux and departments (B/Ds) is at **Annex I**.
- (2) The number of T25 contractors offering enhanced remuneration packages to T-contract staff according to contract terms is as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Number</b>
Number of T-contractors offering both outpatient and inpatient insurance coverage	12
Number of T-contractors offering outpatient insurance coverage only	1
Number of T-contractors offering inpatient insurance coverage only	1
Number of T-contractors offering paid annual leave of at least 8 to 9 days	2
Number of T-contractors offering paid annual leave of 10 days or more	10
Number of T-contractors offering long service awards	9

- (3) Since the commencement of T25 contract in February 2019, we have not issued any Notice of Default to contractors due to non-compliance with or breach of contract terms.
- (4) & (5) As at end-February 2020, the average years of service of T-contract staff engaged by B/Ds is as follows:

<b>Staff Category</b>	<b>Average Years of Service</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>
Senior Project Manager	9.1
Project Manager	6.7
Senior Systems Analyst	8.0
Systems Analyst	5.4
Analyst/Programmer	3.8
Programmer/Junior Programmer	2.6
Senior Information Technology Assistant/Information Technology Assistant	3.4

Note 1: Years of service refers to the number of years of service of individual T-contract staff serving in the same B/D, during which the staff concerned may not be working in the same category and responsible for the same assignment.

Since T-contract staff are employees of T-contractors, information on their salaries is kept and managed by the contractors. According to the regular reports submitted by the contractors to OGCI and the results of OGCI's half-yearly random check of relevant records, the monthly wage for T-contract staff's "Programmer" category is higher than the latest "Median monthly wage by industry section: All employees" for the industry of "Information and Communications" as published by the Census and



Statistics Department. For T-contract staff categories above “Programmer”, they receive a monthly wage higher than that payable to the “Programmer” in the same month. Moreover, as shown in the employment contracts of about 1 500 T-contract staff randomly checked, their monthly wages are about 80% of the monthly service fees paid to contractors by the Government on average.

- (6) As at end-December 2019, the number of civil service IT staff in B/Ds is at **Annex II**.
- (7) As at end-December 2019, the number of full-time <sup>Note 2</sup> Non-Civil Service Contract staff providing IT support engaged by B/Ds is at **Annex III**.

Note 2: “Full-time” means the employment is on a “continuous contract” as defined by the Employment Ordinance, i.e. an employee works continuously for the same employer for 4 weeks or more, with at least 18 hours per week.

- (8) In the past 3 years, the total numbers of T-contract staff engaged by B/Ds through T-contractors, and the year-on-year rates of change of such figures are as follows:

As at	Total Number	Rate of Change
31 December 2017	2 890	+5%
31 December 2018	3 140	+9%
31 December 2019	3 453	+10%

- (9) In 2019-20, approval was given to B/Ds for creating a total of 167 new civil service IT posts in the Analyst/Programmer Grade and Computer Operator Grade. Taking into consideration the long-term operational and service needs, 4 of the above new posts were for replacing existing T-contract positions.
- (10) T25 contractors have set up internal mechanisms to review monthly information on T-contract staff whose contracts will expire in the coming one to two months. They will follow up with respective departments on contract renewal matters or arrange job-matching for the staff concerned. If it is considered necessary to extend the services of individual T-contract staff having regard to project progress, operational needs and financial position, departments will ascertain the intention of the staff for contract renewal through respective contractors generally about two to three weeks prior to the contract expiry. If the work of any T-contract position is going to change in accordance with the project implementation timetable (e.g. from system analysis and design stage to system implementation stage), the department may open up the T-contract position for recruitment two months prior to the expiry of his current contract and the serving T-contract staff may consider applying for that T-contract position through any contractor of his choice.

**Numbers of T-contract staff engaged through T25 contractors by B/Ds  
(as at end-February 2020)**

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	4	6	14	12	36
Architectural Services Department	-	8	11	-	19
Auxiliary Medical Service	-	-	1	-	1
Buildings Department	6	8	6	5	25
Census and Statistics Department	4	15	11	4	34
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	-	6	7	-	13
Civil Aid Service	-	1	-	-	1
Civil Aviation Department	4	9	15	-	28
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1	8	12	2	23
Civil Service Bureau	-	6	9	1	16
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Commerce,	-	4	3	-	7

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Industry and Tourism Branch)					
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	-	1	-	1	2
Companies Registry	6	20	7	1	34
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	1	3	-	-	4
Correctional Services Department	3	7	3	-	13
Create Hong Kong	-	3	-	-	3
Customs and Excise Department	5	69	52	21	147
Development Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch)	-	3	1	2	6
Development Bureau (Works Branch)	3	11	6	8	28
Drainage Services Department	-	10	8	6	24
Education Bureau	4	54	92	30	180
Electrical and Mechanical	-	28	23	10	61

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Services Department					
Environmental Protection Department	9	42	48	-	99
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Financial Services Branch)	-	-	-	1	1
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)	-	1	3	-	4
Fire Services Department	2	10	10	9	31
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	7	60	51	9	127
Food and Health Bureau	1	7	2	-	10
Government Flying Service	-	3	-	1	4
Government Laboratory	1	2	-	-	3
Government Logistics Department	1	8	4	2	15
Government Property Agency	-	4	1	2	7
Department of Health	20	80	41	48	189
Highways Department	-	4	5	-	9
Home Affairs Bureau	-	2	4	-	6

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Home Affairs Department	-	4	8	5	17
Hong Kong Observatory	1	4	33	-	38
Hong Kong Police Force	7	67	64	17	155
Housing Department	10	145	40	12	207
Immigration Department	8	50	13	24	95
Information Services Department	1	4	9	3	17
Inland Revenue Department	4	54	77	13	148
Innovation and Technology Bureau	-	2	2	-	4
Innovation and Technology Commission	2	2	-	-	4
Intellectual Property Department	1	2	-	-	3
Invest Hong Kong	-	2	-	-	2
Judiciary	9	102	35	22	168
Department of Justice	2	23	19	9	53
Labour and Welfare Bureau	-	2	-	-	2
Labour Department	6	28	73	11	118
Land Registry	3	20	4	1	28
Lands Department	1	19	31	44	95
Legal Aid Department	1	1	6	-	8
Leisure and	6	41	42	35	124

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cultural Services Department					
Marine Department	-	7	16	2	25
Office of the Communications Authority	-	-	5	1	6
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	38	230	69	4	341
Official Receiver's Office	-	3	1	-	4
Planning Department	-	4	12	-	16
Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office	-	1	1	-	2
Hongkong Post	5	33	49	3	90
Radio Television Hong Kong	1	4	7	-	12
Rating and Valuation Department	-	12	6	5	23
Registration and Electoral Office	3	8	13	4	28
Security Bureau	-	4	2	-	6
Social Welfare Department	13	71	41	7	132
Trade and Industry Department	-	10	10	2	22
Transport and Housing Bureau	-	1	-	-	1
Transport Department	11	25	23	14	73

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Senior Project Manager and Project Manager</b>	<b>Senior Systems Analyst and Systems Analyst</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer, Programmer and Junior Programmer</b>	<b>Senior Information Technology Assistant and Information Technology Assistant</b>	<b>Total</b>
Treasury	1	21	29	-	51
University Grants Committee Secretariat	-	5	1	-	6
Water Supplies Department	-	2	10	6	18
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	2	27	49	8	86
Total :	218	1 543	1 250	427	3 438

**Numbers of Civil Service IT Staff in B/Ds**  
(as at end-December 2019)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer I</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	121 (+4%)	168 (+2%)	76 (+13%)	365 (+5%)
Hong Kong Police Force	15 (-6%)	33 (-)	45 (-)	93 (-1%)
Immigration Department	14 (-7%)	25 (-4%)	19 (-)	58 (-3%)
Housing Department	8 (-11%)	24 (+9%)	19 (+27%)	51 (+11%)
Department of Health	15 (+25%)	10 (-)	15 (+25%)	40 (+18%)
Judiciary	12 (-8%)	10 (+67%)	15 (+15%)	37 (+16%)
Treasury	8 (+14%)	14 (-7%)	13 (+18%)	35 (+6%)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	8 (+14%)	12 (+33%)	14 (+17%)	34 (+21%)
Customs and Excise Department	7 (+17%)	14 (-13%)	11 (+57%)	32 (+10%)
Education Bureau	8 (+14%)	14 (+27%)	10 (-17%)	32 (+7%)
Inland Revenue Department	6 (-)	12 (-)	12 (-)	30 (-)
Social Welfare Department	7 (+17%)	12 (+20%)	10 (-23%)	29 (-)
Census and Statistics Department	3 (-)	12 (-8%)	11 (+22%)	26 (+4%)
Rating and Valuation Department	3 (-)	13 (+8%)	4 (-20%)	20 (-)



<b>B/D</b>	<b>Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer I</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	5 (-)	6 (+20%)	9 (-18%)	20 (-5%)
Hongkong Post	8 (+14%)	6 (+20%)	5 (-)	19 (+12%)
Land Registry	5 (+25%)	8 (+14%)	5 (-29%)	18 (-)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	6 (+20%)	5 (+67%)	6 (-)	17 (+21%)
Civil Service Bureau	3 (+50%)	8 (+14%)	5 (-29%)	16 (-)
Companies Registry	5 (+67%)	5 (-17%)	6 (-14%)	16 (-)
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)	10 (+43%)	2 (-)	3 (-)	15 (+25%)
Marine Department	3 (-25%)	6 (+50%)	6 (-14%)	15 (-)
Correctional Services Department	5 (+400%)	4 (-)	4 (+33%)	13 (+63%)
Food and Health Bureau	7 (+17%)	3 (+50%)	3 (-25%)	13 (+8%)
Hong Kong Observatory	1 (-)	3 (+50%)	9 (-10%)	13 (-)
Planning Department	2 (-33%)	6 (+20%)	5 (+25%)	13 (+8%)
Security Bureau	4 (-)	3 (-40%)	5 (+25%)	12 (-8%)
Buildings Department	1 (-50%)	4 (+33%)	6 (+20%)	11 (+10%)
Trade and Industry Department	1 (-50%)	6 (+20%)	4 (-)	11 (-)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer I</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	2 (-)	5 (-)	3 (-25%)	10 (-9%)
Home Affairs Department	2 (-)	5 (+25%)	3 (N/A)	10 (+67%)
Department of Justice	3 (-)	6 (+20%)	1 (-50%)	10 (-)
Transport Department	5 (+150%)	3 (-)	2 (-33%)	10 (+25%)
Labour Department	3 (-)	2 (-33%)	4 (+33%)	9 (-)
Water Supplies Department	2 (+100%)	5 (-17%)	1 (N/A)	8 (+14%)
Lands Department	1 (-)	4 (-)	1 (-)	6 (-)
Registration and Electoral Office	2 (-33%)	1 (-50%)	3 (+50%)	6 (-14%)
Development Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch)	2 (+100%)	1 (N/A)	2 (-33%)	5 (+25%)
Development Bureau (Works Branch)	0 (-100%)	3 (-)	2 (+100%)	5 (-)
Environmental Protection Department	1 (-)	2 (-)	2 (-)	5 (-)
Fire Services Department	1 (-)	1 (-)	3 (+50%)	5 (+25%)
Home Affairs Bureau	1 (-)	2 (-)	2 (-)	5 (-)
Intellectual Property Department	2 (+100%)	2 (-)	1 (N/A)	5 (+67%)
Official Receiver's Office	2 (-)	2 (-)	1 (-)	5 (-)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer I</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	2 (-)	0 (-100%)	2 (+100%)	4 (-)
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	1 (-)	1 (N/A)	2 (-33%)	4 (-)
Government Logistics Department	2 (-)	2 (-)	0 (-)	4 (-)
Information Services Department	2 (+100%)	0 (-100%)	2 (+100%)	4 (-)
Labour and Welfare Bureau	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)	4 (-)
Transport and Housing Bureau (Transport Branch)	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)	4 (-)
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	1 (-50%)	1 (-50%)	1 (-)	3 (-40%)
Drainage Services Department	1 (-50%)	1 (-)	1 (-)	3 (-25%)
Innovation and Technology Bureau	1 (-)	2 (-)	0 (-)	3 (-)
Legal Aid Department	2 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	3 (-)
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1 (N/A)	1 (-)	0 (-)	2 (+100%)
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	1 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)	1 (-)	0 (-100%)	1 (-)	2 (-33%)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Chief Systems Manager, Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer I</b>	<b>Analyst/ Programmer II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Highways Department	0 (-100%)	2 (+100%)	0 (-)	2 (-)
Architectural Services Department	1 (N/A)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (N/A)
Auxiliary Medical Service	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Civil Aid Service	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Financial Services Branch)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
Government Flying Service	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
Invest Hong Kong	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
University Grants Committee Secretariat	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
<b>Total :</b>	<b>349 (+7%)</b>	<b>507 (+4%)</b>	<b>403 (+6%)</b>	<b>1 259 (+6%)</b>

( ) Contains percentage change as compared to the number of staff as at 31 December 2018

(-) Indicates no change

(N/A) The B/D concerned did not have any civil service staff in respective rank as at 31 December 2018 and the year-on-year percentage change is not applicable.

**Numbers of Full-time Non-civil Service Contract (NCSC) Staff  
Providing IT Support in B/Ds  
(as at end-December 2019)**

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/Programmer I in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/Programmer II in the civil service</b>	<b>Other contract staff providing IT support</b>	<b>Total</b>
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	125 (-4.6%)	125 (-4.6%)
Education Bureau	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	99 (-)	99 (-)
Hongkong Post	4 (-)	17 (-10.5%)	19 (-)	1 (N/A)	41 (-2.4%)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	8 (-)	12 (-)	2 (-33.3%)	1 (-)	23 (-4.2%)
Efficiency Office	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	21 (+10.5%)	22 (+10%)
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	2 (-)	7 (-)	12 (+9.1%)	0 (-)	21 (+5.0%)
Hong Kong Observatory	0 (-)	0 (-)	16(+23.1%)	0 (-)	16 (+23.1%)
Lands Department	0 (-)	4 (-)	0 (-)	10 (-)	14 (-)
Office of the Communications Authority	4 (-)	6 (-14.3%)	2 (-33.3%)	0 (-)	12 (-14.3%)
Rating and Valuation	0 (-)	2 (-33.3%)	10 (-28.6%)	0 (-)	12 (-29.4%)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/ Programmer I in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/ Programmer II in the civil service</b>	<b>Other contract staff providing IT support</b>	<b>Total</b>
Department					
Inland Revenue Department	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	10 (-23.1%)	10 (-23.1%)
Drainage Services Department	2 (-)	2 (-)	3 (-25%)	0 (-)	7 (-12.5%)
Water Supplies Department	1 (-)	4 (-)	0 (-)	2 (-)	7 (-)
Home Affairs Department	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	4 (+33.3%)	4 (+33.3%)
Radio Television Hong Kong	0 (-)	0 (-)	3 (-)	1 (-)	4 (-)
Census and Statistics Department	1 (N/A)	2 (N/A)	0 (-)	0 (-)	3 (N/A)
Fire Services Department	3 (+50%)	0 (-100%)	0 (-)	0 (-100%)	3 (-25%)
Planning Department	1 (N/A)	0 (-)	0 (-)	2 (-)	3 (+50%)
Government Laboratory	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
Information and Technology Commission	1 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	2 (-)
Invest Hong Kong	2 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-100%)	2 (-33.3%)
University Grants Committee Secretariat	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
Chief Secretary for	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Senior Systems Manager and Systems Manager in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/ Programmer I in the civil service</b>	<b>Contract staff comparable with Analyst/ Programmer II in the civil service</b>	<b>Other contract staff providing IT support</b>	<b>Total</b>
Administration's Office					
Civil Engineering and Development Department	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
Department of Health	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
Labour Department	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)
Trade and Industry Department	1 (-)	0 (-100%)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-50%)
<b>Total :</b>	<b>33 (+6.5%)</b>	<b>61 (-6.2%)</b>	<b>67 (-5.6%)</b>	<b>278 (-2.5%)</b>	<b>439 (-2.9%)</b>

( ) Contains percentage change as compared to the number of staff as at 31 December 2018

(-) Indicates no change

(N/A) The B/D concerned did not employ any NCSC staff of comparable rank as at 31 December 2018 and the year-on-year percentage change is not applicable.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB177****(Question Serial No. 0716)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the mobile applications (apps) developed by government departments and public organisations, please provide the related information.

- (a) Please advise on the related information in 2019-20 in the following table (in ascending order by the number of downloads and in descending order by development cost):

The information of mobile apps developed by government departments in 2019-20

Govt Dept	Name	Target	Regular/ One-off Projects	Applicable Platform (e.g. iOS/ Android)	Mode of Development (by internal development or contractors engaged by tender)	Development Cost	Routine Maintenance Cost	Promotion Expenditure	Project Start Date, Official Launch Date	Total Number of Downloads as at 29 Feb 2020	Average User Retention Rate on the 7 <sup>th</sup> Day of the Download	Average User Retention Rate on the 30 <sup>th</sup> Day of the Download	Number of Active Users in Feb 2020	Has user survey been conducted

- (b) The numbers of apps developed with mobile apps platforms and templates.
- (c) The information of mobile apps to be developed by government departments in 2020-21 (government departments / names of apps / content and purpose / platforms / modes of development / estimated development costs / estimated routine maintenance costs / estimated promotion expenditure / expected launch dates). Please provide the information in descending order by estimated development cost.
- (d) A list of government mobile apps that have already been decommissioned in 2019-20 (departments, names, total numbers of downloads, development and maintenance costs), and a list of mobile apps to be ceased in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)



Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (a) According to the “Practice Guide for Developing Mobile Apps” promulgated by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) in November 2018, should the intention be solely to disseminate information, instead of using mobile applications (apps), B/Ds should consider developing websites using responsive design to enable the public to access information through computers and smartphones. A total of 2 new mobile apps were developed and launched by government departments in 2019-20. Relevant information is at **Annex A**.
- (b) OGCIO establishes a mobile app platform “GovHK Apps” for members of the public to search and download government mobile apps conveniently and securely. The platform is being used by 35 government departments, covering all 82 mobile apps provided by different B/Ds.

Currently OGCIO provides a total of 9 mobile app templates, viz. “Appointment Booking”, “Mobile App Version Check”, “Remote Content Retrieval”, “Mobile Device System Configuration Check”, “User-Friendly Navigation Framework”, “Simple Form for Information Collection/Survey”, “Illustration of Optical Character Recognition Technology”, “Collection of User Behaviour Statistics” and “e-Payment Module”. B/Ds can adopt part of the functions provided by these templates in developing mobile apps. We do not have statistics on the mobile apps developed with these templates.

- (c) 3 B/Ds are expected to launch new mobile apps in 2020-21. Relevant information is at **Annex B**.
- (d) Under OGCIO’s requirements, B/Ds should conduct regular reviews after launching a mobile app, including whether the app has met users’ needs and achieved the expected results and cost-effectiveness. If the projects/measures related to the mobile app have been completed, or there are other more effective ways to provide such service, or the needs of the target user groups have changed, B/Ds should consider decommissioning the app. For those mobile apps designed for use by the general public, B/Ds should decommission them if the number of downloads drops below 10 000 one year after launch. Information on the mobile apps that have already been decommissioned by B/Ds in 2019-20 is at **Annex C**. It is expected that 1 mobile app will be decommissioned in 2020-21 and relevant information is at **Annex D**.

## Information on mobile apps launched by B/Ds in 2019-20 (in ascending order of numbers of downloads)

No.	B/D	Name	Target	Regular/ One-off Projects	Appli- cable Platform (e.g. iOS/ Android)	Mode of Development (by internal development or contractors engaged by tender)	(Approximate) Development Cost of Mobile App	(Approximate) System Maintenance Cost	(Appro- ximate) Promotion Expen- diture	Project Start Date, Official Launch Date	Total Number of Downloads as at 29 Feb 2020	Average User Retention Rate on the 7 <sup>th</sup> day of the Download	Average User Retention Rate on the 30 <sup>th</sup> day of the Download	Number of Active Users in Feb 2020	Has user survey been conduct- ed
1.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Trade	Electrical & Mechanical Trade Practitioners	Regular	iOS and Android	Developed by contractor	\$492,000	The mobile app was launched on 20 Dec 2019. The maintenance cost for the first two years was included in the development cost.	\$288,000, covering the promotion expenditure for E&M Connect and E&M Trade	Project start date: 6 Aug 2018  Official launch date: 20 Dec 2019	5 154	59%	56%	3 349	No
2.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Connect	Public	Regular	iOS and Android	Developed by contractor	\$800,000	The mobile app was launched on 20 Dec 2019. The maintenance cost for the first two years was included in the development cost.	\$288,000, covering the promotional expenditure for E&M Connect and E&M Trade	Project start date: 6 Aug 2018  Official launch date: 20 Dec 2019	5 434	54%	51%	3 030	No

**Information on mobile apps to be launched by B/Ds in 2020-21 (in descending order of estimated development cost)**

No.	B/D	Name	Content and Purpose	Platform	Mode of Development	Estimated Development Cost	Estimated System Maintenance Cost	Estimated Promotion Expenditure	Expected Launch Date
1	Education Bureau (Language Fund)	Workplace English Tic-Tac-Toe 2.0	To provide practical English conversation applicable to various job nature and workplace context. To enhance learning of English in the workplace for frontline workers who have completed senior secondary education.	iOS and Android	Developed by contractor	\$400,000 (including the development of related mobile app and two-year maintenance)	No annual maintenance cost	\$30,000	Q3 2020
2	Water Supplies Department	H <sub>2</sub> OPE Centre	The H <sub>2</sub> OPE Centre is a new educational activity centre set up by the Water Supplies Department. The Centre will bring out educational messages on water resources in Hong Kong, as well as water saving and water conservation through various interactive games and exhibits. The mobile app will tie in with the establishment of the H <sub>2</sub> OPE Centre to provide appointment booking and guided tour functions to facilitate visitors to participate in the activities of the Centre.	iOS and Android	Developed by contractor	Included in the development cost of the whole project. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.			Q2 2020
3	Transport Department	Parking Meter Mobile Application (PMMA)	PMMA is a part of the new generation of parking meter system for remote payment of parking fees and dissemination of real-time parking vacancy information to motorists.	iOS and Android	Developed by contractor	The development cost of the mobile app is included in the whole project of the new generation of parking meter system.			Mid-2020

## Information on mobile apps already decommissioned by B/Ds in 2019-20

No.	B/D	Name	Last Recorded Total Number of Downloads	(Approximate) Development Cost of Mobile App	(Approximate) System Maintenance Cost
1.	Independent Commission Against Corruption	ICAC Smartphone App	12 000	\$568,000	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is incurred.
2.	Department of Health	Framework@PC	17 000	\$196,000	\$90,000
3.	Invest Hong Kong	InvestHK News & Events	1 100	\$388,000	\$24,000
4.	1823 Online	1823 Online mobile app	29 000	\$700,000	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional cost is incurred.
5.	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	Country Parks Tree Walks	51 000	\$615,000	\$54,000

**Information on mobile apps expected to be decommissioned by B/Ds in 2020-21**

<b>No.</b>	<b>B/D</b>	<b>Name</b>
1.	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Bruce Lee: Kung Fu • Art • Life

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB178**

**(Question Serial No. 0718)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the launch of the iAM Smart Platform and the user registration, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the public services to be connected to the Platform at the initial stage and the implementation timetable?
- (2) What are the percentages of public services expected to be connected to the Platform in the overall government services in the coming 3 years?
- (3) What are the measures to protect personal data privacy and security of the public, and to ensure that users understand the use of their personal data?
- (4) What are the expenditure and manpower required for the promotion of the iAM Smart Platform in 2020-21?
- (5) What are the numbers and categories of public services, business services and other services expected to adopt the iAM Smart Platform for user login in the coming 3 years?
- (6) What are the plans to allow more local innovation and technology companies and IT small and medium enterprises to participate in the development of the iAM Smart Platform? Will application tools be provided to developers?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) We will launch the “iAM Smart” one-stop personalised digital service platform in the fourth quarter of 2020. Residents may choose to register with “iAM Smart” to use different government online services. It is expected that more than 20 commonly used online government services will be available on the platform upon its launch. These include e-services for public rental housing tenants, eTAX, renewal of full driving licence, registration of outbound travel information, and registration for employment services by job seekers, etc.

- (2) It is expected that when various government departments complete their major system upgrades in 2023, over 120 e-Government services will adopt the “iAM Smart” platform for user login or digital signing.
- (3) In the course of developing the “iAM Smart” platform, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has been following strictly the government IT security policy and guidelines as well as the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance in implementing the relevant information security and privacy protection requirements. In addition, OGCIO will pursue the information security and privacy management certification in accordance with the international standards ISO27001 and ISO27701.

The photo of Hong Kong Identity Card provided and the selfie photo taken by residents during registration for “iAM Smart” will be deleted immediately after verification of user identity. Other personal information provided during registration will only be used for “iAM Smart” account management. User data will be encrypted and stored in government data centre facilities.

We will start the promotion and publicity for the “iAM Smart” platform in mid-2020 through different channels such as television and social media to outline to the public the arrangements for “iAM Smart” registration and service, including related personal privacy protection and information security measures.

- (4) In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure for promoting the “iAM Smart” platform is \$2 million. The related work is absorbed by the existing manpower.
- (5) OGCIO welcomes the participation of e-services from public and private organisations and in the “iAM Smart” platform, and will provide the necessary assistance. At this
- (6) stage, public bodies planning to join the “iAM Smart” platform include the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority and the Hospital Authority. In the initial launching stage for “iAM Smart”, we will focus our efforts to facilitate and assist government departments and public bodies in joining the platform. As for the private sector, we will actively promote “iAM Smart” to commercial organisations, including local innovation and technology companies as well as small- and medium-sized IT enterprises. Relevant information on the application programming interfaces for “iAM Smart” was uploaded to the website of OGCIO in September 2019 to enable interested enterprises to understand the “iAM Smart” system and its technical setup as early as possible, so as to facilitate their consideration of and planning for the adoption of the “iAM Smart” platform in their online services. We have not set any targets for the number and categories of business or other services to adopt “iAM Smart” at this stage.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB179**

**(Question Serial No. 0720)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the procurement policy of information technology (IT) products and services of the Government, please advise on the following:

- (1) As at 29 February 2020, what are the respective total values of IT products and services procured under the Standing Offer Agreement for Quality Professional Services 4 (SOA-QPS4) by the Government, and the number of contracts awarded to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)?
- (2) As at 29 February 2020, among those contracts awarded under SOA-QPS4, what are the respective percentages and average contract values of the 4 service categories, the percentages and average contract values of Minor Group and Major Group contracts under service categories (2) and (3), the percentage of contracts with expenditure exceeding the estimated cost against the total numbers, as well as the percentage of contracts with the completion date delayed for more than 30 days against the planned date?
- (3) What are the numbers and amount of contracts, as well as the percentage against the total number under the "Minor Group" successfully bidden by SMEs in 2019-20?
- (4) What are the numbers and amount of successful bids for government contracts by local technology start-ups, as well as the percentage against the total number in 2019-20?
- (5) Will procurement targets be devised to specify that the target ratio of government procurement of SME goods should at least reach a certain percentage (e.g. one third) against the total procurement number, so as to encourage different government departments to choose SMEs as suppliers?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) In 2019-20 (up to 29 February 2020), the total value of information technology (IT) services contracts procured by bureaux and departments (B/Ds) through the Standing Offer Agreement for Quality Professional Services 4 (SOA-QPS4) was about \$490



million, of which, 161 contracts with a total sum of about \$103 million were awarded to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). SOA-QPS4 contracts are for professional services, which do not cover procurement of IT products.

- (2) In 2019-20 (up to 29 February 2020), the percentages and average contract values of the 4 service categories in SOA-QPS4 are as follows:

<b>Service category</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Average contract value</b>
Category 1 (Pre-implementation Services)	7%	\$740,000
Category 2 (On-going Services)	24% (Minor Group: 93%; Major Group: 7%)	\$1,470,000 (Minor Group: \$940,000; Major Group: \$8,510,000)
Category 3 (System Development and Implementation Services)	23% (Minor Group: 65%; Major Group: 35%)	\$3,350,000 (Minor Group: \$1,150,000; Major Group: \$7,440,000)
Category 4 (IT Security and Independent Testing Services)	46%	\$90,000

All these contracts do not exceed their budgets.

In 2019-20 (up to 29 February 2020), a total of 235 contracts were completed. Among them, about 30% has experienced delay for more than 30 days against the estimated completion date.

- (3) A total of 16 contractors in SOA-QPS4 are SMEs. Among them, 8 fall under the Minor Group of Service Categories 2 and 3. In 2019-20 (up to 29 February 2020), these 8 SMEs were granted a total of 55 Minor Group contracts amounting to a total value of \$69 million i.e. 45% of this group.
- (4) Details of government tenders were kept by individual B/Ds. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer does not have the relevant statistics.
- (5) We will consider introducing new measures in the new round of Standing Offer Agreement for Quality Professional Services, with a view to providing more opportunities for SMEs to bid government IT projects.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB180**

**(Question Serial No. 0722)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the public concerns over potential privacy issues arising from the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme, please advise on the following:

- (1) The technologies and concepts involved in the eight Proof of Concept (PoC) trials of the Kowloon East Smart City PoC, details of the piloted smart devices, details and intended uses of the data collected, whether personal identifiable information is collected, and whether technologies, devices or software that will not collect personal identifiable information are piloted;
- (2) AU Kit-ying, Head of the Energizing Kowloon East Office, indicated that if the “Kerbside Loading and Unloading Bay Monitoring System” and the “Illegal Parking Monitoring System” reached certain levels of accuracy, they would share the data and experience with the Police. Please advise if the related video clips have been or will be passed to the Police to assist in law enforcement actions or serve as evidence for law enforcement. If yes, when was the start date? Did the Police have to obtain court orders or other permits?
- (3) Is the same system used for the technology adopted in the promotional video of the Smart Crowd Management System of the Kowloon East Smart City PoC and the smart lamppost application showcased by the Government in the Smart Government Pavilion in April 2019? Please advise on the details of the suppliers of the said technology and equipment. If they are two systems, what are the differences and the reasons for choosing them? As the Government later pointed out that the smart lampposts pilot scheme will not use the related technology, what’s the point of showcasing the technology at the Expo?
- (4) Has the Government evaluated the public concerns over personal privacy during the decision-making process for the first phase of the “Multi-functional Smart Lampposts” pilot scheme? Has the use of other privacy-friendly technologies been considered? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? Please make public the notes of related meetings.
- (5) According to a report on new.gov.hk in October 2018, 8 smart lampposts equipped with radar were installed in the Hong Kong Science Park for monitoring traffic and pedestrian flow nearby. Without any camera, the technology would not give rise to

privacy issues. Has the Government considered using this technology in the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts? If yes, why wasn't it used later on? Will the Government elaborate on the functional differences between camera and radar technologies, and how was the importance of functionality and privacy evaluated when the technologies were finally chosen. Please also make public the notes of related meetings.

- (6) Why was the funding approval sought from the Public Works Subcommittee by the Government for the "Multi-functional Smart Lampposts" in February last year different from that for the eID and GovCloud? It is stated in a LegCo Paper in April 2019 that "the (related) expenditure will be met from CWRP Head 706 and Head 710 Block Allocations" while the funding had already been approved at that time. Why did the Government proceed to seek funding approval without providing the details and submit the paper to the Panel afterwards? Why was the open tender for the 50 smart lampposts under the first phase conducted under the management-operation-maintenance contract of the Public Lighting System of the Highways Department, instead of in the name of smart lampposts?
- (7) What are the existing number and the distribution by district of the smart lampposts installed, as well as the number of cameras?
- (8) What are the number and the distribution by district of smart lampposts to be installed in 2020-21? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (9) What is the progress of the study of replacing cameras with other technologies for crowd management and other uses?
- (10) Will other technologies be tried out to replace the cameras on smart lampposts in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The reply to Questions (1) to (3) is provided by the Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO) of the Development Bureau (DEVB).

(1) The objectives of the proof of concept (PoC) trials implemented by EKEO of DEVB are to demonstrate the benefits of smart city development and understand the feasibility of wider application. Collection of personal identifiable information is avoided as far as possible during the planning, design and trial stages. Details of each PoC trial are as below:

PoC trials	Smart devices	Technologies and concept, data collected and uses	Any collection of personal identifiable information
1. Smart Crowd Management System	People counting sensors	Counting the number of people passing through pre-set locations to estimate the waiting time for transportation.	No. Only people counting, without video recording function.
	Cameras	Using video analytics technology to count the number of vehicles and identify abnormal people flow.	No. Only people and vehicle counting, without image or video recording function.

PoC trials	Smart devices	Technologies and concept, data collected and uses	Any collection of personal identifiable information
		Taking low-resolution images at locations of queues for public transport, and updating queuing situations for transportation every minute on the mobile app to help the public leave the event venue smoothly.	No. All images in the system were deleted on the trial day.
		Video recording at pre-set locations to verify the system accuracy of people and vehicle counting, and identification of abnormal conditions.	No. All videos in the system were deleted upon completion of the trial.
2. Persona and Preference-based Way-finding for Pedestrians	No	Users can answer some questions in the “My Kowloon East” mobile app or authorise the system to analyse their social media posts such that the mobile app can recommend points of interest and personalised tours according to their personal preferences.	No
3. Energy Efficiency Data System	Current sensors	Collecting and analysing overall electricity consumption of participating households and electricity consumption of major electric appliances and to disseminate different information including real-time electricity consumption data, energy saving tips and energy saving target alerts via a dedicated mobile app, to help change household electricity consumption habits, raise awareness of energy conservation and promote low-carbon living.	No
4. Kerbside Loading and Unloading Bay Monitoring System	Cameras	Using video analytics technology to detect the usage of kerbside loading and unloading bays and to collect relevant information of illegally parked vehicles, so as to assist in managing the loading and unloading bays more	The usage of kerbside loading and unloading bays detected and the information of illegally parked vehicles collected by the system are for testing purposes only. The information

PoC trials	Smart devices	Technologies and concept, data collected and uses	Any collection of personal identifiable information
		effectively with the use of feasible technology.	will be deleted within two to four weeks.
5. Multi-purpose Lamp Post	Weather sensors	Measuring temperature, relative humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind direction and speed as well as UV radiation to test the meteorological monitoring function.	No
	Air quality sensors	Measuring suspended particulate (1µm, 2.5µm and 10µm), nitrogen monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and carbon monoxide to test the air quality monitoring function.	No
	Cameras	Using video analytics technology for people and vehicle counting.	No. Only people and vehicle counting, without image or video recording function.
	Wi-Fi routers	Testing Internet of Things and data transmission standard devices without collecting data.	No
	Touch screens		
	LoRa gateways		
6. Smart Recycling Bin System	Ultrasonic sensors	Using ultrasonic to detect the fill level of recyclables collection bins and artificial intelligence technology to estimate the fill-up time and to suggest an optimised collection route so as to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness.	No
7. Illegal Parking Monitoring System	Cameras	Using video analytics technology to identify illegal parking and vehicles involved so as to assist in law enforcement against traffic offences with the use of feasible technology.	The information of illegally parked vehicles collected by the system is for testing purposes only. The information will be deleted within two to four weeks.
8. Real-time Road Works Information	Smartphones	Using mobile devices equipped with augmented reality positioning function to determine the geo-referencing	No

PoC trials	Smart devices	Technologies and concept, data collected and uses	Any collection of personal identifiable information
		data of road works areas, and to disseminate real-time road works information through the “My Kowloon East” mobile app to the public, so that drivers can better plan their routes ahead.	

The PoC trials under both items 4 and 7 above have to make use of cameras for identifying illegal parking and recording the relevant situations in order to explore the application of new technologies to assist in law enforcement against traffic offences, including whether photos and videos can be used as evidence. After reviewing the practical needs, it is concluded that replacing cameras and video analytics technology with other technology solutions is not feasible.

- (2) The two PoC trials on “Kerbside Loading and Unloading Bay Monitoring System” and “Illegal Parking Monitoring System” are related to the law enforcement against traffic offences in future. EKEO has shared the progress of the trials with the Transport and Housing Bureau and the Police. The Police provides advice from the traffic law enforcement perspective for enhancing the system design. The Police will not use the collected data for law enforcement purposes during the trials.
- (3) Individual projects will decide the technology solutions to be adopted according to their system requirements. The people counting technology showcased at the Smart Government Pavilion at the International ICT Expo in April 2019 and the Smart Crowd Management System of the Smart City Proof of Concept Trials in Kowloon East are not related and they are not the same system. The people counting technology and the Smart Crowd Management System are provided by South Kings-Kum Shing Joint Venture and MotherApp Hong Kong respectively. The showcase of the people counting technology at the Expo aims to show different application solutions of innovative technology so as to attract the attention and interest of visitors to visit the Smart Government Pavilion. This technology is not related to the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme).
- (4) In implementing the Pilot Scheme, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has all along been making every effort to protect personal privacy and data security, and strictly complies with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. Data collected by the Pilot Scheme will only be transmitted to relevant government departments, i.e. the Hong Kong Observatory, the Environmental Protection Department and the Transport Department (TD). All data will be deleted from the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) immediately after transmission and will not be stored in the Smart Lampposts. Relevant departments also regularly conduct Privacy Impact Assessments and security risk assessments and audits before and during project implementation.

- (5) According to the original plan, TD intended to make use of Automatic Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) to collect traffic flow statistics of different vehicle categories to facilitate traffic survey purposes. If it is replaced by Light Detection and Ranging technology (LiDAR), less information can be provided (for example, LiDAR cannot distinguish between franchised and non-franchised buses).

In its report submitted to the Government on 9 March this year, the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) recommended using more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors. Affected application functions include the use of bluetooth detectors to estimate the average journey time and vehicular speed of individual road sections; the use of video detectors to perform automatic incident detection and monitor live traffic conditions; the provision of traffic snapshot images for public dissemination; and the installation of a surveillance camera to monitor real-time traffic conditions, and to detect and monitor any suspected illegal dumping at known blackspots, etc.

The meeting agenda, minutes and the report of the Ad Hoc Committee have been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)) for reference by the public.

- (6) The Pilot Scheme is implemented in accordance with existing government's funding mechanism, with the costs met from the annual provision of Capital Works Reserve Fund (CWRP) block allocation Subhead 6100TX under Head 706 (Highways) and Subhead A007GX under Head 710 (Computerisation) having regard to the situations of different locations and the implementation timetable and resources required for the installation. Departments commence the relevant works after securing the consent of the District Councils concerned.

The establishment of the CWRP block allocation Subhead 6100TX under Head 706 is mainly for highway works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme, covering minor works such as highways, footways, street lighting, roadside slopes, road resurfacing and reconstruction as well as feasibility studies and site investigations in respect of such projects, subject to a maximum ceiling of expenditure of not more than \$30 million per item. This subhead has all along been meeting expenditure on public street lighting and related devices. Therefore, the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices on the lampposts is also funded by Subhead 6100TX.

The establishment of the CWRP block allocation Subhead A007GX under Head 710 is mainly for supporting the administrative computer systems of various government departments and related items such as engaging consultancies for feasibility studies and system development, subject to a maximum ceiling of expenditure of not more than \$10 million per item. Therefore, the information technology (IT) support system of Smart Lampposts and the backend IT systems of individual participating departments are funded by Subhead A007GX.

Since the estimated expenditure for the 50 Smart Lampposts installed in Kwun Tong and Kai Tak Development Area under the first phase is less than \$30 million, we have

arranged for the works expenditure to be funded by Subhead 6100TX in accordance with the prevailing funding mechanism. As for the IT support system of Smart Lampposts and the backend IT systems of individual participating departments, they are also funded by Subhead A007GX in accordance with the prevailing funding mechanism.

The installation of the 50 Smart Lampposts procured under the first phase is handled in accordance with the Government's prevailing procurement procedures.

- (7) The installation works of the Pilot Scheme started in 2019 and 50 Smart Lampposts were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak to  
(10) and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. Having regard to the concerns of individual people, the Government announced in July 2019 not to activate three functions which involved privacy matters. Such devices include cameras and bluetooth traffic detectors. Of those Smart Lampposts, 30 of them in Kwun Tong district were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Pilot Scheme. The 20 Smart Lampposts along Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak provide basic services including public lighting and collection of air quality and meteorological data.

OGCIO established the Ad Hoc Committee in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme:  
([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)). The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and



recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, including alternative technology solutions for cameras. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB181**

**(Question Serial No. 0724)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government, (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the release of public data on the “data.gov.hk” portal, please advise on the following:

- (1) The numbers of datasets containing geospatial data resources, datasets providing historical data and application programming interfaces (APIs) released on the “data.gov.hk” portal by data category in 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020);
- (2) The numbers of datasets and APIs expected to be released in the annual open data plans of bureaux and departments (B/Ds) as at 29 February 2020 (please list out in tabular form);
- (3) The distribution of dataset formats (in descending order) of new datasets to be released according to the annual open data plans and their percentage against the total number as at 29 February 2020;
- (4) The numbers of new datasets, APIs and geospatial data released on the “data.gov.hk” portal by non-governmental organisations and commercial organisations in 2019-20;
- (5) The datasets, datasets providing historical data and APIs with the highest numbers of downloads and usage rates in 2019-20;
- (6) The top 5 new datasets suggested to be released by the public in 2019-20;
- (7) In 2020-21, will B/Ds consult the public (e.g. holding regular exchange sessions) when updating the 2020-2022 open data plan? Will departments be required to address the demand for data under a demand-based principle?
- (8) In 2020-21, will the Government strengthen the integration of duplicated but related datasets, and display them by way of data pooling to facilitate access and analysis by the public?
- (9) Will more data and graphic data provided by other developers be included in the city dashboards to make their content more diversified?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) In 2019-20 (as of end-February 2020), the numbers of datasets containing geospatial data resources, datasets providing historical data and application programming interfaces (APIs) released on the “data.gov.hk” portal by data category are listed in **Annex I**.
- (2) According to the latest annual open data plans released by bureaux and departments (B/Ds) (as of end-February 2020), the numbers of new datasets and APIs to be released by B/Ds in the coming 3 years (2020 to 2022) are listed in **Annex II**.
- (3) According to the latest annual open data plans released by B/Ds (as of end-February 2020), all new datasets of B/Ds will continue to be released in machine-readable formats in the coming 3 years (2020 to 2022). The distribution is as below:

Format	Number of Datasets	Percentage
XML/JSON/CSV	306	94.7%
GeoTiff/SHP	10	3.1%
GML	7	2.2%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>100%</b>

- (4) In 2019-20 (as of end-February 2020), the numbers of new datasets, APIs and datasets with geospatial data released on the “data.gov.hk” portal by non-government organisations and public utilities are listed in **Annex III**.
- (5) In 2019-20 (as of end-February 2020), the dataset with the highest numbers of downloads on the “data.gov.hk” portal is Traffic Snapshot Images of the Transport Department, and the API with the highest usage is the real-time bus arrival data of a bus operator. Regarding the download statistics of historical data released on the “data.gov.hk” portal, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) does not keep the related information.
- (6) Among the public suggestions received in 2019-20 (as of end-February 2020), the top 5 are real-time arrival data of New World First Bus, real-time arrival data of Citybus, real-time arrival data of Kowloon Motor Bus, real-time arrival data of MTRC, and data related to registry information of local companies respectively. The real-time arrival data of New World First Bus and Citybus have been released via the “data.gov.hk” portal in August 2019 while MTRC have also released the real-time arrival data for 4 of their railway lines via the portal in August 2019, including Airport Express, Tung Chung Line, Tseung Kwan O Line and West Rail Line. Besides, according to the latest annual open data plan of the Companies Registry, it will open up in December 2021 the list of registered office addresses of live local companies registered in Hong Kong.
- (7) In December 2019, OGCIO launched 4 city dashboards which made use of open data to develop interactive charts and maps for members of the public to apprehend city

data. The public can use the feedback corner on the “data.gov.hk” portal to give suggestions on the open data for OGCIO to follow up with the B/Ds concerned. OGCIO will also arrange exchanges with the industry from time to time and gauge their views on open data. In developing / redeveloping their information technology systems, B/Ds are required to include the necessary technical requirements in their project proposals to support the opening up of data and APIs of the systems on the Public Sector Information Portal for the public to search and download directly. In 2020-21, OGCIO will continue to request B/Ds to consider suggestions from the public and the industry and prepare their open data plans for the coming year under a demand-based principle.

- (8) With reference to the latest international development in respect of open data, OGCIO will review the situation on open data from time to time and provide technical guidelines to B/Ds. OGCIO will also discuss with the B/Ds concerned about the presentation and format of the data uploaded, provide technical support for improving the usability of their open data, including merging certain related datasets, encouraging B/Ds to launch APIs, and releasing datasets in common machine-readable formats (e.g. JSON, XML, CSV), so as to further facilitate the public to use the open data.
- (9) At present, the 4 city dashboards on the “data.gov.hk” portal use the data that have been opened up by government departments as well as public and private organisations, displaying data on environment and weather, traffic and transport, public facilities and services and overall situation of the city through interactive charts and maps. OGCIO will review the types of data on the dashboards from time to time to meet the demands of the public at different times. We will also consider incorporating relevant data into the dashboards according to the open data plans of B/Ds. For example, when the Transport Department opens up its parking vacancy data of on-street parking spaces, we will explore timely the incorporation of the data into the “Traffic and Transport” dashboard.

**Breakdown of the numbers of geospatial data,  
historical data and APIs  
on the “data.gov.hk” portal  
in 2019-20<sup>Note</sup> (as of end-February 2020)**

<b>Data Category</b>	<b>Number of Datasets with Geospatial Data</b>	<b>Number of Datasets with Historical Data</b>	<b>Number of APIs</b>
City Management	0	67	9
Climate and Weather	0	9	15
Commerce and Industry	0	165	29
Development	79	474	191
Education	0	105	13
Employment and Labour	0	39	0
Environment	2	477	7
Finance	0	395	172
Food	0	21	2
Health	5	226	194
Housing	0	126	99
IT and Broadcasting	0	97	18
Law and Security	0	197	12
Leisure and Culture	1	101	6
Population	16	20	450
Social Welfare	0	76	2
Transport	4	604	60
Miscellaneous	0	275	91
<b>Total:</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>3 474</b>	<b>1 370</b>

Note: The list is arranged in alphabetical order by names in English

**New Datasets and APIs to be Released in 2020 to 2022**

<b>B/D</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of New Datasets</b>	<b>Number of APIs</b>
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	6	0
Architectural Services Department	2	0
Buildings Department	3	0
Census and Statistics Department	13	0
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	1	0
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office (Administration Wing)	4	0
Civil Engineering and Development Department	10	0
Civil Service Bureau	2	0
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (including Consumer Council and Hong Kong Trade Development Council)	19	0
Companies Registry	1	0
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	1	0
Correctional Services Department	16	0
Customs and Excise Department	1	0
Department of Health	3	0
Development Bureau	1	0
Drainage Services Department	4	0
Education Bureau	2	0
Efficiency Office	2	0
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	14	0
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (including Treasury Branch, Financial Services Branch, and Insurance Authority)	5	0
Fire Services Department	6	0
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	2	0
Food and Health Bureau (including Hospital Authority)	3	0
Government Logistics Department	4	0
Government Property Agency	1	0
Highways Department	1	0
Home Affairs Bureau (including West Kowloon Cultural District Authority)	3	0
Home Affairs Department	6	0
Hong Kong Monetary Authority	10	10
Hong Kong Observatory	13	0
Hong Kong Police Force	3	0
Hongkong Post	2	0
Housing Department	6	6
Immigration Department	1	0
Independent Commission Against Corruption	11	0

<b>B/D</b> <sup>Note</sup>	<b>Number of New Datasets</b>	<b>Number of APIs</b>
Information Services Department	1	0
Inland Revenue Department	7	0
Innovation and Technology Bureau (including Cyberport)	3	0
Innovation and Technology Commission (including Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation)	12	2
Intellectual Property Department	4	0
Labour Department	1	0
Land Registry	3	0
Lands Department	7	3
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	14	0
Marine Department	2	0
Office of the Communications Authority	12	0
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (including Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre)	7	0
Official Receiver's Office	3	0
Planning Department (including Town Planning Board)	6	0
Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office	1	0
Radio Television Hong Kong	1	0
Registration and Electoral Office	3	0
Secretariat, Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance	1	0
Security Bureau (including Long-term Prison Sentences Review Board, Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority, Post-Release Supervision Board and Release under Supervision Board)	6	0
Social Welfare Department	17	0
Transport and Housing Bureau (including Airport Authority Hong Kong)	2	0
Transport Department	7	2
The Treasury	1	0
University Grant Committee Secretariat	11	0
Water Supplies Department	4	0
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency (including Student Finance Office and Working Family Allowance Office)	5	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>23</b>

Note: The list is arranged in alphabetical order by names in English

**Numbers of new datasets, APIs and datasets with geospatial data  
released on the “data.gov.hk” portal  
by non-government organisations and public utilities in 2019-20  
(as of end-February 2020)**

<b>Non-government Organisations / Public Utilities</b>	<b>New Datasets <small>Note</small></b>	<b>APIs Provided at the Same Time</b>	<b>Datasets with Geospatial Data</b>
Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	11	11	1
Citybus Limited	5	5	1
New World First Bus Services Limited	5	5	1
Hong Kong Trade Development Council	4	0	0
District Councils	3	0	0
New Lantau Bus Company (1973) Limited	3	3	1
Town Planning Board	2	0	0
Committee on Home-School Co-operation	2	0	0
Hospital Authority	2	0	0
Hong Kong Productivity Council	2	0	0
Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre	2	0	0
MTR Corporation Limited	1	1	0
Airport Authority Hong Kong	1	1	0
Liquor Licensing Board	1	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>

Note: In descending order, and datasets in different languages or of different years/months are not counted multiple times

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB182**

**(Question Serial No. 0726)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the initiatives under the Smart City Blueprint, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the projects being conducted or planned by bureaux and departments according to the Smart City Blueprint, the responsible departments, the current status of implementation and the expected progress in 2020-21?
- (2) How does the Government monitor the implementation progress of the projects, assess whether the effectiveness has been achieved as expected and decide whether the initiatives should be continued?
- (3) Are there any public consultations before the publication of the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (4) What are the expenditure and manpower for updating the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

- (1) The Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong (Blueprint) published in December 2017 comprises 76 initiatives. The concerned bureaux and departments (B/Ds) have been actively implementing these initiatives in the past 2 years.

In respect of fostering the development of Smart Government including e-Government services and adoption of information technology (IT) to improve public services, apart from the smart city infrastructure projects, namely “iAM Smart” one-stop digital service platform, multi-functional smart lampposts, government cloud services and big data analytics platform, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Government Innovation Lab in April 2019 to assist government departments in bringing in IT to improve the quality and efficiency of public services. Chatbot function has also been launched on the GovHK portal in end-2019.

The Government has been making good progress in respect of open data. Regarding real-time data related to public transport, the 3 franchised bus companies (New World First Bus Services Limited, Citybus Limited and New Lantau Bus Company (1973) Limited) have released their real-time arrival data via the “data.gov.hk” portal. MTR Corporation Limited has also released the real-time arrival data for 4 railway lines (including Airport Express, Tung Chung Line, Tseung Kwan O Line and West Rail Line) to promote Smart Mobility.

Regarding electronic payment, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority launched the Faster Payment System (FPS) in September 2018. To provide the public with greater convenience, the Government has started to accept payments of tax, rates and water charges using different mobile banking apps and e-wallets by scanning the QR codes on the bills since November 2019.

- (2) The Chief Executive established a high-level, inter-departmental “Steering Committee on Innovation and Technology” in end-2017 to steer personally projects on innovation and technology development, including examining the progress of works under the Blueprint. The Innovation and Technology Bureau also established the Smart City Office in 2018-19 to coordinate and monitor the progress of B/Ds’ initiatives.
- (3) From August to September in 2017, the Government consulted the public on the recommendations of the consultancy report to understand their views on the direction and the development plans. Relevant B/Ds have also been briefing the public or related Legislative Council panels on their smart city initiatives (e.g. FPS, New Generation of Parking Meter System) and announcing new initiatives.

The Government is now reviewing and updating the Blueprint with a view to releasing the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0 (Blueprint 2.0) this year. Blueprint 2.0 will cover the latest progress of current initiatives and set out new proposals. In the course of formulating Blueprint 2.0, OGCIO organises/participates in focus discussion groups and meetings with the industry to better gauge public opinion and the latest technological developments for enhancing smart city initiatives and strategies.

When Blueprint 2.0 is released, city dashboards under different smart areas will be provided on the dedicated Smart City Portal (Portal) ([www.smartcity.gov.hk](http://www.smartcity.gov.hk)). Its contents will also be updated from time to time to facilitate members of the public to better understand the latest progress of various initiatives. The Portal will also provide a channel for the public to give their views.

- (4) The work for updating Blueprint 2.0 is absorbed by existing manpower and resource of the departments concerned and no additional expenditure is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB183**

**(Question Serial No. 0728)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools Programme” to grant \$1 million to each secondary school benefiting to procure software and hardware, and organise extra-curricular activities (ECA) to deepen students’ knowledge of artificial intelligence, cloud computing, etc., please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the number of benefiting secondary schools that are granted funding under the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools Programme”, the average amount of funding and the percentage of funding used for procuring information technology (IT) equipment and organising IT-related ECA against the total funding granted in 2019-20?
- (2) What are the IT equipment and professional services procured with the funding by most secondary schools and the types of ECA organised in 2019-20?
- (3) What are the plans to provide secondary schools with guidelines and suggestions to formulate continuing STEM education strategies that meet school needs, and support teachers to provide students with resources required for learning at home in 2020-21?
- (4) Will the programme be extended to all aided primary schools to assist schools in promoting coding education to cultivate students’ interest in innovation and technology?
- (5) How will the effectiveness of the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools Programme” in promoting STEM education be evaluated? What are the indicators adopted?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

- (1) and (2) As the funding proposal of the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” was not dealt with by the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council in the last legislative year, we have not yet launched this new initiative. Upon funding approval by FC, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) will launch the initiative as soon as possible for schools to submit applications.

- (3) The “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” initiative aims to foster an information technology (IT) learning atmosphere through extra-curricular activities (ECA), cultivate students’ interest in IT, and enhance their digital skills for further study in technology-related subjects and post-secondary programmes and pursuing a future career in innovation and technology industry. This initiative can also complement STEM education in schools. OGCIO has set up a one-stop support centre which advises schools on the relevant professional services and IT-related ECA. When launching the new initiative, OGCIO will issue application guidelines and reference list of IT equipment to schools.
- (4) The “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” is an enhancement initiative under the existing Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools (EITP), and the scope of funding is extended to all publicly-funded secondary schools. Based on the experience of EITP implementation, students will generally explore their direction in further studies and career during the secondary phase. Therefore, enabling students at this learning stage to access advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data, etc. is in line with the Government’s policy objectives in nurturing technology talent. We have no plan to extend the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” initiative to all aided primary schools at this moment.
- (5) The performance indicators of this programme will include the number of participating schools, the nature and number of ECA organised, the number of students participating in the ECA, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB184**

**(Question Serial No. 0730)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In view of the great demand for the enhancement and development of information technology (IT) human capital by the industry, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the resources and work plan of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer for assisting the industry to develop talents in 2020-21? Have the demand for and supply of IT talents in various sectors in Hong Kong been estimated and has any planning been made accordingly? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (2) Will the Government consider providing professional IT practitioners in Hong Kong with subsidies for continuing learning, increasing the tax deductions for self-education expenses and granting employers who provide training to their employees additional tax deductions to help raise the standard of local technology talents?
- (3) What is the work plan in 2020-21 to encourage educational institutions to provide courses on innovation and technology skills to assist talents in pursuing further study?
- (4) In 2020-21, will the Government study and promote the development of a mechanism for professional qualification recognition of the IT industry in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details, timetable and the manpower and resources required?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) Over the years, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has been promoting talent development of the information technology (IT) industry through various means, including:
  - (a) Setting up the “Student IT Corner” website to provide students and parents with IT-related information;
  - (b) Setting up the “IT Career Role Models Platform” to provide students with information on IT positions and career prospects in different industries;

- (c) Organising the “Hong Kong ICT Awards” every year to recognise local outstanding information and communications technology (ICT) inventions and applications, including the establishment of the award categories of “Startup Award” and “Student Innovation Award”; and
- (d) Implementing the “Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools” to provide funding support for secondary schools to organise various types of IT activities to create more opportunities for students to learn about IT outside the school curriculum.

Upon funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, OGCIO will launch the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” initiative in 2020-21, which will provide a maximum funding of \$1 million to each publicly-funded secondary school in Hong Kong to procure IT equipment and organise IT-related extra-curricular activities with an aim to foster an IT learning atmosphere in schools and stimulate students’ interest in IT.

OGCIO will support the work under items (a) to (d) above through internal deployment of resources. For the “IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools” initiative, OGCIO created 7 time-limited civil service posts to prepare the initiative implementation. The estimated expenditure for 2020-21 is about \$11.6 million.

OGCIO has been assessing the manpower supply and demand of the IT sector based on the Manpower Survey Report of the Innovation and Technology Sector, which is regularly published by the Innovation and Technology Training Board of the Vocational Training Council. The Government also conducts manpower projection exercises from time to time, such as compiling the Report on Manpower Projection regularly, to assess the trend of manpower supply and demand of Hong Kong in medium term, as well as the manpower requirements of various sectors (including the IT sector). We will make reference to relevant statistics and continue to maintain close liaison with the industry to explore feasible measures to continuously enhance the overall human resources and professional standards of the IT sector in Hong Kong.

- (2) At present, the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) provides subsidies to adults with learning aspiration, and the subsidy ceiling has increased to \$20,000 per person. The scope of CEF courses has been expanded to all eligible courses (including IT courses) registered in the Qualifications Register.
- (3) Through the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors (SSSDP) implemented by Education Bureau, the Government encourages the self-financing post-secondary education sector to offer programmes in selected disciplines, including computer science and financial technology, to nurture talent in support of specific industries with keen demand for human resources. In the 2020/21 academic year, there are a total of 5 and 3 self-financing undergraduate programmes related to computer science and financial technology respectively, and 1 sub-degree programme related to computer science offered under the SSSDP, which provide 246, 215, and 40 subsidised first-year intake places respectively.
- (4) According to the report published by the Task Force on ICT Professional Development and Recognition, the community had not yet reached any general consensus on the

implementation of a unified framework for professional recognition. We do not have any plan to establish any mechanism for professional qualification recognition of the IT industry in Hong Kong at this stage.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB185**

**(Question Serial No. 0760)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

On establishing the Next Generation Government Cloud and Big Data Analytics Platform, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the projects, government departments and types of information involved in data analytics using the Big Data Analytics Platform?
- (2) What are the e-Government services and application systems migrated from the existing central cloud platforms to the “Next Generation Government Cloud”?
- (3) What are the e-Government services and application systems to be migrated to the “Next Generation Government Cloud” in 2020-21?
- (4) What are the data planned to use the “Digital Highway” for information transmission?
- (5) What are the consultants engaged to conduct independent information security and privacy risk assessments for the “Next Generation Government Cloud”, “Big Data Analytics Platform” and “Digital Highway” and the expenditure involved?
- (6) What are the big data analytics projects to be conducted in 2020-21 using the “Big Data Analytics Platform”?
- (7) Did any departments use “artificial intelligence cognitive tools” to carry out projects involving facial recognition and personal identification? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 101)

Reply:

- (1) and (6) The “Big Data Analytics Platform” will be launched in the third quarter of 2020. 5 projects are planned to be implemented on this platform in 2020-21:
- The Office of Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) will develop an analytics platform to assist departments in analysing information on social media for reference purposes;



- OGCIO will analyse the questions collected by the chatbot of GovHK to better understand public needs to continuously enhance the GovHK services;
- OGCIO together with the Transport Department will develop a new “Traffic Data Analytics System” to analyse various traffic and transport data for more accurate assessment of traffic conditions, optimised traffic management and enhanced efficiency;
- OGCIO will together with the Architectural Services Department, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department as well as the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department analyse data related to public toilets, such as maintenance records and public complaints, to investigate and study how to strengthen public toilet management and maintenance; and
- OGCIO will analyse the usage and the search history of GovHK to get a better understanding of user needs for enhancing the portal and enhancing user experience.

(2) and (3) OGCIO is building the “Next Generation Government Cloud Platform”. The new platform is expected to be launched in the third quarter of 2020. 268 e-Government services and application systems on the existing central cloud platforms will be progressively migrated to the new platform and the details are yet to be confirmed.

(4) The “Digital Highway” under the “Big Data Analytics Platform” can handle high-speed transmission of information (including real-time data). At present, data intended to use the “Digital Highway” for information transmission include real-time data related to weather and environment that are being collected by the multi-functional smart lampposts. Such data do not involve any personal information.

(5) Details on the information security assessment consultancy services for the “Next Generation Government Cloud Platform”, “Big Data Analytics Platform” and “Digital Highway” are set out as follows:

Item	Consultancy Firm	Contract Value (\$)
Next Generation Government Cloud Platform	PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services Limited	-
Big Data Analytics Platform	Computer and Technologies Solutions Limited	95,800
Digital Highway	Computer and Technologies Solutions Limited	45,000

The above items are digital infrastructure for promoting smart city development. In implementing their application systems on such infrastructure, government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) will arrange

independent information security risk assessments and privacy impact assessments separately in accordance with their specific requirements and related regulations. For the “Next Generation Government Cloud Platform”, the independent information security risk assessment cost has already been included in contract sum for developing the platform. We do not have the related cost breakdown.

- (7) According to the information provided by B/Ds, none of the projects currently on the “Next Generation Government Cloud Platform” and “Big Data Analytics Platform” involves use of artificial intelligence technology for facial recognition or personal identification.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB186**

**(Question Serial No. 2342)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of “commencing the development of a traffic data analytics system in collaboration with the Transport Department to enhance traffic management and transport efficiency”, please advise on the following:

- (1) The details, timetable, expenditure and manpower required for the development of the system;
- (2) The categories and providing organisations of traffic data for system analysis;
- (3) Will any data about passengers taking public transport be included?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 103)

Reply:

The required information is provided as follows:

- (1) To support the overall strategy of the “Smart Mobility Roadmap for Hong Kong” published by the Transport Department (TD) in July 2019, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) and TD will jointly develop a “Traffic Data Analytics System” making use of big data analytics to analyse traffic and transport data for more accurate assessment of traffic conditions, optimised traffic management and enhanced efficiency. OGCIO and TD are currently working on the content of the tender for the “Traffic Data Analytics System”, with an aim to award the contract in the third quarter of 2020. System development is expected to be completed in end-2021 with the relevant data analytics information disseminated through TD’s “HKeMobility” mobile application and in machine-readable formats through the “data.gov.hk” portal starting from the second half of 2022. The related work will be absorbed by existing resources and manpower, and no additional expenditure is involved.
- (2) and (3) The departments concerned are working on the details of the design of the “Traffic Data Analytics System”, including the types of traffic data to be

analysed and the relevant data providers. The initial plan is to analyse traffic data mainly from TD, such as traffic volume, average vehicular speed, etc., pending discussion with the relevant public transport operators on their data. To protect personal privacy, the basis of the public transport data planned to be collected is patronage figures, not individual passengers' data on the modes of transport used.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB187**

**(Question Serial No. 2344)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

On identifying suitable land for high-tier data centre development, please advise on the following:

- (1) What are the Government's work plan, the manpower and resources required for the land supply for high-tier data centre development in the coming 3 years? What are the timetable, locations, area and construction floor area of the site(s) for disposal? What are the plans to increase short to medium-term land supply for data centre?
- (2) How many applications for converting industrial buildings to data centres and for developing high-tier data centres on industrial lots did the Government receive last year?
- (3) Will the Government proactively contact overseas technology enterprises and Internet service providers to understand more and assist them in setting up high-tier data centre in Hong Kong in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

- (1) The Government disposed a total of 3.7 hectares of land in Tseung Kwan O reserved for high-tier data centre development through open tender in 2013 and 2018 respectively. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) will continue to identify other suitable sites for high-tier data centre development to meet long-term demands of the industry. On increasing land supply in short to medium term, OGCIO continues with existing facilitation measures to exempt the waiver fee for changing parts of eligible industrial buildings to data centre use. Also, the Lands Department will assess the premium for lease modification of industrial lots for developing high-tier data centres on the basis of actual development intensity and high-tier data centre use in order to encourage the industry to redevelop and convert existing industrial buildings into data centres.

- (2) In 2019, OGCIO received 4 applications for exemption of waiver fees for converting parts of industrial buildings for data centre use and did not receive any application for developing high-tier data centres on industrial lots.
- (3) The Data Centre Facilitation Unit (DCFU) of OGCIO has all along been providing one-stop support services to overseas and local organisations interested in setting up data centres in Hong Kong, including liaison with other government departments on matters such as statutory approval processes, compliance requirements and procedures. DCFU has also set up a thematic portal ([www.datacentre.gov.hk](http://www.datacentre.gov.hk)) to disseminate relevant information on developing data centres in Hong Kong. Moreover, OGCIO has regularly maintained close contact with large-scale technology enterprises and Internet service providers from overseas and the Mainland and encourages and assists them in investing in Hong Kong to set up data centre facilities.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB188**

**(Question Serial No. 3236)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of commencing the system development for the electronic recordkeeping system (ERKS), please advise on the following:

- (1) The estimated expenditure for conducting information technology (IT) security risk assessments and security audits;
- (2) The expenditure, number and rank of the contract IT staff to be engaged for the implementation of the project;
- (3) The estimated timetable and priority for the installation of ERKS in 75 bureaux/departments in phases by 2025.

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 107)

Reply:

- (1) We have reserved a sum of \$447 million under the estimated expenditure for the Electronic Recordkeeping System (ERKS) implementation project to develop the required information technology (IT) system. This includes related IT security risk assessments and audits. We do not have a separate breakdown of the estimated expenditure for this tasks.
- (2) A sum of \$148 million under the estimated project expenditure has been reserved for employing contract staff to assist in managing and monitoring the contractor on system design, development, testing and implementation. Where necessary, different contract staff will also be engaged by bureaux/departments (B/Ds) to support system testing and implementation. The actual number of staff to be employed, posts and years of service are yet to be confirmed.

- (3) The implementation timetable of the new central ERKS is expected to be as follows:

	<b><u>Expected Date</u></b>
Seeking funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council	2020
Tendering exercise	2020
Development of ERKS	2021
Installation and rollout of the system in 75 B/Ds in phases	2021 to 2025

Given much preparatory work involved in introducing the new ERKS in B/Ds, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is now collating basic information (such as the number of users) and preliminary timetables from B/Ds for ERKS implementation to determine the priority of B/Ds in respect of system installation, testing and live run, and even to implement the system in large departments in phases to ensure that the contractor can provide sufficient resources and timely support (including training) to B/Ds.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB189**

**(Question Serial No. 3592)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme, please advise on the following:

- (1) On the additional Wi-Fi hotspots provided in 2019-20, please list out the providers (government/private organisations/others), venue types, districts, free session time, maximum numbers of sessions and bandwidth;
- (2) The 10 venues with the highest and lowest average numbers of daily usage sessions and daily usage hours connected to Government Wi-Fi (GovWiFi) services and "Wi-Fi.HK" in 2019-20. What are the average numbers of daily users at these venues?
- (3) What is the number of government venues with the speed of Wi-Fi services enhanced in 2018-19? What is the plan for 2020-21?
- (4) Please list out the venues with additional hotspots to be provided in 2020-21 by venue type;
- (5) On the usage of Wi-Fi service in youth service centres and study rooms, what are the 10 venues with the highest and lowest average numbers of daily usage sessions and daily usage hours in 2019-20?
- (6) \$200 million has been allocated in last year's Budget to provide Wi-Fi service at service units operated by subvented organisations under the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and social welfare facilities under SWD. What is the number of service units where the service installation was completed as at end-February 2020 and their distribution by district? What is the number of service units where Wi-Fi service is to be provided next year and their distribution by district?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 109)

Reply:

- (1) As at end-February 2020, the number of "Wi-Fi.HK" hotspots under the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme increased by 13 635 in 2019-20. The details are at Annex 1.

- (2) Details on usage sessions and usage hours as well as numbers of users of the free Wi-Fi service provided by the Government in 2019-20 are at [Annex 2](#). As for the Wi-Fi service operated by service contractors under the public-private collaboration model and those provided by public and private organisations that have joined the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand, we do not have the related information.
- (3) We have completed various enhancements on the provision of Wi-Fi service at government venues, including improving the display of hotspot signage at proper locations, adopting the latest technology standard (IEEE 802.11ac) and replacing copper wires with optic fibres to provide faster and more stable Wi-Fi service. The average connection speed exceeds 20 Mbps. In 2020-21, we will continue to monitor the transmission speed and usage of the Wi-Fi hotspots at government venues regularly to ensure the quality of service meets the required level and the cost-effectiveness.
- (4) The proposed new venues for hotspots in 2020-21 are as follows <sup>[Note]</sup>:

Implementation Model	District	Venue Type
Free government Wi-Fi service	All districts	Government and other public venues (e.g. sports, cultural and recreational venues, public transport and related facilities, government offices, district parks and promenades, public hospitals, sitting-out areas in public rental housing estates, etc.)
Public-private collaboration		
Inviting public and private organisations to join the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand		Non-government venues
Pilot scheme of the Social Welfare Department (SWD)		Service units operated by subvented organisations under SWD

[Note] : The distribution of hotspots in districts depends on the location of venues suitable for the installation of hotspots under different models.

- (5) In 2019-20, details on usage sessions of Wi-Fi service provided at youth service centres and study rooms are at [Annex 3](#). For the numbers of average daily usage hours, we do not have the related information.
- (6) With a funding allocation of about \$205 million from the Lotteries Fund, SWD has launched a four-year pilot scheme to progressively provide Wi-Fi service at around 1 350 service units operated by subvented organisations under SWD from January 2020. The pilot scheme covers service units located in all districts, including relevant units of elderly services, rehabilitation services, family and child welfare services as well as youth services. At this moment, the service units have not provided the related information on Wi-Fi facilities that have been installed or will have the installation works completed next year.

**Additional “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots in 2019-20 under  
the Wi-Fi Connected City Programme  
(As at end-February 2020)**

The related service providers, venue types, districts, free session time and maximum number of sessions are tabulated as follows:

**Wi-Fi Service Provider**

	<b>Number of additional hotspots</b>
Private companies	7 939
Government	4 068
Other public bodies	1 628
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13 635</b>

**Venue Type**

	<b>Number of increased (decreased) hotspots</b>
Stores/shopping centres	3 544
Bus, taxi and the Airport Express	3 480
Universities and tertiary institutions	1 326
Restaurants	1 105
Sitting out areas in public rental housing estates	1 002
Sports, cultural and recreation venues	846
Hospitals and clinics	712
Entertainment and leisure	528
Hotels/guesthouses	340
Government offices	260
Public transport and related facilities	254
Banks and finance	153
Innovation technology/commercial centres	81
Government-related organisations	48
Schools and teaching/reading centres	45
Convenience stores	(12)
Telephone booths	(36) <sup>[Note1]</sup>
Welfare services units	(41) <sup>[Note2]</sup>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13 635</b>

[Note 1]: In 2019-20, after consulting the related District Councils, the telecommunications operator removed 36 low-usage public telephone booths with Wi-Fi service.

[Note 2]: In 2019-20, there was an increase of 4 hotspots in “welfare services units”. At the same time, 45 hotspots originally under this venue type were re-grouped to “schools and teaching/reading centres”.

### Distribution by District

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 3]</sup>	<b>Number of increased (decreased) hotspots</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>	
Central and Western District	571
Eastern District	962
Southern District	587
Wan Chai	647
<b>Kowloon</b>	
Kowloon City	803
Yau Tsim Mong	959
Sham Shui Po	391
Wong Tai Sin	551
Kwun Tong	903
<b>New Territories</b>	
Tai Po	291
Yuen Long	341
Tuen Mun	541
North District	230
Sai Kung	430
Sha Tin	493
Kwai Tsing	773
Tsuen Wan	366
Islands	316
<b>Total:</b>	<b>10 155</b> <sup>[Note 4]</sup>

[Note 3] : Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

[Note 4] : The above figure does not include the 3 480 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots installed in bus and the Airport Express.

### Daily Free Usage Time and Maximum Number of Sessions

	<b>Number of additional hotspots</b>
Unlimited usage	7 362
More than 2 hours (60/120/180 minutes per session with 1-4 session(s) daily)	941
1-2 hours (30/60/120 minutes per	1 515

	<b>Number of additional hotspots</b>
session with 1-4 session(s) daily)	
Below 1 hour (30/35 minutes per session with 1 session daily)	3 817
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13 635</b>

#### Bandwidth of Wi-Fi service

Organisations joining the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand must provide Wi-Fi service with bandwidth of 3 Mbps or above.

**Usage of the free Wi-Fi service provided by the Government in 2019-20  
(as at end-February 2020)**

10 venues with the highest average number of daily usage sessions and daily usage hours:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Average daily usage sessions</b>	<b>Average daily usage hours</b>	<b>Average daily users</b>
1	Hong Kong Central Library	2 405	8 726	1 701
2	Public Transport Interchange, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port	1 246	4 475	941
3	Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library	1 106	3 859	743
4	Yuen Long Public Library	952	3 426	704
5	Passenger Clearance Building, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port	868	2 959	672
6	Tiu Keng Leng Public Library	802	2 779	543
7	Yuen Chau Kok Public Library	791	2 827	570
8	Tuen Mun Public Library	789	2 831	597
9	Tai Po Public Library	773	2 777	557
10	Sha Tin Public Library	737	2 603	537

10 venues with the lowest average number of daily usage sessions and daily usage hours:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Average daily usage sessions</b>	<b>Average daily usage hours</b>	<b>Average daily users</b>
1	Sha Tau Kok Community Hall	9.7	35.8	6.8
2	The HKMA Information Centre - Library	9.6	35.9	8.4
3	Sai Ying Pun Dermatology and Chest Clinic Dispensary	8.9	29.9	6.5
4	To Kwa Wan Vehicle Examination Centre, Transport Department	8.9	32.4	6.2
5	South Lamma Public Library	7.1	25.8	5.0
6	Wang Tau Hom Maternal and Child Health Centre	6.7	24.7	4.3
7	Islands District Office - Tung Chung Public Enquiry Service Centre	6.2	22.1	4.0
8	Islands District Office - Mui Wo Public Enquiry Service Centre	6.1	21.7	4.0
9	Green Hub	4.6	16.7	3.1
10	Lantau Link Visitors Centre & Viewing Platform	3.9	14.1	2.9

**Usage of Wi-Fi service in youth service centres  
and study rooms in 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020)**

10 venues with the highest average number of daily usage sessions:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Average daily usage sessions</b>
1	Shing Yan Christian Social Service Centre	175
2	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Jockey Club Tai Kok Tsui Integrated Services Centre	140
3	Yan Oi Tong Community Centre	130
4	The Church of United Brethren In Christ Tuen Mun Integrated Children and Youth Service Centre	126
5	Hong Kong Playground Association Mongkok Integrated Service Centre for Children and Youth	98
6	Jockey Club Belvedere Garden Integrated Children & Youth Services Centre	93
7	Lutheran Church Lai King Lutheran Study Centre	91
8	Hong Kong Playground Association Jockey Club North Point Integrated Service Centre for Children and Youth	90
9	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association Jockey Club Shamshuipo Integrated Social Service Centre	77
10	Caritas Community Centre - Aberdeen	77

10 venues with the lowest average number of daily usage sessions:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Average daily usage sessions</b>
1	Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Foklam Church Study Centre	9.4
2	Caritas Mok Cheung Sui Kun Community Centre	9.1
3	Tai Hang Residents' Welfare Association Tai Hang Youth Centre	8.7
4	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Yan Tsuen Reading Centre	7.8
5	Conservative Baptist Heng On Bradbury Study Center	7.2
6	Methodist Centre Aldrich Bay Integrated Children and Youth Services	7.1
7	Pak Tin Study Centre of Seventh-day Adventists	6.7
8	Peng Chau Neighbourhood Elderly cum Children/Youth Centre	6.4
9	The Hong Kong Buddhist Association Children and Youth Centre	6.3
10	Kowloon Tong Church of the Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Lau Ping Chai Study Centre	5.7

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB190**

**(Question Serial No. 3594)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work of “launch(ing) pilot applications adopting blockchain technology”, please advise on the following:

- (1) What plans has the Government drawn up in promoting the adoption of blockchain technology in various public services? What are the details of the work, the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (2) In drawing up plans of trying out blockchain technology, have departments reached out to local universities, technology enterprises, small and medium enterprises, start-ups, etc. in order to facilitate industry collaboration to develop innovative solutions? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 111)

Reply:

- (1) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) commenced several pilot blockchain projects in end-2018 with an aim to explore the applicability and benefits of adopting blockchain technology in e-Government services. OGCIO is collaborating with the Intellectual Property Department (IPD), the Environmental Protection Department and the Department of Health to implement pilot applications to explore the adoption of blockchain in services such as the transfer of trademark ownership, optimising the workflow for preparing Environmental Impact Assessment reports and traceability of pharmaceutical products. The IPD project has been rolled out for pilot run since end-2019, while the other 2 projects will be launched progressively in the first half of 2020. The expenditure of the 3 pilot projects is about \$5 million and the related work is absorbed by deployment of manpower within OGCIO.
- (2) Generally OGCIO implements the above pilot applications by way of outsourcing to tap the industry's expertise and experience in blockchain technology. At present, 3 local technology small- and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups are participating in the implementation of these projects.



Besides, OGCIO also exchanges with the industry and academia from time to time on the latest technology development of blockchain to explore the possibility of adopting blockchain technology in different e-Government services, thereby facilitating joint efforts with the industry to develop innovative technology solutions. Applications of blockchain technology was also the theme of the technology forum organised by the Smart Government Innovation Lab of OGCIO in December 2019, during which many industry practitioners and enterprises introduced their blockchain applications and solutions to various bureaux and departments.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB191**

**(Question Serial No. 3596)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding (the plan to) accept payments of taxes, rates and water charges through the Faster Payment System (FPS) and accept FPS payments at the shroff counters of individual departments, will the Government advise on the following:

- (1) What are the government departments that have adopted electronic wallet (e-wallet) mobile payment technology in 2019-20, the number of public services/mobile applications involved and their percentages against all services, as well as the savings on administrative expenses?
- (2) What are the percentages of using e-wallet and FPS in the public services that offer these payment options against the total number of transactions?
- (3) What are the government services that have planned to adopt mobile payment technology such as FPS and e-wallet in 2020-21, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (4) Is any provision set aside for promoting the use of FPS and e-wallet in settling payments of government services to further encourage the public to use electronic payment? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

- (1) As of 2019-20, the following 3 e-Government services/mobile applications have adopted e-wallet mobile payment technology solutions (including Apple Pay and Google Pay), accounting for around 8% of all e-Government services that support online payment:
  - (a) "My Library" under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department;
  - (b) "Property Information Online" under the Rating and Valuation Department; and
  - (c) "Notice of New Letting or Renewal Agreement (e-CR109) e-Form" under the Rating and Valuation Department.

The Government introduces e-wallet mobile payment mainly to provide members of the public with another payment option. We do not have the estimated savings in administrative expenses in this regard.

- (2) As of 2019-20, payment using e-wallet contributed to around 13% of all transactions under those e-Government services with an e-wallet payment option. Besides, starting from November 2019, the Government has accepted payments of taxes, rates and Government rent, and water charges through the Fast Payment system (FPS). During the period from November 2019 to February 2020, the percentage of payment using FPS was around 6% against all transactions.
- (3) In 2020-21, the following 7 e-Government services will provide e-wallet mobile payment functions:
  - (a) “Cyber Search Centre” under the Companies Registry;
  - (b) “e-Registry” under the Companies Registry;
  - (c) “CR eFiling” under the Companies Registry;
  - (d) “Register of Trust or Company Service Provider Licensees Online Services” under the Companies Registry;
  - (e) “Next Generation Electronic Services System” under the Immigration Department;
  - (f) “Leisure Link” under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department; and
  - (g) “Integrated Registration Information System Online Services” under the Land Registry.

On the other hand, the Government is taking steps to provide for payments through FPS at the shroff counters of the Companies Registry, the Immigration Department, the Official Receiver’s Office and the Transport Department. The related work will be absorbed by the existing resources and manpower of the departments.

- (4) The relevant government departments will continue to keep in view the development of electronic payment to further promote its payment applications to provide members of the public with more convenient payment services.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB192**

**(Question Serial No. 3598)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the initiatives on “enhancing the Government’s cyber security capability to address new security risks” stated in the Smart City Blueprint, please advise on the following:

- (1) The number of cyber attacks (web defacement, intrusion of networking and information systems, distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, ransomware and data leakage) targeting government networks and websites in 2019-20, broken down by department name and type of security incidents and whether there was data theft due to cyber attacks;
- (2) The expenditure of the Government for enhancing information security in 2019-20 and whether any non-compliance with internal government information security guidelines was found;
- (3) What are the bureaux and departments with IT security compliance monitoring and audits planned to be conducted in 2020-21?
- (4) What is the percentage of government IT staff who have obtained the professional qualifications on information security against the total number of staff and the increase over last year?
- (5) What is the estimated expenditure of the Government for training information security professionals in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 115)

Reply:

- (1) In 2019-20 (as at end-February 2020), the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) received a total of 7 information security incident reports concerning government networks and websites under cyber attacks involving 6 government departments. They comprise 3 cases of ransomware infection, 2 cases of information system intrusion and 2 cases of distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks. Apart from an incident in which data of 4 schools was stolen, no data leakage was involved in the remaining incidents.

- (2) As at end-February 2020, the total government expenditure on information security risk assessment or information security enhancement funded by the Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 Computerisation Block Allocation in 2019-20 was about \$135 million. Besides, individual bureaux/departments (B/Ds) will include information security risk assessments or information security enhancement in the development and maintenance of information systems. OGCIO does not have the relevant breakdown figures. In 2019-20, OGCIO did not observe any B/Ds violating government information security requirements.
- (3) We commenced a new round of information security compliance audits in November 2019 and would conduct the relevant work for around 50 B/Ds in 2020-21.
- (4) Around 190 government IT staff members have obtained information security professional qualifications, representing about 10% of the total size of government IT staff, which is similar to last year's ratio.
- (5) In 2020-21, the Government's estimated expenditure for training information security professionals is about \$600,000.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB193****(Question Serial No. 3708)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

In respect of the public relations expenditure of government departments, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) The total expenditure of your department for publishing advertisements, sponsored content or advertorials in newspapers registered under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance in the past year as well as the relevant details:

Date of publication (Day/ Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name and purpose of advertisement	Name of media organisation and newspaper	Frequency (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2020)

- (2) The expenditure of your department for sponsoring local free-to-air television stations, paid television stations and radio stations to provide information and produce programmes or materials in the past year as well as the relevant details:

Date of broadcast (Day/ Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Government or public organisation (including bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government)	Name and purpose of advertisement	Media organisation	Frequency (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure (as at 29 February 2020)

		advisory body)				

- (3) The media organisations which published or broadcasted advertisements/sponsored content of your department in the past year, as well as the frequency and the total expenditure involved (in descending order of the amount spent):

Name of media organisation	Frequency	Total expenditure (\$)

- (4) The websites/network platforms on which your department published online advertisements/sponsored content in the past year, as well as the frequency, the duration (days) and the total expenditure involved (tabulated in descending order of the amount spent):

Website/ network platform	Content of advertisement	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of exposure and no. of audiences	Total expenditure (\$)

- (5) The frequency, the duration (days) and the total expenditure involved (tabulated in descending order of the amount spent) of live broadcast on network platforms by your department in the past year:

Website/ network platform	Title of live broadcast	Frequency	Duration (days)	Hit rate, frequency of exposure and no. of audiences	Total expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon MOK Charles Peter (LegCo internal reference no.: 148)

Reply:

- (1) The total expenditure incurred by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) for publishing advertisements, sponsored content or advertorials in newspapers registered under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance in the past year as well as the relevant details are as below:

Date of publication (Day/Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2020)	Name and purpose of advertisement	Name of media organisation and newspaper	Frequency (as at 29 February 2020)	Expenditure (\$) (as at 29 February 2020)
4 April 2019	One-off	To promote	Sing Tao News	1	33,000

<b>Date of publication (Day/Month/Year)</b>	<b>Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2020)</b>	<b>Name and purpose of advertisement</b>	<b>Name of media organisation and newspaper</b>	<b>Frequency (as at 29 February 2020)</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$) (as at 29 February 2020)</b>
		award winners of the Hong Kong ICT Awards (HKICTA) 2019	Corporation Limited/ Headline Daily		
4 April 2019	One-off		Sing Tao News Corporation Limited/ The Standard	1	8,500
18 October 2019	One-off	To invite enrolment for HKICTA 2020	Sing Tao News Corporation Limited/ Headline Daily	1	33,000
18 October 2019	One-off		Sing Tao News Corporation Limited/ The Standard	1	8,500
13 December 2019	One-off		Hong Kong Economic Journal Company Limited/ Hong Kong Economic Journal	1	10,000
30 December 2019 - 23 January 2020	Done	To promote free public Wi-Fi service under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand by comic	Sing Tao News Corporation Limited/ Headline Daily	8	96,000

- (2) The expenditure incurred by OGCIO for sponsoring local free-to-air television stations, paid television stations and radio stations to provide information and produce programmes or materials in the past year as well as the relevant details are as below:

<b>Date of broadcast (Day/Month/ Year)</b>	<b>Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2019)</b>	<b>Name and purpose of advertisement</b>	<b>Media organisation</b>	<b>Frequency (as at 29 February 2019)</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$) (as at 29 February 2020)</b>
Every Saturday	Ongoing	Name of advertisement: e-World Smart Tips  Purpose:	Radio Television Hong Kong	52	215,000



<b>Date of broadcast (Day/Month/ Year)</b>	<b>Status (one-off/ ongoing/done) (as at 29 February 2019)</b>	<b>Name and purpose of advertisement</b>	<b>Media organisation</b>	<b>Frequency (as at 29 February 2019)</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$) (as at 29 February 2020)</b>
		To promote cyber security messages and enhance public awareness in information security			

- (3) The media organisations which published or broadcasted advertisements/sponsored content of OGCI0 in the past year as well as the expenditure (in descending order) and the relevant details are as below:

<b>Name of media organisation</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)</b>
Facebook	33	303,964
Sing Tao News Corporation Limited	14	206,000
bMEDIA Limited	5	80,000
HK01	1	55,000
Google	1	40,000
LinkedIn	1	40,000
Hong Kong Economic Times Group	1	18,000
Hong Kong Economic Journal Company Limited	1	10,000
Oriental Press Group Limited	1	10,000
International Data Group	1	6,000

- (4) The websites/network platforms on which OGCI0 published online advertisements/sponsored content in the past year as well as the frequency, the duration (days) and the expenditure (tabulated in descending order) are as below:

<b>Website/ network platform</b>	<b>Content of advertisement</b>	<b>Frequ- ency</b>	<b>Duration (days)</b>	<b>(Approximate) Hit rate, frequency of exposure and no. of audiences</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)</b>
Facebook	To promote free public Wi-Fi service under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand	22	125	Frequency of exposure: 1.4 million Hit rate: 17 000	214,286
Facebook	To promote award winners of HKICTA 2019 and invite enrolment for HKICTA 2020	11	101	Frequency of exposure: 900 000 Hit rate: 26 000	89,678

<b>Website/ network platform</b>	<b>Content of advertisement</b>	<b>Frequ- ency</b>	<b>Duration (days)</b>	<b>(Approximate) Hit rate, frequency of exposure and no. of audiences</b>	<b>Expenditure (\$)</b>
Unwire		5	36	Frequency of exposure: 46 000 No. of audiences: 14 000	80,000
HK01	To invite enrolment for HKICTA 2020	1	1	No. of audiences: 20 000	55,000
Google Ad Network		1	61	Frequency of exposure: 2 million Hit rate: 12 000	40,000
LinkedIn		1	52	Frequency of exposure: 470 000 Hit rate: 250	40,000
Ezone		1	1	No. of audiences: 230	18,000
The Standard		1	8	Frequency of exposure: 160 000	15,000
Headline. com	To promote award winners of HKICTA 2019	1	7	Frequency of exposure: 240 000	12,000
Oriental. on.cc / on.cc		1	21	Frequency of exposure: 200 000	10,000
Computer World		1	14	Frequency of exposure: 60 000	6,000

(5) OGCIO did not conduct live streaming on network platforms in the past year.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB194**

**(Question Serial No. 0417)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

According to the Budget Speech, the Innovation and Technology Bureau will launch the “iAM Smart” one-stop personalised digital service platform in the fourth quarter this year, through which more than 100 online government services can be accessed by the middle of next year. What are the respective government expenditure and manpower involved for promoting the project and handling public enquiries on the project this year? What are the names of the more than 100 online government services?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure for promoting the “iAM Smart” platform and handling public enquiries on the initiative is \$6.5 million. The related work is absorbed by the existing manpower of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

We expect that by mid-2021, residents can access 113 online government services through the “iAM Smart” platform. Details are at Annex.

**e-Government Services Expected to Adopt “iAM Smart”  
by mid-2021**

	<b>Bureaux, Departments and Related Organisations</b>	<b>e-Government Services</b>
1	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Public Enquiry and Complaint
2	Civil Service Bureau	Application Form for Employment with the Government (G.F. 340) Online Application System
3		Application Form for Employment as an Administrative Officer / Executive Officer II / Assistant Labour Officer II / Assistant Trade Officer II / Transport Officer II (CSB606) On-line Application System
4		Application for the Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law Test (Degree / Professional Grades)
5	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)	Government Electronic Trading Services - Certificate of Origin (CO)
6		Government Electronic Trading Services - Dutiable Commodities Permit (DCP)
7		Government Electronic Trading Services - Cargo Manifest (excluding road mode) (EMAN)
8		Government Electronic Trading Services - Import and Export Declaration (TDEC)
9	Companies Registry	Electronic submission under the Licensing Regime for Trust or Company Service Providers
10	Correctional Services Department	Official Visit e-Booking Service
11		Visit Status Enquiry
12	Customs and Excise Department	Application for Exemption from Duty on Hydrocarbon Oil, Dutiable Commodities Ordinance
13		Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Declaration System (CDS)
14		Road Cargo System (ROCARS)

	<b>Bureaux, Departments and Related Organisations</b>	<b>e-Government Services</b>
15	Department of Health	Application for Animal Experiment Licence
16		Central Notification Office (CENO) - Notification of Infectious Diseases
17		Centralised Organ Donation Register
18		Cervical Screening Programme
19		Colorectal Cancer Screening Programme
20		Elderly Health Care Voucher (EHV) Scheme
21		Electronic Radiation Licensing & Services System
22		e-Services of the Office for Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities (ORPHF)
23		Internet Service for the System for Managing the Assessment of Student Health (wSMASH)
24		Medical Device Adverse Incident Reporting
25		Medical Device Listing Applications
26		Outreach Dental Care Programme for the Elderly (ODCP)
27		Private Medical Practitioners Sentinel Surveillance
28		Sentinel Surveillance of Infectious Diseases among Chinese Medicine Practitioners (CMPs)
29		Sentinel Surveillance of Infectious Diseases at Child Care Centres / Kindergartens (CCC/KG)
30		Sentinel Surveillance of Infectious Diseases at Residential Care Homes for the Elderly
31		Vaccination Subsidy Scheme
32	Education Bureau	Application for Government School Temporary Teaching Posts
33		Application for Quality Education Fund
34		Application for Registration as a Manager
35		Application for Registration of a School
36		e-Appointment System for Aided Schools
37		Application for Registration Certificate for Kindergarten Admission
38		e-Form Submission Services of EDB
39		Electronic Advance Application System for Post-secondary Programmes (E-APP)
40		Electronic Submission for Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme
41		Common Log-On (CLO) System
42	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	EMSD (Regulatory Services) Web-Based Registration Services
43		e-Platform for Lifts and Escalators Ordinance
44	Environmental Protection Department	Hong Kong Second Hand Exchange
45	Fire Services Department	Online Submission System for Certificate of Fire Service Installation and Equipment (FS251)

	<b>Bureaux, Departments and Related Organisations</b>	<b>e-Government Services</b>
46	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Cemeteries and Crematoria Service
47		Application for Exemption from Nutrition Labelling under Small Volume Exemption Scheme
48		Application for Liquor / Club Liquor Licence
49		Application for Registration as Food Importer / Distributor
50		Application for Restricted Food Permit (Online Sale of Restricted Food)
51		Food Trader Portal
52		Licensing (such as food business licence)
53	Food and Health Bureau	eHealth - Patient Portal
54		Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS)
55		Primary Care Directory - Primary Care Provider Platform
56	Government Logistics Department	Downloading of Tender Documents
57		Submission of No Offer Notification
58		Submission of Tender Offer (Account Login)
59	Highways Department	Road Works - Excavation Permit Management System
60	Hong Kong Housing Authority	E-form Filling for Public Rental Housing Application
61		e-Services for Public Rental Housing Tenants
62		Online Application for Subsidised Sale Flats Schemes
63		iHousing
64	Hong Kong Observatory	Enrolment Form for Guided Tour of the Observatory (Individual)
65		Friends of the Observatory Enrolment Form
66		Request for Use of Materials available on Hong Kong Observatory website for Non-commercial Purposes
67		Suggestion Form
68	Hong Kong Police Force	Hong Kong Police Licensing System
69		Online Booking System (OBS) for Sexual Conviction Record Check (SCRC), Certificate of No Criminal Conviction (CNCC) and Criminal Conviction Data Access (CCD)
70	Hongkong Post	Certificate Renewal Services for e-Cert (Personal)
71		EC-Ship
72		Hongkong Post Circular Service
73		My Speedpost
74		ShopThruPost
75	Immigration Department	Application for HKSAR Passport
76	Information Services Department	Government Photo Store
77		Government Bookstore
78	Inland Revenue Department	eTAX
79	Intellectual Property Department	IPD E-filing service

	<b>Bureaux, Departments and Related Organisations</b>	<b>e-Government Services</b>
80	Labour Department	Booking of Youth Employment Start (YES) Service and Facilities
81		Registration for Employment Services by Job Seekers
82		Registration for Job Seekers with Disabilities
83		Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) Trainees' Application
84		Youth Employment Start (YES) Member Pre-registration
85	Land Registry	Integrated Registration Information System Online Services
86	Lands Department	Hong Kong Map Service 2.0
87		Various electronic submission services
88	Legal Aid Department	Legal Aid Electronic Services Portal (LAESP)
89	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Music Office Integrated System - Trainee Portal
90	Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	e-Procurement Programme
91		MyGovHK and Change of Address Service
92		Registration of Outbound Travel Information
93	Rating and Valuation Department	eRVD Bill Service
94	Registration and Electoral Office	Online Voter Information Enquiry System
95		Voter Registration and Change of Registration Particulars
96	Social Welfare Department	Individual Membership Application for Family Life Education (FLE) Resource Centre
97	Trade and Industry Department	Support and Consultation Centre for SMEs (SUCCESS) website and backend system
98	Transport Department	Appointment Booking Service for Vehicle Licence Renewal, Full Driving Licence Renewal and Application for International Driving Permit
99		E-Application for Ad Hoc Quotas for Cross Boundary Private Cars
100		E-Application for Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) Macao Port Park-and-Ride Scheme
101		Online Application for a Certificate of Particulars of Motor Vehicle
102		Online Application for Lantau Closed Road Permit
103		Online Application for Renewal of Full Driving Licence
104		Online Application for Renewal of Vehicle Licence
105		Online Booking for Driving Tests
106		Online Checking of Driving Licence Status
107		Online Services for Personalized Vehicle Registration Marks
108		Online Services for Traditional Vehicle Registration Marks

	<b>Bureaux, Departments and Related Organisations</b>	<b>e-Government Services</b>
109	The Treasury	Electronic General Demand Note (e-GDN) Enquiry
110	Water Supplies Department	Water Supplies Department Electronic Services
111	Working Family and	SFO E-Link - My Applications
112	Student Financial	SFO E-Link - My Bills
113	Assistance Agency (Student Finance Office)	SFO E-Link - My Counter Appointment

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB195****(Question Serial No. 2349)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding public Wi-Fi services, will the Government inform this Committee of the following as at 31 December 2019:

- (a) a breakdown by district of the number of Government Wi-Fi (GovWiFi) hotspots and their coverage;
- (b) the number of hotspots under the "Wi-Fi.HK" brand; and
- (c) the respective speeds of GovWiFi and Wi-Fi.HK services.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

- (a) As at 31 December 2019, the distribution of hotspots under the Government Wi-Fi (GovWiFi) in various districts was as below:

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of hotspots</b>	<b>Coverage (percentage against the total number of hotspots)</b> <sup>[Note 2]</sup>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>		
Central and Western District	464	6.9%
Eastern District	394	5.9%
Southern District	266	4.0%
Wan Chai	438	6.5%
<b>Kowloon</b>		
Kowloon City	463	6.9%
Yau Tsim Mong	310	4.6%
Sham Shui Po	483	7.2%
Wong Tai Sin	390	5.8%

<b>District</b> <sup>[Note 1]</sup>	<b>Number of hotspots</b>	<b>Coverage (percentage against the total number of hotspots)</b> <sup>[Note 2]</sup>
Kwun Tong	664	9.9%
<b>New Territories</b>		
Tai Po	264	3.9%
Yuen Long	367	5.5%
Tuen Mun	289	4.3%
North District	245	3.6%
Sai Kung	290	4.3%
Sha Tin	356	5.3%
Kwai Tsing	387	5.7%
Tsuen Wan	287	4.3%
Islands	365	5.4%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6 722</b>	<b>100%</b>

[Note 1]: Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

[Note 2]: In general, the hotspots cover main facilities in the district including sports, cultural and recreation venues, sitting-out areas in public rental housing estates, government offices, etc.

- (b) As at 31 December 2019, there were over 36 300 hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand.
- (c) The average connection speed of hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand (including GovWiFi hotspots at government venues in all districts of Hong Kong) exceeds 20 Mbps.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB196**

**(Question Serial No. 2946)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong to build Hong Kong into a smart city, will the SAR Government advise on the following:

The projects that could not be taken forward as scheduled due to the impact of social disturbances since June 2019, and the new expected completion dates;

The projects that have been damaged due to the impact of social disturbances since June 2019, as well as the write-off and maintenance fees.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The *Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong* (Blueprint) published in December 2017 comprises 76 initiatives. Relevant bureaux and departments have been actively implementing the initiatives over the past 2 years, as well as briefing the public and/or related Legislative Council panels on their initiatives and progress. In promoting smart city development, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is committed to implementing digital infrastructure projects that promote smart city development, including the “iAM Smart” one-stop digital service platform and the “Next Generation Government Cloud” and “Big Data Analytics Platform” which will be launched in 2020 as planned.

As regards the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme), after consulting the relevant District Councils, installation works started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre in end-June 2019. 30 of them in Kwun Tong district were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Pilot Scheme. The resources and manpower involved will be further assessed.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB197****(Question Serial No. 2986)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the next generation integrated government cloud infrastructure, will the SAR Government advise on the following:

Please list out in tabular form the titles of the next generation integrated government cloud infrastructure projects, the departments involved, the project details and progress, the intended outcomes, the actual outcomes as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

In May 2018, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved a provision of \$460 million for developing the Next Generation Government Cloud Platform. The new platform will be launched in the third quarter of 2020. In 2018-19 and 2019-20, the estimated project expenditures for developing the new platform are \$5.7 million and \$22.4 million respectively. The manpower involved is as follows:

Year	Newly created Analyst/Programmer grade posts (number of staff)	Internally deployed Analyst/Programmer grade staff (number of staff)	Number of Contract IT staff
2018-19	N/A	9	7
2019-20	3	6	13

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB198**

**(Question Serial No. 2987)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

On promoting wider use of electronic submission of government forms, will the SAR Government advise on the following:

Please list out by service in tabular form the numbers of electronic forms available, the numbers of electronic forms received by the Government and the numbers of users in the past 3 years. What are the future plans of the Government?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Government provided 319 new electronic forms for public use, involving public services under 30 bureaux/departments (B/Ds). Details are at **Annex**. At present, there are as many as 1 800 government forms supporting electronic submission.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is actively driving B/Ds to adopt the “iAM Smart” one-stop personalised digital service platform progressively for their e-Government services, including the use of electronic forms. The “iAM Smart” platform will be launched in the fourth quarter of 2020. It is expected that by mid-2021, the number of government forms that can be submitted electronically will increase to about 3 000. B/Ds do not keep the information about the numbers of electronic forms received and the numbers of users involved.

## New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2017-18

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
1	Civil Aviation Department	HKAR-66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence - Application for Written Examination (DCA 35E)
2		Application for Approval of Aircraft Radio Installation (DCA 141A)
3		Application & Approval for ODA Unit Member / Associate Unit Member (DCA 563)
4	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	Acknowledgement of Using Special Effects Materials in an Entertainment Programme
5		Application Form for a Conveyance Permit for PSEM
6		Application Form for a Discharge Permit (Stream A)
7		Application Form for a Discharge Permit (Stream B)
8		Application Form for a Movable PSEM Store Licence/Renewal
9		Application Form for a Non-movable PSEM Store Licence/Renewal
10		Application Form for a PSEM Supplier Licence/Renewal
11		Application Form for a Special Effects Operator Licence
12		Application Form for a Special Effects Operator Licence (to be used by provisionally recognised SEOs)
13		Application Form for Renewal/Alteration of Special Effects Operator Licence
14		Authorization for the Release of Data Relating to SEO Licence(s)
15		Collection of Special Effects Operator Licences
16		Criminal Record Check Application for Special Effects Operator/PSEM Store Licence/Supplier Licence
17		Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance Cap. 560 Surrender of Special Effects Operator Licence
18		Personal Data Authorization Form
19		Questionnaire on the Quality of Services provided by the Entertainment Special Effects Licensing Authority
20		Report of Conveyance of PSEM
21		Report of Special Effects Materials (SEM) Used
22		Special Effects Operator (SEO) Log Sheet
23		Stock Record for PSEM Supplier
24		Stock Book for Movable Store
25		Application for Approval of Pyrotechnics Special Effects Materials
26	Education Bureau	Application for Government School Temporary Teaching Posts
27	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Notification Of Incident Involving A Lift(s) Or An Escalator(s) (Form LE27)

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
28	Home Affairs Bureau	Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form
29	Home Affairs Department	Confirmation Form (Rural Representative Election)
30	Hong Kong Observatory	Application Form for Inclusion in HKO Supplier Lists (HKO01101)
31		Friends of the Observatory - Enrollment Form
32		Request for authorization to reproduce or re-disseminate information from the Hong Kong Observatory website
33		Application Form for Employment with the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
34	Hong Kong Police Force	Police Museum Online Booking Form
35	Inland Revenue Department	Notification of Change of Business Nature (IRBR193)
36		Notification of Commencement of Business by Corporation (IRBR200)
37		Notification of Reporting Financial Account Information to Participating Jurisdictions (IR1463)
38		Request for Employer's Return of Remuneration and Pensions (IR6163)
39		Notification by an employer of an employee who commences to be employed (IR56E)
40	Labour Department	Certificate of Fitness for a Pressure Vessel (other than a Pressurised Fuel Container) - Form 2
41		Certificate of Fitness for a Steam Boiler - Form 1
42		Notification of Change of Ownership for a Registered of Pressure Equipment
43		Reply for BPV 14B - Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinance, Chapter 56
44	Office of the Communications Authority	Application for Wireless Internet of Things Licence
45		Film Submission Form
46		Packaging Submission Form
47		Advertising Material Submission Form
48		Application for Replacement Certificate
49		Application to View Films, Packagings and Advertising Material in Repository
50		Notification of Publication of VIDEOTAPE/LASERDISC/VCD/DVD
51		Application for Appointment to Panel of Film Censorship Advisers

## New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2018-19

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
1	Customs and Excise Department	Crime Report
2	Education Bureau	Application form - Language Proficiency Requirement Certificate of Merit and / or Attainment Certificate
3		Community Youth Club New Member Registration / Withdrawal Form
4		Community Youth Club Member Merit Awards Record Form
5	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Information Submission for Product Model Already Registered in Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme [This form was only applicable during the grace period of the third phase of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme i.e. 1/6/2018 – 30/1/2019]
6		Submission of Supplementary Information for Product Model Already Registered in Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme as per the New Requirement [This form was only applicable during the grace period of the third phase of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme i.e. 1/6/2018 – 30/1/2019]
7	Environmental Protection Department/Environment Bureau	Export Licence for Scheduled Chemicals
8		Import Licence for Scheduled Chemicals
9	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Notification Form of Implementation of “Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products
10	Food and Health Bureau	Application for Registration as a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Provider
11		Information Update for Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Provider
12		Application for certification of a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Standard Plan
13		Application for certification of a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Flexi Plan
14		Application for re-certification of an existing Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Certified Plan
15		Notification of Standard Premium or Policy Schedule changes for an existing Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Certified Plan
16		Application for Reactivation of Account in the Primary Care Directory – Application Form (Applicable to doctors only)
17	Home Affairs Bureau	Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form (Replaces the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form in 2017-18)



No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
18	Home Affairs Bureau	Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2019 Application Form
19	Home Affairs Department	Central & Western District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
20		Kwun Tong District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
21		Tai Po District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
22		Tsuen Wan District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
23		Wong Tai Sin District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
24		Yau Tsim Mong District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
25		Form for Submission of a Text Version of Introduction to Candidates for Persons with Visual Impairment
26		Central Platform on Building Management - Enrollment Form
27	Hong Kong Police Force	Provide Dangerous Drug Information
28		Provide Illegal Gambling Information
29		Provide Vice Information
30		Fallen Tree
31		Nuisance Complaint
32		Lost Animal
33		Obstruction
34		Illegal Parking
35		Traffic Accident Damage Only (Without Complaint)
36		Traffic Complaint
37		(Force Data) Application for Access to Information
38		(Personal Data) Data Access Request
39	Hongkong Post	Hongkong Post Application Form for Permit Mailing (Individual) Applicable to the Bulk Air Mail Service Individual Customers
40		Personal Data Correction Request Form
41	Intellectual Property Department	P15 - Filing of Notice of Revocation of a Standard Patent (R) / Application for Revocation of a Standard Patent (R) / On Reference to the Registrar of Patents to Revoke a Patent
42	Inland Revenue Department	Authorization Form for Registration / Operation of CbC Reporting Account (IR1465)
43		Application for Lead Operator Reference Number to Register / Operate CbC Reporting Accounts (IR1466)
44		Cancellation of IR56 Form Data File Uploaded via Employer's Return e-Filing Services (Mixed Mode) (IR1472)
45		Notification by an employer of an employee who is about to cease to be employed (IR56F)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
46	Inland Revenue Department	Notification by an employer of an employee who is about to depart from Hong Kong (IR56G)
47		IR1360 (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Individuals / Sole Proprietorships)
48		IR1360A (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Partnerships)
49		IR1360B (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Corporations)
50	Information Services Department	Application for Government News and Media Information System Subscription
51	Lands Department	Hong Kong Map Service 2.0 User Registration Form
52	Labour Department	Application for Appointment as Air Receiver Inspector / Boiler Inspector (Appointed Examiner)
53		Application for Examination / Endorsement for Certificate of Competency
54		Application for Exemption of Individual Boilers or Pressure Vessels
55		Application for Registration (Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinance) - Form 3
56		Notification of Change of Ownership of Conditionally Exempted Pressurized Equipment
57		Occupational Safety and Health Complaint Form
58	Land Registry	Application for Inspection of Original Land Grant Documents
59		Application for Subscription to the "Property Alert" service
60		"Property Alert" service - Application for Change of Particulars
61		Application for Inspection of Plans deposited in the Land Registry
62		Index of Street, House Numbers & Lots in Hong Kong, Kowloon & New Kowloon on CD - Order Form
63		The New Territories Lot/Address Cross Reference Table on CD - Order Form
64	Innovation and Technology Bureau (Office of the Government Chief Information Officer)	e-Procurement System - Application Form for the Use of the e-Procurement System (Applicable to Works Related Procurement)
65		e-Procurement System - Application Form for Reissuing Master Account User ID and Password
66		Cybersec Infohub Member Registration Form
67		Cybersec Infohub Member Change Request Form
68	Radio Television Hong Kong	Application Form for inclusion in the RTHK Supplier List
69	Security Bureau	Application for a Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 6)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
70	Security Bureau	Application for Renewal of Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 12)
71	Social Welfare Department	Application Form for applying Senior Citizen Card
72		Application Form for companies and organizations to join the Senior Citizen Card Scheme
73	Trade and Industry Department	Import Licence (Ozone Depleting Substances)
74		Export Licence (Ozone Depleting Substances)
75		Import and Export Licence Form (for Transshipment of Ozone Depleting Substances starting from 8 January 2004)
76		Supporting Document(s) for Electronic Submission of Certificate of Hong Kong Origin (CHKO) / Certificate of Origin – Processing (COP) Application
77		Supporting Document(s) for electronic submission of CO(CEPA) Application
78		Request for Expeditious Service for the Processing of Application for Certificate of Origin
79		Application for Certified True Copy of Certificate of Hong Kong Origin / Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA / Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - New Zealand / Certificate of Origin - Processing / Generalised Preference Certificate (Form A)
80		Factories Seeking to Include Product Development Cost in Applications for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA (CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
81		Companies Supplying Product Development Service to Factories Seeking to Include Product Development Cost in Applications for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA(CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
82		Factories seeking to include the value of Raw Materials and Component Parts of Mainland Origin in the calculation of “value-added content” under Certificate of Origin - CEPA (CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
83		Application Form for Cancellation of Factory Registration (FR)
84		Enquiry about manufacturing processes allowable to be subcontracted outside Hong Kong
85		Application Form for Endorsement on Declaration Regarding Exports of Antiques
86		Confirmation of Rice Arrival

## New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2019-20

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
1	Audit Commission	Enquiry, suggestion and complaint form
2	Customs and Excise Department	Declaration - Document (s) Produced for Assessment of Duties (For Liquor Only)
3		Storage Approval (Schedule 1 or 2 subject to Cap.145) Application for approval of the Commissioner of C&E for premises and containers in which substances specified in Schedule 1 or 2 of the Ordinance are stored or kept
4		Application for Ships' Stores
5		Application for Licence, Control of Chemicals Ordinance
6		Application for Operation in Bond, Dutiable Commodities Ordinance
7	Civil Aviation Department	Private Pilot Licence (Helicopters) Flight Test [DCA 527 PPL(H)]
8		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 ZFT)
9		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 Single-engine Helicopter)
10		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 Multi-engine Helicopter)
11		Applications for Operational Approvals/Permission (DCA 4010)
12		Application for HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 565)
13		Application for Variation of HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 566)
14		Application for Renewal of HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 567)
15		Recommendation for C of A Renewal (DCA 568)
16		Application for Hong Kong Crew Member Certificate
17		Application for Permission to Operate Non-Scheduled Services for Hire or Reward (Paragliders)
18		Application for Permission for Carriage of Munitions of War in Aircraft
19		Application for Permission to AN(HK)O 1995 for Carriage of Dangerous Goods in Aircraft
20		Application for Approval of a Dangerous Goods Training Programme in Hong Kong under the Dangerous Goods (Consignment by Air) (Safety) Regulations (i.e. Cap. 384A of the Laws of Hong Kong) (For Shippers and Freight Forwarders)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
21	Civil Aviation Department	Application for Approval of a Dangerous Goods Training Programme in Hong Kong under Regulation 8(3) of Schedule 16 to Air Navigation (Hong Kong) Order 1995 (i.e. Cap. 448C of the Laws of Hong Kong) (For Aircraft Operators, Ground Handling
22	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	Application Form for Membership of the Panel of Adjudicators of the Obscene Articles Tribunal
23	Education Bureau	綜合運用共通能力網上課程「到校支援計劃」申請表 (only Chinese version is available)
24		Application Form for Implementing “Through-train” Mode
25	Environmental Protection Department/Environment Bureau	Form 5 - Notification of Changes in Account Information (Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation)
26		Clinical Waste Producer Premises Code Request Form
27		Application for a new / renewal of Chemical Waste Collection Licence
28		Application for Revision of Approved Operational Plan of Chemical Waste Collection Licence
29		Application for Approval to Use Chemical Waste Container(s) Exceeding 450 Litre
30		Notification under Section 17 for “Part A” Chemical Wastes
31		Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation - Report of Annual Sales & Use of Regulated Products
32		Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation - Notification of Regulated Architectural Paints
33	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Certification of Food Business Premises Free of Unauthorised Building Works (UBWs) for Provisional Licence Application cum Notice of Inspection and Certification of Unauthorised Signboard(s) (Form UBW-1a)
34		Certificate of Food Business Premises Free of Unauthorised Building Works (UBWs) for Full Licence Application cum Notice of Inspection and Certification of Unauthorised Signboard(s) (Form UBW-2a)
35		Application for Green Burial Central Register
36		Application for Service for Keeping of Abortus
37		Application Form for Fixed-Pitch (Other Classes) Hawker Licence
38	Food and Health Bureau	重新啟動《基層醫療指南》賬戶 - 申請表格（只適用於中醫）(only Chinese version is available)

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
39	Fire Services Department	Dangerous Vehicle Inspection Booking Form
40		Certificate of Fire Service Installation and Equipment (FS251)
41	Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Treasury Branch)	Financial Consultant Profile Form
42	Home Affairs Bureau	Advisory and Statutory Bodies - Curriculum Vitae Form
43	Home Affairs Department	Eastern District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
44		Tuen Mun District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
45		Yuen Long District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
46		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Project Progress Report
47		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Application for Reimbursement of Capital Expenditure
48		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Application for Reimbursement of Auditors' Remuneration
49		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for a licence
50		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for renewal of a licence
51		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for transfer of licence
52		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for a Certificate of Compliance
53		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for renewal of a Certificate of Compliance
54		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for transfer of a Certificate of Compliance
55		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for new grant or renewal of permit/provisional permit
56		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for new issue or renewal of licence/provisional licence
57		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for transfer of permit/provisional permit/licence/provisional licence
58		Application Form for Renewal of Amusement Game Centre Licence
59		Report Form for Appointment of Agent as Manager of an Amusement Game Centre

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
60	Home Affairs Department	Application Form for Renewal of Amusements With Prizes Licence
61		Application Forms for Amusements With Prizes Licence
62		Application Form for Exemption of Electronic Sports Venues from Licence Requirement under the Amusement Game Centres Ordinance (Cap. 435)
63		Mahjong/Tin Kau Licence/Public Dance Hall Licence - Application Forms for Employment of Assistant
64		Application Forms for Trade Promotion Competition Licence
65		Anti-epidemic Fund “Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector” Application Form for Property Management Company/Deed of Mutual Covenant Manager
66		Anti-epidemic Fund “Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector” Application Form for Owners’ Organisation
67	Intellectual Property Department	T6 - Notice of Opposition / Objection / Application for Revocation, Declaration of Invalidity, Variation of a Trademark Registration or Rectification of an Error or Omission in the Register / Application for Intervention in Proceedings for Revocation, Declaration of Invalidity, Variation or Rectification
68		T7 - Counter-Statement
69		T12 - Notice of Attendance at Hearing / Request for Statement of Reasons
70		T14 - Request for Copy / Request for Certified Copy
71		OP1 - Request for Grant of a Standard Patent (O)
72		OP1A - Statement of Inventorship in respect of a Standard Patent (O)
73		OP2 - Request for Substantive Examination of a Standard Patent (O) Application
74		OP3 - Request to Review
75		OP4 - Request for Substantive Examination of a Short-term Patent
76		OP5 - Addition of Priority Claim / Restoration of Priority Right
77		OP6 - Request for Hearing
78		OP7 - Application to Amend Specification after Grant
79		OP8 - Notice of Intention to Appear at Hearing
80		P2 - Filing of Notice of Opposition or Counter-statement
81		P11 - Request for Certified Copies or Extracts / Request for Information / Request for Request for Certificate Signed by the Registrar of Patents

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
82	Intellectual Property Department	D10 - Application for Certified Copies or Extracts / Application for Copies or Extracts / Request for Information / Request for Inspection of Document or Register / Request for Certificate Signed by the Registrar of Designs
83	Inland Revenue Department	Claim for Exemption from Payment of Fee and Levy under Section 9 of the Business Registration Ordinance (IRBR61)
84		Appointment Letter of an agent for the purpose of Business Registration Ordinance (IRBR177)
85		Application for 3-year Business Registration Certificate (IRBR184)
86		Application for Concessionary Refund of Business Registration Fee (Waiver Period from 1.4.2016 to 31.3.2017) (IRBR188)
87		Authorization for change of payee's name on concessionary refund cheque (Waiver Period from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2020) (IRBR188B)
88		BIRSP1 - Supplementary Form SP1 - Person electing for two-tiered profits tax rates
89		BIRSP2 - Supplementary Form SP2 - Expenditure on research & development (R&D)
90		BIRSP3 - Supplementary Form SP3 - Deduction for expenditure on energy efficient building installation (EEBI)
91		IR 6173 - Claim for Deduction for qualifying premiums paid under the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme Policy
92		IRSD 140 Request for Cancellation of Stamp Certificate containing error(s) - Share Transfer IRSD 140(E)
93		IR1121S Application for Holdover of Provisional Salaries Tax - deduction for: (a) qualifying premiums paid under the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme Policy; (b) qualifying annuity premiums paid under Qualifying Deferred Annuity Policy and/or (c) tax deductible MPF voluntary contributions
94		IRSD 141 Request for Withdrawal of e-Stamping Application - Share Transfer
95		IR 1474 Application for Preparation of IR56 Form(s) by Using Employer's Self-developed Software
96		IR 56B Employer's Return of Remuneration & Pensions
97		IR1360 (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Individuals / Sole Proprietorships))



<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
98	Inland Revenue Department	IR1360A (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Partnerships))
99		IR1360B (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Corporations))
100		IR 1459 Notification of Details of Person Authorized to Register/Operate an AEOI Account
101		IR 1460 Application for Lead Operator Reference Number
102		IR 1313A Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Company, Partnership, Trust or other Body of Persons)
103		IR1314A Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Individuals)
104		IR 1313B Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Company, Partnership, Trust or other Body of Persons)
105		IR 1314B Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Individuals)
106		IR1454 Application to Initiate Mutual Agreement Procedure
107		IR 6104 Application for Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and / or Access Code by existing eTAX user or person with tax file in IRD
108		IRBR 199 Revocation of Election for 3-year Business Registration Certificate
109		U3/SOA/F04 Application for Exemption of Stamp Duty under Section 29C(5A) of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (CAP.117)
110		IRSD 106 Changes in Particulars Registered with the Stamp Office
111		IRSD 115 Adjudication Request - Nomination of Immovable Property
112		IRSD 116 Adjudication Request - Supplemental Agreement of Immovable Property
113		IRSD 118 Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2)/ Exemption of Special Stamp Duty / Buyer's Stamp Duty
114		IRSD 121 Adjudication / Stamping Request - Intra-Group Agreement / Assignment (for application from 2 August 2004 onwards)
115		IRSD 125A Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty Paid under section 29DF of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
116	Inland Revenue Department	IRSD 125B Application for Refund of Buyer's Stamp Duty / Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty for properties acquired for Redevelopment under section 29DD / 29DE of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) (For Applicant who is an Individual)
117		IRSD 125C Application for Refund of Buyer's Stamp Duty / Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty for properties acquired for Redevelopment under section 29DD / 29DE of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) (For Applicant which is a Body Corporate)
118		IRSD 129 Request for Withdrawal of e-Stamping Application - Property
119		IRSD 131 Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2) / Exemption of Buyer's Stamp Duty
120		IRSD 131A Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2) / Exemption of Buyer's Stamp Duty
121		IRSD 131B Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2)
122		IRSD 131C Statutory Declaration - Claiming for Partial Refund of Stamp Duty Paid for change of residential property cases
123		SBUL 3 Stock Borrowing Ledger
124	Information Services Department	Application for Access to Information
125	Lands Department	Application form for temporary occupation of Government land for setting up street counters to hold non-profit making and non-fund raising activities
126	Labour Department	Employment Agency - Application for a Certificate of Exemption
127		Employment Agency - Application for a Certificate of Exemption (supplementary sheet)
128		Employment Agency - Application for a Licence
129		Employment Agency - Application for a Licence (supplementary sheet)
130		Employment Agency - Application for Renewal of a Licence
131		Designation of Main and Branch Office(s) of Employment Agency
132		Particulars of Associate of Employment Agency
133		Vacancy Order Form (Applicable to posts from Employers in Personal Capacity)

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
134		Vacancy Order Form (Applicable to posts from private educational institutes/tutor posts/promoter post)

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
135	Labour Department	Work Trial Scheme Application Form for Claim of Allowance
136		Work Trial Scheme Application Form for Participating Organisation's Request for Refund of Allowance
137		Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Asbestos) Regulation - Notification of (i) Asbestos Work (ii) Change in Notified Asbestos Work
138		Application Form for Submission of Equipment for Approval under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance and its subsidiary regulations
139		Application for Occupational Safety and Health Training Course
140	Land Registry	Application for refund of Search Ticket
141		Application for Owner's Properties Information Check
142	Office of the Communications Authority	Registration for Class Licence for Offer of Telecommunications Services
143		Application for Assignment of Shared Spectrum in the 26 GHz and 28 GHz Bands and Grant of Localised Wireless Broadband Service Licence
144	Innovation and Technology Bureau (Office of the Government Chief Information Officer)	e-Procurement System - Alteration Request Form
145		e-Procurement System - Application Form for Reissuing Activation ID and PIN
146		Smart Government Innovation Lab - Propose Solutions
147		Smart Government Innovation Lab - Raise Service Needs
148	Radio Television Hong Kong	Application Form for Screening of RTHK TV Programmes
149	Security Bureau	Application for Variation of Conditions of Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 10)
150	Social Welfare Department	Application for Access to Information
151		Data Access Request Form
152	Trade and Industry Department	Request for Revising the Undertaking Import Quantity of Rice
153		Application for E-Services User Account of Rice
154		Request for Retrieval of E-services User Name/Re-setting of Password of Rice
155		Application for Approval as a Rice Storage Place

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
156		Application Form for Hong Kong Service Supplier (HKSS) Certificate (TID 102)
157		Application for Registration as a Rough Diamond Trader (including Registration for Rough Diamonds Transshipment Exemption)
158		Request for Amendment on Combined Forms for Outward Processing Arrangement

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
159	Trade and Industry Department	Application Form for Textiles Trader Registration
160		Application for New Registration
161		Form for Undertaking of Import Quantity of Rice
162		Application for Registration as a Stockholder of Rice
163		Application for Inspection of the Register of Registered Rice Stockholders
164		Application Form for Amendment of Textiles Trader Registration (TTR) Particulars
165		Application Form for Cancellation of Textiles Trader Registration (TTR)
166		Application Form for Registration as Local Importers of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour
167		Application for Authorisation for Delivery of Rice
168		Application for Increasing the Total Import Quantity of Rice
169		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Fee Demand Note of Application for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
170		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Application Form for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
171		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Fee Demand Note of Renewal Application for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
172		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Renewal Application Form for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
173		Manufacturers/Sub-contractors Seeking to Apply for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - New Zealand (CO(NZ)) for Goods falling within Chapter 61 or 62 of the Harmonised System - Written Commitment

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
174		Application Form for Renewal of Textiles Trader Registration
175		Registration as Local Importers of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour - Application Form for Amendment of Registration Particulars
176		Report Form of Monthly Import Quantities of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour
177		Application Form for Amendment or Cancellation to Certificate of Origin Form A
178		Textiles Trader Registration (TTR)/Factory Registration (FR) User Login Account (ULA) : Request for Re-setting of Password

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
179	Trade and Industry Department	ASEAN - Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA) Proforma Cost Statement for Factory Registration For Goods Subject to the Regional Value Content Requirements
180		The Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Agreement on Trade in Goods (the Agreement) Proforma Cost Statement for CO(CEPA) Application with Mainland Origin Goods and/or Materials (including the Raw Materials and Component Parts) Included in the Regional Value Content using Build-Down Method
181		Hong Kong, China - Georgia Free Trade Agreement (HKCGFTA) Proforma Cost Statement for Factory Registration For Goods subject to Regional Value Content Requirements
182		SME Export Marketing Fund - Application for Funding Support (to be launched by the end of Q1 2020)

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB199**

**(Question Serial No. 2988)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme, will the SAR Government advise on the following:

The numbers of smart lampposts that have come into operation and the expenditure involved for the development in the past 3 years;

The numbers of smart lampposts that have been damaged, repaired and beyond repair since June 2019, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved for the repair.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

Installation works of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. The total installation cost was around \$20 million (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment and road maintenance works).

Of the 50 Smart Lampposts, 30 of them in Kwun Tong district were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Pilot Scheme. The resources and manpower involved will be further assessed.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB200****(Question Serial No. 2995)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention this year that the Government will continue to oversee the enhancement of public Wi-Fi services. What is the existing coverage rate of public Wi-Fi services? How many Wi-Fi hotspots are covered and what is the average connection speed? Besides, what are the specific measures of the Government in developing Hong Kong into a Wi-Fi connected city? What are the total estimated expenditure, the target coverage rate and the expected completion date?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

As at end-February 2020, the number of hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand was 36 801. Apart from the 3 562 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots installed in buses, taxis and the Airport Express, the distribution of the 33 239 Wi-Fi hotspots in 18 districts of Hong Kong is as below:

<b>District</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Number of hotspots</b>	<b>Coverage (percentage against the total number of hotspots)</b> <sup>Note 2</sup>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>		
Central and Western District	3 489	10.5%
Eastern District	1 567	4.7%
Southern District	2 021	6.1%
Wan Chai	2 407	7.3%
<b>Kowloon</b>		
Kowloon City	4 390	13.2%
Yau Tsim Mong	2 861	8.6%
Sham Shui Po	973	2.9%

<b>District</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Number of hotspots</b>	<b>Coverage (percentage against the total number of hotspots)</b> <sup>Note 2</sup>
Wong Tai Sin	987	3.0%
Kwun Tong	1 542	4.6%
<b>New Territories</b>		
Tai Po	583	1.8%
Yuen Long	974	2.9%
Tuen Mun	1 985	6.0%
North District	524	1.6%
Sai Kung	1 469	4.4%
Sha Tin	4 089	12.3%
Kwai Tsing	1 140	3.4%
Tsuen Wan	761	2.3%
Islands	1 477	4.4%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>33 239</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note 1: Listed according to the number of strokes of Chinese characters

Note 2: In general, the hotspots cover main facilities in the district including sports, cultural and recreation venues, sitting-out areas in public rental housing estates, government offices, etc.

At present, the average connection speed of the “Wi-Fi.HK” hotspots exceeds 20 Mbps.

We announced in 2016 the target to progressively expand free Wi-Fi coverage to 34 000 hotspots within 3 years. The number of hotspots under the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand is now over 36 800 which is more than our target set in 2016.

We will continue to expand the coverage of “Wi-Fi.HK” across the territory. Apart from providing free Wi-Fi service at government venues, we will encourage the industry and public and private organisations to join the programme and provide free Wi-Fi service at more venues under the public-private collaboration model. We will also step up promotional efforts through different social media and collaboration with the Hong Kong Tourism Board in order to enhance the awareness of the “Wi-Fi.HK” brand among residents and visitors, enabling them to use the free Wi-Fi service across the territory more conveniently. The estimated expenditure in 2020-21 is around 43.5 million.

With a funding allocation of about \$205 million from the Lotteries Fund, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) launched a four-year pilot scheme to progressively provide Wi-Fi service at around 1 350 service units operated by subvented organisations under SWD from January 2020. Starting from July 2019, SWD has progressively provided Wi-Fi service at around 180 welfare facilities which it operates.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB201**

**(Question Serial No. 3253)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Government will launch a common big data infrastructure to facilitate bureaux and departments in implementing and hosting big data analytics applications. What is the estimated schedule of the Government to roll out the functions? What are the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

The Big Data Analytics Platform will be launched in the third quarter of 2020. In 2020-21, 4 officers <sup>Note</sup>, including 1 Senior Systems Manager, 1 Systems Manager, 1 Analyst/Programmer I and 1 Analyst/Programmer II, of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer are involved in the implementation of the Big Data Analytics Platform. The estimated expenditure for the project in developing this new platform is \$12.73 million.

Note: In addition to the development of the Big Data Analytics Platform and related work, the officers involved also provide data analytics advisory services for other bureaux/departments.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB202**

**(Question Serial No. 3784)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What were the training programmes, courses and measures conducted in the Government to enhance staff knowledge of innovation and technology last year? What are the details, financial resources and manpower involved, and the criteria for evaluating the effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

The Civil Service Training and Development Institute of the Civil Service Bureau has been providing training to different levels of civil servants to enhance their knowledge on innovation and technology (I&T) development and the latest I&T applications, for example, organising regular seminars and workshops on smart city development, big data analytics, design thinking and trends of new technology; incorporating I&T-related training sessions in leadership development programmes; arranging visits to advanced technology facilities and enterprises, etc. Bureaux/departments also organise more advanced I&T training for their staff. For example, in 2019-20, the Office of Government Chief Information Officer has organised about 140 training courses and seminars on smart city, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, blockchain, robotics technology, information security, etc. In 2019-20, the Government provides about 67 000 places on I&T training for civil servants.

Departments would assess the learning effectiveness of the training programmes they organised generally through collecting trainees' feedback and observing trainees' performance. As the staff involved in organising I&T training are not responsible for only one single task, it is difficult to break down the manpower and expenses for I&T-related training.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB203**

**(Question Serial No. 3785)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

What are the training and support provided by the Government to the 8 participating schools of the Enriched IT Class Programme in the past 3 school years? What are the details as well as the manpower and expenditure involved? Please provide the detailed information of each school in tabular form. Which secondary schools interested were invited by the Government to organise additional IT activities for students under the Enriched IT Activities Programme in the past 3 school years? Please list out in tabular form the names of the participating schools and the activities organised, the details of the activities, the numbers of beneficiaries as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

Within the 3 school years from 2016/17 to 2018/19, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) in collaboration with tertiary institutions and the IT industry provided training and learning experience activities for the Enriched IT Class (EITC) students of the 8 partner schools, including visits to innovation and technology (I&T) enterprises (e.g. enterprises in electronic communication devices and artificial intelligence (AI)) and research institutes on the latest development in innovative technologies; attending workshops on AI technologies and industry development, robotic and coding as well as cloud technologies; advanced I&T competitions; and showcase of students' technological inventions in expos, etc. More than 300 students and teachers of the 8 partner schools attended, and the expenditure involved was around \$140,000. Besides, the programme's portal also sets up learning resources sharing area, thereby enabling the 8 partner schools to share the teaching achievements of EITC and related teaching resources with other secondary schools.

Apart from Enriched IT Classes, the EITC operates an Enriched IT Activities for all publicly funded secondary schools to apply for funding support to organise IT-related extra-curricular activities, up to \$50,000 for each activity. Within the 3 school years from 2016/17 to 2018/19, OGCIO approved 174 applications from 142 secondary schools, involving a total funding support of \$8.6 million and about 20 000 students. Details of the related schools and activities are available on the programme's thematic portal (<https://www.eitp.gov.hk/en/participating-schools.html>).

The manpower required for the above work is met by internal deployment within OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB204**

**(Question Serial No. 3830)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What are the specific measures taken by the Government to drive web/mobile app accessibility among public and private organisations in 2020-21? What are the staff establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

In 2020-21, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) will continue to promote web/mobile app accessibility through different measures, including the provision of up-to-date and practical information and resources on the thematic website and social media to render guidance for non-governmental and private organisations to adopt accessibility design. OGCIO together with industry organisations will also continue to organise briefing sessions and promotional activities for different community sectors to enhance their awareness in accessibility design.

In addition, OGCIO will co-organise the Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme with the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited in 2020-21, under which free assessment and advisory services will be provided to all participating organisations to help them understand related technical requirements, hence encouraging more non-governmental and private organisations to adopt web/mobile app accessibility design.

The manpower required is met from internal deployment within OGCIO. No additional expenditure is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB205**

**(Question Serial No. 3831)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list out in tabular form the mobile applications (apps) launched by government departments and public organisations in the past 3 years. What are the major functions, development costs, maintenance costs, numbers of users, and organisations responsible for the development and management of each app? What are the levels of standard for web accessibility achieved by each app?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

Information of the mobile apps launched by the Government in the past 3 years is at **Annex**. The Office of Government Chief Information Officer does not keep relevant information of public bodies.

## Information of the mobile apps launched by bureaux/departments (B/Ds) in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20

No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
1.	Hongkong Post	HKPostStamps	This app uses innovative augmented reality (AR) technology. By scanning specially designed stamps with this app, vivid and interesting multimedia content will be displayed on mobile devices, offering a new philatelic experience. It also provides quick access to Hongkong Post's online shop "ShopThruPost", enabling users to purchase philatelic products anytime and anywhere.	\$150,000	Apr 2017	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional resource is involved.	19 000	Developed by contractors	Internal maintenance	Yes
2.	Water Supplies Department	WSD GA Product Directory	Industry practitioners can use the app to search plumbing products with WSD's General Acceptance by entering category, brand or model number.	\$175,000	Jul 2017	Maintained by deploying internal resources. No additional resource is involved.	8 400	Developed by contractors	Internal maintenance	Yes
3.	Education Bureau (Assessment and HKEAA Section)	說話加油站 (Chinese name only)	To coach students to master the skills of storytelling from the pictures through interactive tasks. Functions include learning, teaching and assessment of storytelling from pictures. Students	Developed with the related website. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Sep 2017	\$176,000	46 000	Developed by contractors	Internal maintenance	Yes

No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
			can learn storytelling while teachers can conduct assessment, provide feedback and recommend good examples with the app. It helps students master the skills of storytelling from the pictures.							
4.	Education Bureau (Kindergarten Administration Section)	Profile of Kindergartens or Kindergarten-cum-child care centres	To provide relevant information of kindergartens across the territory and enhance the transparency of the kindergartens to help parents make informed school choices for their children.	Included in the cost of the whole project of Profile of Kindergartens (development of the related website, teaching materials, etc.). As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Oct 2017	Included in the maintenance cost of the whole project of Profile of Kindergartens. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	90 000	Developed by contractors	Internal maintenance	Yes
5.	Education Bureau (Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section)	History Trip Go Easy: Cheung Chau Jiao Festival	Based on the resource pack: Case Study of Local Heritage Studies – Cheung Chau Jiao Festival published by the Education Bureau in 2014, the app contains an e-book with guideline on field trips and exemplars of learning and teaching activities. It also adopts AR which creatively incorporates field trips into the learning and teaching activities of intangible cultural heritage and enhances	Developed as a part of the e-book and e-portal project. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Nov 2017	Nil	13 000	Developed by contractors	Internal maintenance	Yes



No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
			students' motivation to learn.							
6.	Tourism Commission	A Symphony of Lights	To allow visitors and the public to tune into the music of "A Symphony of Lights" and obtain information on this spectacular show through the mobile app.	\$537,000	Dec 2017	\$40,000	25 000	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes
7.	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	iM Guide	"iM Guide" is a museum mobile multimedia guide platform. Visitors can have a deeper understanding on exhibits through text, audio, video and multimedia contents. Indoor positioning installation and outdoor GPS can be used to provide location information and navigation services for exhibits and facilities.	"iM Guide" is part of the Museum Multimedia Guide System (MMGS) project. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Dec 2017	Subsumed in the maintenance cost of MMGS; no separate cost breakdown is available.	17 000	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes
8.	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Internet Memorial Service	To facilitate the public to pay tribute to their lost loved one anytime and anywhere.	\$300,000	Jun 2018	Included in the system maintenance cost of Internet Memorial Service.	3 800	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes
9.	Transport Department	HKeMobility	It is an all-in-one mobile app integrating TD's 3 previous mobile apps ("HKeTransport", "HKeRouting" and "eTraffic News"). With an enhanced user interface, it facilitates faster and more convenient route search	\$600,000	Jul 2018	Included in the cost of the Server Hosting and System Maintenance Services shared with other TD services. No cost breakdown is available.	2 200 000	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes

No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
			of different transportation modes, journey times and fares, and disseminates real-time traffic information to enable the users to plan for the most appropriate travel arrangements. The major features of this mobile app include: (a) one-stop route search for public transport, driving and walking information; (b) real-time traffic and transport information; (c) to promote walking with barrier-free route search, walking network information is now covering Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Causeway Bay. The walking information will cover 18 districts by 2021; (d) voice-over to special traffic news on rolling banner; and (e) provides an elderly mode to assist senior citizens in obtaining public transport information.							
10.	Invest Hong Kong	InvestHK News & Events	To access InvestHK's latest news and events to facilitate overseas companies in setting up or expanding business in	\$388,000	Sep 2018	\$24,000	1 100 (decommis- sioned in Apr 2019)	Internal development	Internal maintenance	Yes

No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
			HK.							
11.	Hongkong Post	ShopThruPost	ShopThruPost is an online shopping mall administered by Hongkong Post for customers to find and purchase products supplied by different merchants. The app provides an online shopping channel with reliable delivery service by Hongkong Post so that customers can enjoy the convenience of shopping from home.	Included in the implementation cost of the Redevelopment of On-line Shopping Platform Project. As it is not a stand-alone project, no separate cost breakdown is available.	Nov 2018	Included in the total system maintenance cost of the whole On-line Shopping Platform. No cost breakdown is available.	17 000	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes
12.	Marine Department	eSeaGo	Through “eSeaGo”, users can download the chart information provided by the Hydrographic Office of the Marine Department and display it in offline mode. With mobile device’s positioning function, “eSeaGo” will assist sailing in Hong Kong waters.	\$600,000	Jan 2019	\$140,000	20 000	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes
13.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Connect	This mobile app makes use of native functions of smartphones to facilitate smart choice of energy efficient household electrical appliances on mobile platform, locating	\$800,000	Dec 2019	Still under first-year warranty	5 400	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes

No.	B/D	Name	Main Functions	(Approximate) Development Cost	Launch Date	(Approximate) Maintenance Cost	Total Number of Downloads (as at 29 Feb 2020)	Development Parties (in-house development or contractors)	Management Parties (by in-house maintenance or maintenance by contractors)	Adopted Accessibility Design <sup>Note</sup>
			Registered Electrical Contractors, LPG Cylinder Distributors for services; and gives shortcuts to sub-app(s) available on app stores for access to information and e-services offered by the department.							
14.	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	E&M Trade	This mobile app provides E&M trade practitioners with up-to-date information on safety tips, code of practice, continuing professional development (CPD) courses, etc.; through operation of accounts, allows users to bind their registrations to the app to facilitate CPD course enrolment, record CPD hours, and receive push notification reminders on registration expiry.	\$492,000	Dec 2019	Still under first-year warranty	5 200	Developed by contractors	Maintained by contractors	Yes

Note: The World Wide Web Consortium that implements web accessibility standards has yet to publish an official set of accessibility standards that are fully applicable to mobile apps. OGCI0 has formulated a set of “Baseline Accessibility Criteria for Government Mobile App” on its own, which is included in the “Mobile Application Accessibility Handbook”, for reference by government departments.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB206**

**(Question Serial No. 3832)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

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

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Government states that the provision for “IT in the Community” this year is \$7.5 million (7.7%) lower than the revised estimate for last year due to the decreased provision for one general non-recurrent project. Will the Government elaborate on the specific reasons for the decreased provision for the general non-recurrent project?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The estimated total expenditure under Programme (3) “IT in the Community” for 2020-21 is \$89.9 million, which is \$7.5 million lower than the revised estimate for the previous year. This is mainly due to the end of a general non-recurrent project Item 877 (viz. the Internet Learning Support Programme) in August 2018. In 2019-20, the expenditure of Item 877 is for the final disbursement of service fees to the implementers.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB207**

**(Question Serial No. 6555)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the work to “continue to oversee the implementation of iAM Smart, Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme and Next Generation Government Cloud Infrastructure/Big Data Analytics Platform projects”,

- (1) What are the details of the consultation conducted by the Government on the implementation of smart lampposts? What are the details of the work on evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot scheme?
- (2) What are the numbers of smart lampposts to be installed at various districts by the Government in future? What are the districts that they are located and their applications? What are the cost of each lamppost and the total project cost for implementing all smart lampposts?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 325)

Reply:

- (1) - (2) The original plan of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) is to install some 400 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) equipped with smart devices in 4 selected urban locations (namely Central/Admiralty, Causeway Bay/Wan Chai, Tsim Sha Tsui and Kwun Tong/Kai Tak Development Area) in phases to collect real-time city data such as air quality, traffic flow, etc. and support 5G mobile network development.

The Pilot Scheme started in 2019 and 50 Smart Lampposts were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. The total expenditure of the relevant works was around \$20 million (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment as well as road maintenance works). Relevant information of the Smart Lampposts installed, such as the smart devices in operation and their functions, has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme:

([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)) for reference by the public.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme. The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB208****(Question Serial No. 5124)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

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

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

What is the percentage of the estimated expenditure on the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme mentioned in Programme (2) against the total expenditure?

What does the pilot scheme involve? Are these smart lampposts and associated systems equipped with facial recognition function?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

Under the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme), the expenditure for the first phase works (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment and road maintenance works) for the 50 Smart Lampposts installed in Kwun Tong and Kai Tak Development Area is \$20 million. The relevant expenditures are funded by the Capital Works Reserve Fund block allocation Subhead 6100TX under Head 706 (Highways) and Subhead A007GX under Head 710 (Computerisation) respectively in accordance with the prevailing funding mechanism.

No facial recognition technology is used in Smart Lampposts. Relevant information on the Smart Lampposts installed, such as the smart devices in operation and their functions as well as the real-time city data collected, has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)) for reference by the public.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart



Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme. The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

The above work is absorbed by deployment of existing manpower in OGCI and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB209**

**(Question Serial No. 0572)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Innovation and Technology Bureau will continue to oversee the implementation of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts pilot scheme. Regarding the public concerns over privacy, the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (the Committee) has made several recommendations at the end of last year, including replacing cameras with other technology solutions; ensuring compliance with international standards when any new smart device is installed on smart lampposts in future and consulting the Legislative Council (LegCo) and the District Councils concerned prior to the installation work:

1. How many smart lampposts were installed by the Government last year? How many smart lampposts are still in operation currently? Are the cameras therein still in operation?
2. Has the Committee submitted a detailed report to the Government? If yes, what are the details of the report?
3. How many recommendations have been made by the Committee? How many of them have been accepted or rejected? Please provide the details in tabular form.
4. When will the Government consult the public and the LegCo on the Committee's report and the Government's recommendations?
5. Does the Government plan to relaunch the scheme to install smart lampposts this year? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

- (1) The installation works of the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. Having regard to the concerns of individual people, the Government announced in July 2019 not to activate three functions which involved privacy matters. Such devices include cameras and bluetooth traffic detectors. Of those Smart

Lampposts, 30 of them in Kwun Tong district were damaged to varying degrees during the public events in August and October 2019 respectively. Relevant department arranged for resumption of basic public lighting services of these Smart Lampposts after the incidents, but other damaged smart devices had not been repaired nor replaced pending the way forward over the Pilot Scheme. The 20 Smart Lampposts along Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak provide basic services including public lighting and collection of air quality and meteorological data.

- (2) – (5) The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on the Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)). The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB210**

**(Question Serial No. 4046)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Next Generation Government Cloud Infrastructure/Big Data Analytics Platform projects, the Platform is originally expected to be in operation in the third quarter of this year.

- (1) What are the expenditure incurred by the Platform so far, and the difference between the total expenditure eventually incurred and the original estimate based on projections at the present stage?
- (2) What are the work progress of the Platform and the expected change in the commissioning date?
- (3) How many government departments or public organisations are interested at present in using the Next Generation Government Cloud Infrastructure for service delivery? Please provide the details by project.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

- (1) & (2) The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved a provision of \$533 million in May 2018 for developing the Next Generation Government Cloud and Big Data Analytics Platform, which are expected to be launched in the third quarter of 2020. The cumulative expenditure on the project is \$36.66 million. The final total expenditure on the project is expected to be close to the approved provision with no cost overrun.
- (3) The Next Generation Government Cloud Platform is expected to be launched in the third quarter of 2020. The 268 e-Government services and application systems on the existing central cloud platform will be progressively migrated to the new platform. Details are yet to be confirmed.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB211****(Question Serial No. 0992)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

New chatbot functions are introduced to the Government's online one-stop service portal to facilitate searching of and access to e-Government services by the public. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the monthly views of the one-stop service portal and the monthly usage of chatbot by the public in the past 3 years?
- (2) Please list out the respective departments and the average monthly usage figures in descending order of the most commonly used online services in the past year?
- (3) What are the monthly expenditure and staff establishment involved for operating the portal?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

- (1) The monthly statistics on the use of the GovHK portal and chatbot by the public in the past 3 years are as follows:

Financial Year	GovHK Average Monthly Views	Chatbot* Average Monthly Usage
2017-18	2 500 000	N/A
2018-19	2 600 000	N/A
2019-20 (Up to end-February 2020)	3 700 000	9 200

\* Launched in end-December 2019

- (2) The top five online services in terms of usage on the GovHK portal in 2019 are as follows:

	Online Service (Department)	Average Monthly Usage
1	Appointment Booking for Hong Kong Smart Identity Card Application (Immigration Department)	230 000
2	Application for Supply of Information on the Business Register, Business Registration Number Enquiry (Inland Revenue Department)	200 000
3	Change of eTAX Personal Particulars, Profile and Password, Viewing of eTAX Account, Tax Position and Messages (Inland Revenue Department)	170 000
4	Booking Appointment to Apply for Travel Documents (Immigration Department)	160 000
5	Tax Computation of Salaries Tax and Personal Assessment (Inland Revenue Department)	130 000

- (3) In the 2019-20 financial year, the monthly operating expenditure of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer for the GovHK portal was about \$0.5 million (including expenditure on hardware, software, information technology system and contract staff). The related work is absorbed by existing manpower and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB212**

**(Question Serial No. 0993)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer will promote wider use of electronic submission of government forms. To enable wider use of electronic forms, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) How many electronic forms were made available for public use in each of the past 3 years? Please list out the names of the receiving departments and the forms involved.
- (2) Please list out the following according to the forms received by various departments in the past 3 years: the numbers of electronic forms used by the public, the numbers of physical forms used, the numbers of forms submitted in person and the numbers of forms submitted by mail.
- (3) What are the staff establishment and expenditure incurred by various departments in processing physical forms and electronic forms?
- (4) Please list out the percentages of the electronic forms provided by various departments against the total number of forms. If some submissions must be made with physical forms, please specify the names of the forms and the reasons.

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

Reply:

In the past 3 years, 319 new electronic forms for public use are provided by the Government, involving public services under 30 bureaux/departments (B/Ds). The details are at Annex.

Currently, up to 1 800 government forms support electronic submission, accounting for 55% of some 3 300 forms in total. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer is actively driving B/Ds to adopt progressively the “iAM Smart” one-stop personalised digital service platform for their e-Government services, including the use of electronic forms. The “iAM Smart” platform will be launched in the fourth quarter of 2020. It is expected that by mid-2021, the number of government forms that can be submitted electronically will increase to about 3 000.

B/Ds will generally process their government forms with existing manpower and resources. They do not keep details of the ratio between use of their physical forms and electronic forms.

There are currently about 300 government forms which cannot support electronic submission. The reasons include legislative constraints, requirements for submitting the form together with physical materials, procedures requiring face-to-face verification of applicant's identity, forms to be processed by agencies outside the Government, etc.



**New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2017-18**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
1	Civil Aviation Department	HKAR-66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence - Application for Written Examination (DCA 35E)
2		Application for Approval of Aircraft Radio Installation (DCA 141A)
3		Application & Approval for ODA Unit Member / Associate Unit Member (DCA 563)
4	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	Acknowledgement of Using Special Effects Materials in an Entertainment Programme
5		Application Form for a Conveyance Permit for PSEM
6		Application Form for a Discharge Permit (Stream A)
7		Application Form for a Discharge Permit (Stream B)
8		Application Form for a Movable PSEM Store Licence/Renewal
9		Application Form for a Non-movable PSEM Store Licence/Renewal
10		Application Form for a PSEM Supplier Licence/Renewal
11		Application Form for a Special Effects Operator Licence
12		Application Form for a Special Effects Operator Licence (to be used by provisionally recognised SEOs)
13		Application Form for Renewal/Alteration of Special Effects Operator Licence
14		Authorization for the Release of Data Relating to SEO Licence(s)
15		Collection of Special Effects Operator Licences
16		Criminal Record Check Application for Special Effects Operator/PSEM Store Licence/Supplier Licence
17		Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance Cap. 560 Surrender of Special Effects Operator Licence
18		Personal Data Authorization Form
19		Questionnaire on the Quality of Services provided by the Entertainment Special Effects Licensing Authority
20		Report of Conveyance of PSEM
21		Report of Special Effects Materials (SEM) Used
22		Special Effects Operator (SEO) Log Sheet
23		Stock Record for PSEM Supplier
24		Stock Book for Movable Store
25		Application for Approval of Pyrotechnics Special Effects Materials
26	Education Bureau	Application for Government School Temporary Teaching Posts

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
27	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Notification Of Incident Involving A Lift(s) Or An Escalator(s) (Form LE27)
28	Home Affairs Bureau	Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form
29	Home Affairs Department	Confirmation Form (Rural Representative Election)
30	Hong Kong Observatory	Application Form for Inclusion in HKO Supplier Lists (HKO01101)
31		Friends of the Observatory - Enrollment Form
32		Request for authorization to reproduce or re-disseminate information from the Hong Kong Observatory website
33		Application Form for Employment with the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
34	Hong Kong Police Force	Police Museum Online Booking Form
35	Inland Revenue Department	Notification of Change of Business Nature (IRBR193)
36		Notification of Commencement of Business by Corporation (IRBR200)
37		Notification of Reporting Financial Account Information to Participating Jurisdictions (IR1463)
38		Request for Employer's Return of Remuneration and Pensions (IR6163)
39		Notification by an employer of an employee who commences to be employed (IR56E)
40	Labour Department	Certificate of Fitness for a Pressure Vessel (other than a Pressurised Fuel Container) - Form 2
41		Certificate of Fitness for a Steam Boiler - Form 1
42		Notification of Change of Ownership for a Registered of Pressure Equipment
43		Reply for BPV 14B - Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinance, Chapter 56
44	Office of the Communications Authority	Application for Wireless Internet of Things Licence
45		Film Submission Form
46		Packaging Submission Form
47		Advertising Material Submission Form
48		Application for Replacement Certificate
49		Application to View Films, Packagings and Advertising Material in Repository
50		Notification of Publication of VIDEOTAPE/LASERDISC/VCD/DVD
51		Application for Appointment to Panel of Film Censorship Advisers

## New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2018-19

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
1	Customs and Excise Department	Crime Report
2	Education Bureau	Application form - Language Proficiency Requirement Certificate of Merit and / or Attainment Certificate
3		Community Youth Club New Member Registration / Withdrawal Form
4		Community Youth Club Member Merit Awards Record Form
5	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Information Submission for Product Model Already Registered in Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme [This form was only applicable during the grace period of the third phase of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme i.e. 1/6/2018 – 30/1/2019]
6		Submission of Supplementary Information for Product Model Already Registered in Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme as per the New Requirement [This form was only applicable during the grace period of the third phase of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme i.e. 1/6/2018 – 30/1/2019]
7	Environmental Protection Department/Environment Bureau	Export Licence for Scheduled Chemicals
8		Import Licence for Scheduled Chemicals
9	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Notification Form of Implementation of “Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products
10	Food and Health Bureau	Application for Registration as a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Provider
11		Information Update for Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Provider
12		Application for certification of a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Standard Plan
13		Application for certification of a Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Flexi Plan
14		Application for re-certification of an existing Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Certified Plan
15		Notification of Standard Premium or Policy Schedule changes for an existing Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme (VHIS) Certified Plan
16		Application for Reactivation of Account in the Primary Care Directory – Application Form (Applicable to doctors only)
17	Home Affairs Bureau	Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form (Replaces the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Application Form in 2017-18)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
18	Home Affairs Bureau	Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2019 Application Form
19	Home Affairs Department	Central & Western District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
20		Kwun Tong District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
21		Tai Po District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
22		Tsuen Wan District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
23		Wong Tai Sin District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
24		Yau Tsim Mong District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
25		Form for Submission of a Text Version of Introduction to Candidates for Persons with Visual Impairment
26		Central Platform on Building Management - Enrollment Form
27	Hong Kong Police Force	Provide Dangerous Drug Information
28		Provide Illegal Gambling Information
29		Provide Vice Information
30		Fallen Tree
31		Nuisance Complaint
32		Lost Animal
33		Obstruction
34		Illegal Parking
35		Traffic Accident Damage Only (Without Complaint)
36		Traffic Complaint
37		(Force Data) Application for Access to Information
38		(Personal Data) Data Access Request
39	Hongkong Post	Hongkong Post Application Form for Permit Mailing (Individual) Applicable to the Bulk Air Mail Service Individual Customers
40		Personal Data Correction Request Form
41	Intellectual Property Department	P15 - Filing of Notice of Revocation of a Standard Patent (R) / Application for Revocation of a Standard Patent (R) / On Reference to the Registrar of Patents to Revoke a Patent
42	Inland Revenue Department	Authorization Form for Registration / Operation of CbC Reporting Account (IR1465)
43		Application for Lead Operator Reference Number to Register / Operate CbC Reporting Accounts (IR1466)
44		Cancellation of IR56 Form Data File Uploaded via Employer's Return e-Filing Services (Mixed Mode) (IR1472)
45		Notification by an employer of an employee who is about to cease to be employed (IR56F)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
46	Inland Revenue Department	Notification by an employer of an employee who is about to depart from Hong Kong (IR56G)
47		IR1360 (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Individuals / Sole Proprietorships)
48		IR1360A (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Partnerships)
49		IR1360B (INSTALMENTS APPLICATION - Corporations)
50	Information Services Department	Application for Government News and Media Information System Subscription
51	Lands Department	Hong Kong Map Service 2.0 User Registration Form
52	Labour Department	Application for Appointment as Air Receiver Inspector / Boiler Inspector (Appointed Examiner)
53		Application for Examination / Endorsement for Certificate of Competency
54		Application for Exemption of Individual Boilers or Pressure Vessels
55		Application for Registration (Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinance) - Form 3
56		Notification of Change of Ownership of Conditionally Exempted Pressurized Equipment
57		Occupational Safety and Health Complaint Form
58	Land Registry	Application for Inspection of Original Land Grant Documents
59		Application for Subscription to the "Property Alert" service
60		"Property Alert" service - Application for Change of Particulars
61		Application for Inspection of Plans deposited in the Land Registry
62		Index of Street, House Numbers & Lots in Hong Kong, Kowloon & New Kowloon on CD - Order Form
63		The New Territories Lot/Address Cross Reference Table on CD - Order Form
64	Innovation and Technology Bureau (Office of the Government Chief Information Officer)	e-Procurement System - Application Form for the Use of the e-Procurement System (Applicable to Works Related Procurement)
65		e-Procurement System - Application Form for Reissuing Master Account User ID and Password
66		Cybersec Infohub Member Registration Form
67		Cybersec Infohub Member Change Request Form
68	Radio Television Hong Kong	Application Form for inclusion in the RTHK Supplier List
69	Security Bureau	Application for a Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 6)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
70	Security Bureau	Application for Renewal of Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 12)
71	Social Welfare Department	Application Form for applying Senior Citizen Card
72		Application Form for companies and organizations to join the Senior Citizen Card Scheme
73	Trade and Industry Department	Import Licence (Ozone Depleting Substances)
74		Export Licence (Ozone Depleting Substances)
75		Import and Export Licence Form (for Transshipment of Ozone Depleting Substances starting from 8 January 2004)
76		Supporting Document(s) for Electronic Submission of Certificate of Hong Kong Origin (CHKO) / Certificate of Origin – Processing (COP) Application
77		Supporting Document(s) for electronic submission of CO(CEPA) Application
78		Request for Expeditious Service for the Processing of Application for Certificate of Origin
79		Application for Certified True Copy of Certificate of Hong Kong Origin / Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA / Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - New Zealand / Certificate of Origin - Processing / Generalised Preference Certificate (Form A)
80		Factories Seeking to Include Product Development Cost in Applications for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA (CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
81		Companies Supplying Product Development Service to Factories Seeking to Include Product Development Cost in Applications for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - CEPA(CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
82		Factories seeking to include the value of Raw Materials and Component Parts of Mainland Origin in the calculation of “value-added content” under Certificate of Origin - CEPA (CO(CEPA)) - Declaration and Undertaking
83		Application Form for Cancellation of Factory Registration (FR)
84		Enquiry about manufacturing processes allowable to be subcontracted outside Hong Kong
85		Application Form for Endorsement on Declaration Regarding Exports of Antiques
86		Confirmation of Rice Arrival

## New Electronic Forms Introduced in 2019-20

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
1	Audit Commission	Enquiry, suggestion and complaint form
2	Customs and Excise Department	Declaration - Document (s) Produced for Assessment of Duties (For Liquor Only)
3		Storage Approval (Schedule 1 or 2 subject to Cap.145) Application for approval of the Commissioner of C&E for premises and containers in which substances specified in Schedule 1 or 2 of the Ordinance are stored or kept
4		Application for Ships' Stores
5		Application for Licence, Control of Chemicals Ordinance
6		Application for Operation in Bond, Dutiable Commodities Ordinance
7	Civil Aviation Department	Private Pilot Licence (Helicopters) Flight Test [DCA 527 PPL(H)]
8		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 ZFT)
9		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 Single-engine Helicopter)
10		Application for the Inclusion of an Aircraft Rating in a Hong Kong Pilot's Licence (DCA 528 Multi-engine Helicopter)
11		Applications for Operational Approvals/Permission (DCA 4010)
12		Application for HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 565)
13		Application for Variation of HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 566)
14		Application for Renewal of HKAR-181 Approval (DCA 567)
15		Recommendation for C of A Renewal (DCA 568)
16		Application for Hong Kong Crew Member Certificate
17		Application for Permission to Operate Non-Scheduled Services for Hire or Reward (Paragliders)
18		Application for Permission for Carriage of Munitions of War in Aircraft
19		Application for Permission to AN(HK)O 1995 for Carriage of Dangerous Goods in Aircraft
20		Application for Approval of a Dangerous Goods Training Programme in Hong Kong under the Dangerous Goods (Consignment by Air) (Safety) Regulations (i.e. Cap. 384A of the Laws of Hong Kong) (For Shippers and Freight Forwarders)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
21	Civil Aviation Department	Application for Approval of a Dangerous Goods Training Programme in Hong Kong under Regulation 8(3) of Schedule 16 to Air Navigation (Hong Kong) Order 1995 (i.e. Cap. 448C of the Laws of Hong Kong) (For Aircraft Operators, Ground Handling
22	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Communications and Creative Industries Branch)	Application Form for Membership of the Panel of Adjudicators of the Obscene Articles Tribunal
23	Education Bureau	綜合運用共通能力網上課程「到校支援計劃」申請表 (only Chinese version is available)
24		Application Form for Implementing “Through-train” Mode
25	Environmental Protection Department/Environment Bureau	Form 5 - Notification of Changes in Account Information (Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation)
26		Clinical Waste Producer Premises Code Request Form
27		Application for a new / renewal of Chemical Waste Collection Licence
28		Application for Revision of Approved Operational Plan of Chemical Waste Collection Licence
29		Application for Approval to Use Chemical Waste Container(s) Exceeding 450 Litre
30		Notification under Section 17 for “Part A” Chemical Wastes
31		Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation - Report of Annual Sales & Use of Regulated Products
32		Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation - Notification of Regulated Architectural Paints
33	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Certification of Food Business Premises Free of Unauthorised Building Works (UBWs) for Provisional Licence Application cum Notice of Inspection and Certification of Unauthorised Signboard(s) (Form UBW-1a)
34		Certificate of Food Business Premises Free of Unauthorised Building Works (UBWs) for Full Licence Application cum Notice of Inspection and Certification of Unauthorised Signboard(s) (Form UBW-2a)
35		Application for Green Burial Central Register
36		Application for Service for Keeping of Abortus
37		Application Form for Fixed-Pitch (Other Classes) Hawker Licence
38	Food and Health Bureau	重新啟動《基層醫療指南》賬戶 - 申請表格（只適用於中醫）(only Chinese version is available)



<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
39	Fire Services Department	Dangerous Vehicle Inspection Booking Form
40		Certificate of Fire Service Installation and Equipment (FS251)
41	Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Treasury Branch)	Financial Consultant Profile Form
42	Home Affairs Bureau	Advisory and Statutory Bodies - Curriculum Vitae Form
43	Home Affairs Department	Eastern District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
44		Tuen Mun District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
45		Yuen Long District Community Halls / Community Centres - Application Form
46		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Project Progress Report
47		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Application for Reimbursement of Capital Expenditure
48		Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme - Application for Reimbursement of Auditors' Remuneration
49		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for a licence
50		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for renewal of a licence
51		Hotel & Guesthouse - Application for transfer of licence
52		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for a Certificate of Compliance
53		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for renewal of a Certificate of Compliance
54		Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance - Application for transfer of a Certificate of Compliance
55		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for new grant or renewal of permit/provisional permit
56		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for new issue or renewal of licence/provisional licence
57		Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573) - Application for transfer of permit/provisional permit/licence/provisional licence
58		Application Form for Renewal of Amusement Game Centre Licence
59		Report Form for Appointment of Agent as Manager of an Amusement Game Centre

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
60	Home Affairs Department	Application Form for Renewal of Amusements With Prizes Licence
61		Application Forms for Amusements With Prizes Licence
62		Application Form for Exemption of Electronic Sports Venues from Licence Requirement under the Amusement Game Centres Ordinance (Cap. 435)
63		Mahjong/Tin Kau Licence/Public Dance Hall Licence - Application Forms for Employment of Assistant
64		Application Forms for Trade Promotion Competition Licence
65		Anti-epidemic Fund “Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector” Application Form for Property Management Company/Deed of Mutual Covenant Manager
66		Anti-epidemic Fund “Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector” Application Form for Owners’ Organisation
67	Intellectual Property Department	T6 - Notice of Opposition / Objection / Application for Revocation, Declaration of Invalidity, Variation of a Trademark Registration or Rectification of an Error or Omission in the Register / Application for Intervention in Proceedings for Revocation, Declaration of Invalidity, Variation or Rectification
68		T7 - Counter-Statement
69		T12 - Notice of Attendance at Hearing / Request for Statement of Reasons
70		T14 - Request for Copy / Request for Certified Copy
71		OP1 - Request for Grant of a Standard Patent (O)
72		OP1A - Statement of Inventorship in respect of a Standard Patent (O)
73		OP2 - Request for Substantive Examination of a Standard Patent (O) Application
74		OP3 - Request to Review
75		OP4 - Request for Substantive Examination of a Short-term Patent
76		OP5 - Addition of Priority Claim / Restoration of Priority Right
77		OP6 - Request for Hearing
78		OP7 - Application to Amend Specification after Grant
79		OP8 - Notice of Intention to Appear at Hearing
80		P2 - Filing of Notice of Opposition or Counter-statement
81		P11 - Request for Certified Copies or Extracts / Request for Information / Request for Request for Certificate Signed by the Registrar of Patents

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
82	Intellectual Property Department	D10 - Application for Certified Copies or Extracts / Application for Copies or Extracts / Request for Information / Request for Inspection of Document or Register / Request for Certificate Signed by the Registrar of Designs
83	Inland Revenue Department	Claim for Exemption from Payment of Fee and Levy under Section 9 of the Business Registration Ordinance (IRBR61)
84		Appointment Letter of an agent for the purpose of Business Registration Ordinance (IRBR177)
85		Application for 3-year Business Registration Certificate (IRBR184)
86		Application for Concessionary Refund of Business Registration Fee (Waiver Period from 1.4.2016 to 31.3.2017) (IRBR188)
87		Authorization for change of payee's name on concessionary refund cheque (Waiver Period from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2020) (IRBR188B)
88		BIRSP1 - Supplementary Form SP1 - Person electing for two-tiered profits tax rates
89		BIRSP2 - Supplementary Form SP2 - Expenditure on research & development (R&D)
90		BIRSP3 - Supplementary Form SP3 - Deduction for expenditure on energy efficient building installation (EEBI)
91		IR 6173 - Claim for Deduction for qualifying premiums paid under the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme Policy
92		IRSD 140 Request for Cancellation of Stamp Certificate containing error(s) - Share Transfer IRSD 140(E)
93		IR1121S Application for Holdover of Provisional Salaries Tax - deduction for: (a) qualifying premiums paid under the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme Policy; (b) qualifying annuity premiums paid under Qualifying Deferred Annuity Policy and/or (c) tax deductible MPF voluntary contributions
94		IRSD 141 Request for Withdrawal of e-Stamping Application - Share Transfer
95		IR 1474 Application for Preparation of IR56 Form(s) by Using Employer's Self-developed Software
96		IR 56B Employer's Return of Remuneration & Pensions
97		IR1360 (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Individuals / Sole Proprietorships))

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of B/ D</b>	<b>Name of the Form</b>
98	Inland Revenue Department	IR1360A (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Partnerships))
99		IR1360B (2018/19 Tax Year) (APPLICATION FOR INSTALMENT SETTLEMENT OF 2018/19 TAX (Corporations))
100		IR 1459 Notification of Details of Person Authorized to Register/Operate an AEOI Account
101		IR 1460 Application for Lead Operator Reference Number
102		IR 1313A Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Company, Partnership, Trust or other Body of Persons)
103		IR1314A Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Individuals)
104		IR 1313B Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Company, Partnership, Trust or other Body of Persons)
105		IR 1314B Application for Certificate of Resident Status (Individuals)
106		IR1454 Application to Initiate Mutual Agreement Procedure
107		IR 6104 Application for Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and / or Access Code by existing eTAX user or person with tax file in IRD
108		IRBR 199 Revocation of Election for 3-year Business Registration Certificate
109		U3/SOA/F04 Application for Exemption of Stamp Duty under Section 29C(5A) of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (CAP.117)
110		IRSD 106 Changes in Particulars Registered with the Stamp Office
111		IRSD 115 Adjudication Request - Nomination of Immovable Property
112		IRSD 116 Adjudication Request - Supplemental Agreement of Immovable Property
113		IRSD 118 Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2)/ Exemption of Special Stamp Duty / Buyer's Stamp Duty
114		IRSD 121 Adjudication / Stamping Request - Intra-Group Agreement / Assignment (for application from 2 August 2004 onwards)
115		IRSD 125A Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty Paid under section 29DF of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
116	Inland Revenue Department	IRSD 125B Application for Refund of Buyer's Stamp Duty / Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty for properties acquired for Redevelopment under section 29DD / 29DE of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) (For Applicant who is an Individual)
117		IRSD 125C Application for Refund of Buyer's Stamp Duty / Partial Refund of Ad Valorem Stamp Duty for properties acquired for Redevelopment under section 29DD / 29DE of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) (For Applicant which is a Body Corporate)
118		IRSD 129 Request for Withdrawal of e-Stamping Application - Property
119		IRSD 131 Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2) / Exemption of Buyer's Stamp Duty
120		IRSD 131A Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2) / Exemption of Buyer's Stamp Duty
121		IRSD 131B Statutory Declaration - Application for Charging Ad Valorem Stamp Duty at Lower Rates (Scale 2)
122		IRSD 131C Statutory Declaration - Claiming for Partial Refund of Stamp Duty Paid for change of residential property cases
123		SBUL 3 Stock Borrowing Ledger
124	Information Services Department	Application for Access to Information
125	Lands Department	Application form for temporary occupation of Government land for setting up street counters to hold non-profit making and non-fund raising activities
126	Labour Department	Employment Agency - Application for a Certificate of Exemption
127		Employment Agency - Application for a Certificate of Exemption (supplementary sheet)
128		Employment Agency - Application for a Licence
129		Employment Agency - Application for a Licence (supplementary sheet)
130		Employment Agency - Application for Renewal of a Licence
131		Designation of Main and Branch Office(s) of Employment Agency
132		Particulars of Associate of Employment Agency
133		Vacancy Order Form (Applicable to posts from Employers in Personal Capacity)
134		Vacancy Order Form (Applicable to posts from private educational institutes/tutor posts/promoter post)

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
135	Labour Department	Work Trial Scheme Application Form for Claim of Allowance
136		Work Trial Scheme Application Form for Participating Organisation's Request for Refund of Allowance
137		Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Asbestos) Regulation - Notification of (i) Asbestos Work (ii) Change in Notified Asbestos Work
138		Application Form for Submission of Equipment for Approval under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance and its subsidiary regulations
139		Application for Occupational Safety and Health Training Course
140	Land Registry	Application for refund of Search Ticket
141		Application for Owner's Properties Information Check
142	Office of the Communications Authority	Registration for Class Licence for Offer of Telecommunications Services
143		Application for Assignment of Shared Spectrum in the 26 GHz and 28 GHz Bands and Grant of Localised Wireless Broadband Service Licence
144	Innovation and Technology Bureau (Office of the Government Chief Information Officer)	e-Procurement System - Alteration Request Form
145		e-Procurement System - Application Form for Reissuing Activation ID and PIN
146		Smart Government Innovation Lab - Propose Solutions
147		Smart Government Innovation Lab - Raise Service Needs
148	Radio Television Hong Kong	Application Form for Screening of RTHK TV Programmes
149	Security Bureau	Application for Variation of Conditions of Security Company Licence under the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap 460) (Form No. SGS 10)
150	Social Welfare Department	Application for Access to Information
151		Data Access Request Form
152	Trade and Industry Department	Request for Revising the Undertaking Import Quantity of Rice
153		Application for E-Services User Account of Rice
154		Request for Retrieval of E-services User Name/Re-setting of Password of Rice
155		Application for Approval as a Rice Storage Place
156		Application Form for Hong Kong Service Supplier (HKSS) Certificate (TID 102)
157		Application for Registration as a Rough Diamond Trader (including Registration for Rough Diamonds Transshipment Exemption)
158		Request for Amendment on Combined Forms for Outward Processing Arrangement

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
159	Trade and Industry Department	Application Form for Textiles Trader Registration
160		Application for New Registration
161		Form for Undertaking of Import Quantity of Rice
162		Application for Registration as a Stockholder of Rice
163		Application for Inspection of the Register of Registered Rice Stockholders
164		Application Form for Amendment of Textiles Trader Registration (TTR) Particulars
165		Application Form for Cancellation of Textiles Trader Registration (TTR)
166		Application Form for Registration as Local Importers of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour
167		Application for Authorisation for Delivery of Rice
168		Application for Increasing the Total Import Quantity of Rice
169		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Fee Demand Note of Application for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
170		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Application Form for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
171		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Fee Demand Note of Renewal Application for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
172		Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong: Renewal Application Form for Registration as Hong Kong Registered Wine Exporters
173		Manufacturers/Sub-contractors Seeking to Apply for Certificate of Hong Kong Origin - New Zealand (CO(NZ)) for Goods falling within Chapter 61 or 62 of the Harmonised System - Written Commitment
174		Application Form for Renewal of Textiles Trader Registration
175		Registration as Local Importers of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour - Application Form for Amendment of Registration Particulars
176		Report Form of Monthly Import Quantities of Mainland Cereals and Grain Flour
177		Application Form for Amendment or Cancellation to Certificate of Origin Form A
178		Textiles Trader Registration (TTR)/Factory Registration (FR) User Login Account (ULA) : Request for Re-setting of Password

No.	Name of B/ D	Name of the Form
179	Trade and Industry Department	ASEAN - Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA) Proforma Cost Statement for Factory Registration For Goods Subject to the Regional Value Content Requirements
180		The Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Agreement on Trade in Goods (the Agreement) Proforma Cost Statement for CO(CEPA) Application with Mainland Origin Goods and/or Materials (including the Raw Materials and Component Parts) Included in the Regional Value Content using Build-Down Method
181		Hong Kong, China - Georgia Free Trade Agreement (HKCGFTA) Proforma Cost Statement for Factory Registration For Goods subject to Regional Value Content Requirements
182		SME Export Marketing Fund - Application for Funding Support (to be launched by the end of Q1 2020)

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB213**

**(Question Serial No. 6421)**

Head: (47) Government Secretariat : Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer (Victor LAM)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

There has been a strong backlash from the public since the implementation of the Smart Lampposts pilot scheme. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the modification parts used on the smart lampposts, their uses, the names of manufacturers of those parts, the regions/countries where the manufacturers are based, the costs of the parts and the total expenditure?
- (2) When are the new batch of smart lampposts expected to be installed? Or will they be installed in phases? What are the details and the locations selected?
- (3) Has the Government consulted the District Councils (DCs) again in the face of public criticism? If yes, please advise on the dates of consulting the 18 DCs, the consolidated feedback received as well as the staff establishment and expenditure involved.
- (4) Will the Government make further modifications to the lampposts or shelve the pilot scheme if the 18 DCs express objection?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

- (1) - (4) The Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) started in 2019 and 50 Multi-functional Smart Lampposts (Smart Lampposts) were installed along Sheung Yuet Road in Kowloon Bay, Shing Kai Road in Kai Tak and in the Kwun Tong town centre by end-June 2019. The expenditures for the works (including the installation of Smart Lampposts and smart devices, management of smart devices and the data transmission system, telecommunications network connection equipment as well as road maintenance works) and operation (including daily operation and repair and maintenance of lampposts) in 2019-20 are \$20 million and \$4.2 million respectively. Relevant information of the Smart Lampposts installed, such as the smart devices in operation and their functions, has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme: ([www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/strategies/initiatives/smart\\_lampposts/](http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/our_work/strategies/initiatives/smart_lampposts/)) for reference by the public.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) established the Smart Lampposts Technical Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee) in August 2019 to review the privacy protection technologies and measures of relevant applications. After reviewing comprehensively the design and operation of Smart Lampposts as well as the functions and technologies employed in the applications, the Ad Hoc Committee submitted the report to the Government on 9 March 2020. The Committee members unanimously agreed that the Government should continue to take forward the Pilot Scheme as Smart Lampposts are important infrastructure for promoting smart city development and facilitating 5G mobile network development in Hong Kong.

The Ad Hoc Committee supported the Government to install devices, which do not involve privacy matters, on Smart Lampposts. They include LED lighting, meteorological sensors, air quality sensors, thermal detectors, radio-frequency identification tags, Geo-QR codes and bluetooth beacons.

While the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the Government has strictly complied with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, it recommended the following to address public concerns over privacy issues in some of the applications:

- use more privacy-friendly technologies as substitutes for cameras and bluetooth detectors;
- set up a rigorous, credible and transparent governance mechanism to review and approve any new Smart Lamppost application prior to installation, and make the decision fully transparent to the public; and
- engage independent third-party professionals to conduct regular security and privacy review of technologies, functions, applications and devices of Smart Lampposts in accordance with relevant laws and international standards.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee has been uploaded to the thematic web page of the Pilot Scheme. The Government will decide the way forward having regard to the views and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. We also brief relevant District Councils on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. The above work is absorbed by deployment of existing manpower in OGCIO and no additional resource is involved.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****ITB214****(Question Serial No. 4142)**

Head: (111) Innovation and Technology Fund: Innovation and Technology

Subhead (No. & title): (149) General Departmental Expenses

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

Please list in tabular form the number of projects to be funded, brief description of the programmes and funding amount under each subhead of the Innovation and Technology Fund in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

The estimated provision for each subhead under Head 111: Innovation and Technology Fund for 2020-21, brief descriptions of the programmes, and estimated numbers of projects to be funded and monitored in 2020 are tabulated as follows:

<b>Subhead</b>		<b>Number of projects to be funded and monitored in 2020<sup>Note 1</sup> (Unless otherwise specified) (Estimate)</b>	<b>Provision for 2020-21 (Estimate) (\$'000)</b>
090	Midstream Research Programme for Universities (block vote) (subsidising midstream research projects undertaken by universities funded by the University Grants Committee)	32	52,889
101	Innovation and Technology (block vote)		3,628,449
	Innovation and Technology Support Programme (including the Public Sector Trial Scheme) (subsidising research and	452	

<b>Subhead</b>		<b>Number of projects to be funded and monitored in 2020<sup>Note 1</sup></b> <b>(Unless otherwise specified)</b> <b>(Estimate)</b>	<b>Provision for 2020-21</b> <b>(Estimate)</b> <b>(\$'000)</b>
	development (R&D) projects undertaken by R&D Centres and designated local public research institutes, as well as trial projects in the public sector)		
	Guangdong - Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (subsidising R&D projects with an element of Guangdong/Hong Kong collaboration)	97	
	Mainland-Hong Kong Joint Funding Scheme (subsidising collaborative R&D projects undertaken by Hong Kong and Mainland R&D institutions)	12	
	Partnership Research Programme (subsidising R&D projects undertaken by R&D Centres and designated local public research institutes in collaboration with private companies)	30	
	Enterprise Support Scheme (subsidising R&D projects undertaken by private companies)	101	
	Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme (providing cash rebates on the expenditures of eligible R&D projects incurred by private companies)	380 (Number of applications to be approved)	
	Technology Voucher Programme (subsidising local enterprises and organisations in using technological services or solutions)	2 168	
	Researcher Programme (subsidising eligible organisations and enterprises to recruit local graduates as researchers)	2 762 (Number of researcher positions to be funded)	

Subhead		Number of projects to be funded and monitored in 2020 <sup>Note 1</sup> (Unless otherwise specified) (Estimate)	Provision for 2020-21 (Estimate) (\$'000)
	Postdoctoral Hub (subsidising eligible organisations and enterprises to recruit postdoctoral talent for R&D work)	1 337 (Number of postdoctoral talent positions to be funded)	
	Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (subsidising local companies to train their staff in advanced technologies)	1 550 (Number of trainees to be funded)	
	General Support Programme (subsidising non-R&D projects that contribute to the upgrading of local industries and fostering an innovation and technology (I&T) culture in Hong Kong)	107	
	Patent Application Grant (providing funding support for first-time patent applicants)	153 (Number of projects to be funded)	
	Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU) (supporting university professors and students to start technology businesses and commercialise their R&D results)	Not applicable <sup>Note 2</sup>	
104	The Nano and Advanced Materials Institute	141	79,162
105	The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel	64	39,496
106	The Automotive Platforms and Application Systems Research and Development Centre	80	26,200
107	The Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre	71	36,087
110	The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund Corporation (co-investing with private venture capital funds in local I&T start-ups)	Not applicable <sup>Note 3</sup>	500,000
111	Research Centres/Laboratories for Establishment of Research Clusters	Not applicable <sup>Note 4</sup>	2,205,621
<b>Total provision under Head 111</b>			<b>6,567,904</b>

- Note 1: Based on the figures stated in the Controlling Officer's Report under Head 155 Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission.
- Note 2: TSSSU provides an annual funding of up to \$8 million to each of the designated local universities to support the development of the start-ups they recommended. The number of start-ups to be funded depends on the assessment and recommendation by the selection panel of each designated local university in that year. There is no estimated figure on this front.
- Note 3: The number of investments under the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund depends on the investment invitations from the co-investment partners. There is no estimated figure on this front.
- Note 4: The first batch of R&D laboratories is expected to commence operation progressively in 2020. There is no estimated figure on this front for now.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ITB215**

**(Question Serial No. 0495)**

Head: (111) Innovation and Technology Fund: Innovation and Technology

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Ms Rebecca PUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Question:

It is mentioned in the paragraph under “Re-industrialisation and Industry Development” of the Budget Speech that the Government will allocate \$2 billion for the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of factories to be funded;
- (2) the funding scope involved and the funding amount of each project.

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

A consolidated reply to the 2 parts of the question is as follows:

To further promote “re-industrialisation”, the Government sees the need to strengthen its financial support. In this connection, the Government announced in the 2018 Policy Address and the 2019-20 Budget its plan to inject \$2 billion into the Innovation and Technology Fund for launching a Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme (RFS) to subsidise manufacturers on a matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong.

The RFS will subsidise manufacturers on a 1 (government):2 (enterprise) matching basis to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong, covering a maximum of one-third of the total approved project expenditure or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. Currently, it is difficult to estimate the numbers of applications to be received and approved under the RFS. Given a maximum funding of \$15 million for each application, about 130 applications can be supported under the \$2 billion RFS.

The funding under the RFS will cover expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production line, including the costs of procurement, installation and commissioning of the machinery/equipment/apparatus, as well as fees for engaging technical consultancies for the design and setting up of the production line concerned,

including testing and staff training. General business operating expenses of the applicant enterprise will not be funded.

The Government consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry on the proposal in May 2019, and has submitted funding application to the LegCo Finance Committee, with a view to launching the RFS in the second quarter of 2020.

- End -